

Customs Intelligence

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THE STRATEGIC AIM

To manage and co-ordinate Customs Intelligence with the aim to best support the Departments' objectives; by: -

- Developing a Customs Intelligence infrastructure for co-ordinating, planning and steering operational activity.
- The gathering, analysis, validation, storage, retrieval and dissemination of Intelligence both by Intelligence staff, and all other Officers

THE STRATEGIC AIM

- the sharing of Intelligence with Departmental colleagues and external partners
- To have AN INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM IN PLACE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL, and to USED it AS SUCH.

WHAT IS INTELLIGENCE?

- Intelligence is a pool of information
- Intelligence is a tool for identifying, and targeting, suspected offenders and consignments
- The first stage of Intelligence is where Officers themselves receive information about persons, or companies, who are suspected, of committing Customs offences

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE

- **Information – PASSIVE** – is unevaluated material, which when processed, may be of Operational or Intelligence use.
- **Intelligence – ACTIVE** – is information which has been evaluated and/or analysed and has been identified as being of material value.
- Intelligence is ALL and ANY information collated in a meaningful way. It alerts, warns, and provides advance information about criminal activity.

MAIN REQUIREMENTS OF AN INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

- Communication
- Contributions
- Accuracy
- Security
- Evaluation
- Dissemination

BASIC METHODOLOGY FOR AN INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

- What information is needed?
- What information is available?
- Who holds it/has access to it?
- Where, when and what to record?
- Who collates?
- What is used to sort the information?
- How is the resulting Intelligence disseminated?

INFORMATION GATHERING, RISK ANALYSIS, SELECTION

For the capturing, collating, evaluating and disseminating of information, and turning that information into Intelligence, which can be most effectively distributed to Operational staff.

In many countries Customs Intelligence is new and will evolve with the help of officers who gather/report suspicious activities

INTELLIGENCE DATABASE

- This will be developed. It will create a national record of intelligence information and enforcement interventions.
- The outcome will show trends, risk commodities, and will identify a multiple of offenders.
- That information will be extremely useful for deciding on selectivity criteria.

Ex. Intelligence databases developed and their use in other Customs Administration

- Customs Services (ex. Canada) has a national database where all Customs offices across the country, and all Customs officers have access at different level.
- Customs Regional Intelligence offices contribute and benefit from the above but also have develop their own specific database to store-analyse-exchange more specific local information.
- All information that becomes intelligence should be entered in the National database.