

**Report**  
**on Joint Customs Control**  
**8<sup>th</sup> CAREC Customs Cooperation Committee Meeting,**  
**September 15-16, 2009**  
**Dushanbe, Tajikistan**

1. According to the decision of the third meeting of the Subcommittee on Cooperation between border crossing points and customs issues between the RK and the PRC (hereinafter – the Subcommittee) in April, 2007, the first meeting of the Joint working group (hereinafter – the JWG) on issues of organization of joint customs control at border crossing points at the Kazakh-Chinese border (JCC).

On the whole, customs agencies of Kazakhstan and China agreed on the concept of joint control and recognized the need for ensuring its phased introduction.

The first stage of JCC envisages the use of the single manifest format for goods moved by motor-transport. The next stage will be mutual recognition of customs control results, and implementation of joint customs control is the final goal of the conducted work.

As a result of the meeting between customs managers of the RK and the PRC (August 27-28, 2007, Beijing) the Regulation on organization of the first stage of joint customs control between customs of the RK and the PRC was signed and border crossing points Kalzhat (RK) – Dulaty (PRC) have been identified for the pilot.

This Regulation envisages that the operator (a transport company), when leaving the country, shall submit to the customs agency the Manifest in three copies, which contains information on goods and the vehicle transporting these goods. In the Manifest the carrier undertakes the responsibility for providing reliable information.

After completing the examination of the shipping documents and the inspection, the customs official of the country of exit shall attest the Manifest with his signature and the stamp, and shall give it to the carrier, and the vehicle shall be sealed.

In the country of entry, the carrier shall submit the Manifest to the customs body, and customs clearance will be conducted only if the Manifest is presented.

Based on the above mentioned Regulation during the period from December 13, 2007 to September 15, 2008, a pilot on organization of the first stage of joint customs control was conducted between the BCPs Kalzhat (RK) – Dulaty (PRC).

The results of the pilot demonstrated, that the introduction of the joint customs control procedure creates favorable conditions for prompt implementation of border formalities, excludes excessive financial losses for traders, promotes operational information exchange between juxtaposed border crossing points.

The undertaken joint measures of customs bodies of the two countries are aimed, first of all, at improving customs policy and streamlining the conditions for external trade flows, as well movement of citizens of both countries. This is achieved by joint efforts aimed at finding the ways for simplification and acceleration of customs procedures, improvement and simplification of forms and methods of customs control, counteracting customs offences committed when moving goods and vehicles across the customs border.

Since November 15, 2008 the pilot will be continued at BCPs Maikapchagai (RK) – Zimunai (PRC).

Customs services of the RK and the PRC came to a unanimous opinion about the need for phased introduction of the pilot at all BCPs along the Kazakh-Chinese

border, which will result in even more effective interaction between the customs agencies of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the People's Republic of China and simplification of customs control methods at BCPs.

2. During the 35<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of the customs heads of the EurAsEC member states on December 3-5, 2008 in Almaty, a meeting of the Chairman of the Customs Control Committee of the Ministry of Finance of the RK K. J. Karbuzov and the Chairman of the State Customs Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic N. O. Akmatov took place.

As a result of the meeting the heads of the customs services of the RK and the KR approved the Temporary Technological Arrangements for clearance of persons, goods and vehicles crossing the multipartite BCP Aisha-Bibi – Chon Kapka at the Kazakh-Chinese border and since January of 2009 pilot joint customs control is being implemented.

Joint customs control is implemented by conducting selected agreed control procedures:

- recognition of documents required for customs purposes, as well as means of customs identification;

- use of preliminary information on goods and vehicles moved across the border by customs services of the Parties when implementing customs control, in particular, when examining documents and information;

- elimination of customs inspection of goods and vehicles under export customs regime;

- streamlining the number of documents filled out by physical persons to be submitted to a customs body.

In case there is sufficient justification, the Party, to the territory of which persons, goods and vehicles are moved, has the right to take a decision to conduct an inspection.

Based on the results of the pilot, the procedures for joint control at BCPs at the Kazakh-Chinese state border will be approved.

3. Besides, we would like to inform, that joint customs control is also implemented with the Russian counterparty.

Thus, during the period from September 3 to December 3, 2008 a pilot on joint customs control was implemented at the road check point Kairak - Bugristoe. This is one of the first elements of integration under the Customs Union with Russia and Belorussia.

The following have been established based on the analysis of the pilot results:

1. given the current traffic density for all types of transport, the time for customs clearance has been reduced to 8 minutes for vehicle;

2. the practice of registration of one passenger declaration in the country of exit excluded duplication of practically identical documents, as well as served as a preventive measure against submitting different information to customs bodies of different countries, especially with regards to the amount of currency moved;

3. the pilot allowed to reallocate the staff of the Kairak customs control point – who earlier were involved in inspecting vehicles exporting goods – to Kostanai oblast.

On September 11 of the current year the Forum of Cross-Border Cooperation between Kazakhstan and Russia was held in Orgenburg city (Russia), where the Agreement on cooperation when carrying out joint control at the Kazakh-Russian border was signed, as well as the Protocol on extending the pilot joint customs control to 15 BCPs by January 2010.

After the above mentioned Agreement is ratified, joint control will be conducted at all BCPs along the Kazakh-Russian border.