

PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE WORKSHOP "RECEIVING THE STATUS OF AUTHORISED ECONOMIC OPERATOR AND SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS PROCEDURES"

On March 14-18, 2016 the chief state inspectors of the Division of Special Training on Counteraction to Customs and Tax Violations and Organization of Operational and Search Activity of the Directory of Specialized Training of the Department, participated in the workshop “Receiving the status of Authorized Economic Operator and simplification of customs procedures”, which was held in Kyiv within the framework of implementation of the TWINNING project “Support for the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in reinforcing IBM elements in the area of customs matters”.

The workshop brought together executives and officials of the customs houses of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, as well as executives of structural subdivisions of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the sphere of customs affairs.

Roman Nasirov, the Head of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, welcomed the participants of the workshop and expressed confidence concerning the readiness of Ukrainian customs officers to make all necessary efforts required for successful implementation of effective customs management tools, tools of customs control and customs clearance in Ukraine and contribution to trade facilitation, improvement of the service and ensure reliable protection of state customs borders.



External experts from the German Federal Ministry of Finance introduced Ukrainian customs officers to the procedures already existing in the EU, as well as shared their practical experience regarding the functioning of the AEO institution, simplification of customs and legal procedures, benefits of the AEO certificate etc.

The workshop was held in an atmosphere of constructive debate on the tools available for preventing and solving problematic issues that can occur after implementing the AEO in Ukraine.

At the end of the workshop, the participants held a round-table discussion and received certificates of participation in the training event.

WORKING MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION BORDER ASSISTANCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE (EUBAM) AND OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND CANINE SERVICES OF THE STATE FISCAL SERVICE OF UKRAINE

On April 7, 2016 a working meeting of the representatives of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine and the officials of the Department was held in the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in Khmelnytskyi.

During the meeting the priority areas of cooperation between the Department and the EUBAM, including issues related to canine services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, were discussed.

The results of the meeting:

1. Promising directions of cooperation between the Department and the EUBAM are considered to be:

- canine services;
- enabling experts of the Department to participate in the meetings of working groups on trade facilitation and in the workshops, which will be conducted by the EUBAM, in particular those related to customs affairs and customs ethics;
- inviting the EUBAM experts to participate in workshops, trainings, which will be held at the premises of the Department.

2. With the assistance of the EUBAM:

- to study international experience of Key Performance Indicator for Canine Services, European standards of training and use of canine inspectors;
- to publish the magazine “Illicit trafficking in cultural values as a source of funding for international terrorism”.

**STUDY VISIT OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE FISCAL SERVICE
OF UKRAINE TO THE CUSTOMS TRAINING CENTER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
(VYSNE NEMECKE)**

On April 11-15, 2016 within the framework of the Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) programme the representatives of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine participated in a study visit to the Slovak Republic, Vysne Nemecke on exchange programs in the field of export control, detection and seizure of shipments of weapons of mass destruction.

The delegation also included the chief state inspector of the Division of Specialized Training in Customs and Tax Matters of the Directorate of Specialized Training of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine (Khmelnyskyi). The purpose of the visit was to review and discuss national export control system, licensing procedures, functioning programmes of cooperation with industry and aspects of interagency coordination, as well as detection mechanisms of shipments of weapons of mass destruction, training equipment used for detection, identification, seizure and investigation of illegal transfer and transportation of controlled materials, goods, technologies and components used for development, deployment and delivery of mass destruction weapons.

The program of training and field exercises on conducting initial and thorough inspection of cars, trucks and containers was envisaged during the study visit.

The debates and exchange of “the best developments” were conducted daily to enable the representatives of Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine to share practical experience and detection methods of controlled goods.

In the course of the study visit the knowledge obtained by the participants will enable to improve the level of raising professional competence in their countries.

PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS “RISK ASSESSMENT AND POST-CLEARANCE AUDIT” AND “AUTHORIZED ECONOMIC OPERATORS”

The chief state inspector of the Division of Special Training on Counteraction to Customs and Tax Violations and Organization of Operational and Search Activity of the Directory of Specialized Training of the Department, participated in the workshops: on April 18-19, 2016 “Risk assessment and post-clearance audit” and on April 20-21, 2016 “Authorized Economic Operators”, which were held in Kyiv within the framework of Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the US Department of Commerce.

The officials from customs houses and main offices of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, as well as executives of structural subdivisions of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the sphere of customs affairs were invited to participate in the workshops.

The events were held in the form of discussions and knowledge exchange among experts and participants from the EU, the USA and ensured spreading international best practices on implementation of risk management and post-clearance audit, introduction to the most effective tools of combating violation of customs rules, determining the regulations of legal and institutional system of Ukraine that are subject to be completed and implemented for the purpose of unification in accordance with international requirements, as well as the overview of features and benefits of trade facilitation through the use of the Authorized Economic Operator.

PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE FISCAL SERVICE OF UKRAINE IN THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF CUSTOMS SERVICES OF THE EUROPEAN REGION OF THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO)

On May 19 – 20, 2016 the Conference of Heads of Customs services of The European Region of the WCO was held in Astana, the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Ukrainian delegation, including the Director of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and the Deputy Head of the Director of the Department – Head of the Directorate for Specialized Training took part in the Conference.

Kunio Mikuriya, the Secretary General of the WCO welcomed all the participants.

The heads of customs services from more than 50 countries discussed current issues related to the activity of customs administrations of the WCO member states:

- use of information technology in the activity of customs administrations (“e-Customs”);
- aspects of coordination and management of the WCO activity;
- customs and tax cooperation;
- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement;
- enhancing cooperation between customs administrations of the WCO member states of the European Region.

The representatives of the Department presented the initiative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine on establishing the status of the WCO Regional Dog Training Center. The initiative was approved by the European Region.

This receiving status would allow the Department to perform training of service dogs of the customs authorities of the Central European and the Black Sea region countries, the WCO member states, and to enhance the prestige of domestic cynology at the international level.

**STUDY VISIT OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE FISCAL
SERVICE OF UKRAINE TO THE REGIONAL DOG TRAINING CENTRE
OF THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
IN HERMANICE (CZECH REPUBLIC)**

On the invitation of the General Customs Administration of the Czech Republic three canine teams of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine participated in customs canine teams training for the search for tobacco products which took place in the WCO Regional Dog Training Centre (WCO RDTC) in Heřmanice from January 21 to May 21, 2016.

Among the participants of this event were canine inspectors from Volyns'ka, Zakarpats'ka Customs Offices and from the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine. The event was also attended by the Head of the Directorate of Canine Services of the Department, the Deputy Head of the Directorate of Canine Services and the Head of the Division of Canine and Veterinary Services in order to get acquainted with the process of training and facilities, as well as to take part in exam of canine teams of the authorities of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the WCO RDTC.

According to the results of the study visit to the WCO RDTC, the representatives of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine got acquainted with the following:

- selection procedure of inspectors-dog handlers;
- order of the selection and purchase of sniffer dogs;
- directions and terms of training, advanced training of inspectors-dog handlers;
- order of the storage and use of narcotics for training purposes;
- modern methods of canine inspectors training with sniffer dogs;
- training grounds, practical training zone.

The canine teams of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine successfully completed practical training and at the final the passed their exams with “good” and “very good” marks and received the WCO certificates concerning practical training for the search for tobacco products.

WORKSHOP OF HEADS OF DIVISIONS (SECTORS) OF CANINE SERVICES DIRECTORATES (DIVISIONS) ON COUNTERACTION TO CUSTOMS VIOLATIONS “ORGANIZATION OF CANINE SERVICES IN THE STATE FISCAL SERVICE OF UKRAINE”

The main tasks of the canine services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine are to identify and suppress illicit movement of drugs, psychotropic and explosive substances, weapons and ammunition through the state customs border, which play an important role in ensuring state security. On May 23-25, 2016 the workshop of heads of divisions (sectors) of canine services directorates (divisions) on counteraction to customs violations “Organization of canine service in the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine” was held to discuss best practices on the above mentioned issues at the premises of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine.

The representatives from the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM), the Customs Service of Romania, the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine participated in the workshop.

The main topics for discussion were:

- European experience of activity of canine teams on counteraction to customs violations (“round table”);
- analysis of training and use of canine teams during 2015;
- training organization and use of canine teams of the Customs Service of Romania;
- main tasks of activity of canine services for 2016;
- key performance indicators of the divisions (sectors) of canine services of the customs houses of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine;
- organization of planning and using canine teams and their reports;
- order of the use of drugs and narcotic substances for training purposes;
- order of the use of canine teams using canine teams during customs control;
- order of conducting practical classes with inspectors-dog handlers of the customs houses of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine;
- general provisions on movement of certain types of goods, medicines, food, alcohol and tobacco products;
- smuggling as a crime. The fight against smuggling drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogues and precursors;
- ensuring the security of customs officials in the performance of their duties;

- use of special means and physical influence.

In the course of the workshop practical classes of canine teams training for the search for drugs and tobacco products were conducted and the best methods of training were demonstrated.

PARTICIPATION IN THE EUBAM WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUTHORIZED ECONOMIC OPERATORS INSTITUTE

On May 23-27, 2016 in Odesa the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) with involvement of experts from Germany, Poland, Lithuania organized the workshop to study issues relating to the implementation of the AEO in the context of approximation of customs legislation and implementation of association and free trade agreements with Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova.

Customs officers and heads of customs departments of the the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine were invited to attend the workshop.

The workshop gathered together officials of customs houses of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, as well as executives of structural subdivisions of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the sphere of customs affairs.

Among the participants of this event was the chief state inspector of the Division of Special Training on Counteraction to Customs and Tax Violations and Organization of Operational and Search Activity of the Directory of Specialized Training of the Department.

During the workshop the experts of the European Commission introduced the participants to the procedures already existing in the EU, as well as shared their practical experience regarding the functioning of the AEO institution, simplification of customs and legal procedures, which became possible after its implementation.

The representatives from Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine discussed the current state of AEO implementation in their countries.

Special consideration was given to the changes of the EU customs legislation in connection with the entry into force of the EU Customs Code dated 1 May, 2016 (Regulation No. 952/2013), the provisions of which should be incorporated in Ukrainian customs legislation in accordance with the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

The implementation of the AEO institute means the transition to new principles of safe international trade, marks the beginning of a fundamentally new approach to operation and interaction methods of customs administrations and business sectors.

INTERNATIONAL CANINE TEAMS COMPETITION

On May 27, 2016 the international competition of canine teams of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine on the search for drugs, weapons, ammunition and tobacco products was held at the University of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, in Irpin, Kyiv region, with the participation of representatives of the Customs Service of the Republic of Moldova, the Customs Service of the Republic of Belarus, the Customs Service of the Republic of Poland, the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, the State Border Service of Ukraine, the National Police of Ukraine, the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine and the Canine Center “Yaguar” on the joint initiative of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and the University of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine.

Among the invited guests were: the representative of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine, the Counselor in Investigations in the EUBAM Operations Office, the representative of the German Embassy, as well as the representatives of the JSC “JT International Company Ukraine” of “Imperial Tobacco Production Ukraine” factory.

The President of Canine Union of Ukraine who was present at the competition, handed Canine Union trophies to the winners.

The goal of such event was to gain international experience on special training and use of canine teams.

In total, 21 canine teams participated in the competition.

The results of the Competition:

Drug search team:

1st place - Vladyslav Doronin with a sniffer dog named Utah – a representative of the Customs Administration of the Republic of Belarus;

2nd place - Serhii Aphanasii with a sniffer dog named Maris – a representative of the Customs Administration of Republic of Moldova;

3rd place - Roman Romanov with a sniffer dog named Eric – a representative of the National Police of Ukraine;

Weapons and ammunition search team:

1st place - Ihor Zaiats with a sniffer dog named Jack – a representative of the State Border Service of Ukraine;

2nd place - Anatolii Isak with a sniffer dog named Nike – a representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine;

3rd place - Roman Kosovan with a sniffer dog named Jacob - representative of the National Police of Ukraine;

Tobacco search team:

1st place -Yurii Lukianchuk with a sniffer dog named Khana - representative of the State Border Service of Ukraine;

2nd place - Eduard Tsurkan with a sniffer dog named Ophelia-Donna - representative of the Customs Administration of the Republic of Moldova;

3rd place - Volodymyr Dobrovolskyi with a sniffer dog named Lucky - representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine.

The winners were awarded with trophies and medals.

Competition of such level is a major event for the development of canine direction of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, which is significant not only for the Service, but also for the whole Ukraine, in order to enhance its image as a European state.

WORKING MEETING WITH THE ADVISER OF THE HEAD OF THE STATE FISCAL SERVICE OF UKRAINE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE UNDER THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN UKRAINE AND OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND CANINE SERVICES OF THE STATE FISCAL SERVICE OF UKRAINE

On June 1-2, 2016 the adviser to the Head of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and the representative of the Customs Service of the German Embassy in Ukraine visited the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in Khmelnytskyi.

The guests were briefed about the process of special and specialized training and facilities of the Department.

– In the course of the working meeting an exposition of the customs history, a library with a reading hall, computer laboratories, a special room of modern means of customs control, a lecture hall of the Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, a simulated check-point, a dog kennel complex for sniffer dogs, as well as e-resources of the Department, such as advanced 3D modeling technology and stimulation of practical situations; main directions of special and specialized training, including firing and physical training, foreign language training and training on risk management, post-customs audit and management activities were presented by the specialists of the Department.

Furthermore, the work of canine teams for the search for substances and objects concealed in suitcases and boxes was shown to the guests.

The guests also met with newly employed officials to the civil service of the customs houses of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and a group of officials of the divisions (sectors) on control over the movement of goods, with those who were being received special and specialized training in the Department.

In conclusion of the working meeting, a round table was held to discuss directions for cooperation in the context of reforming the customs component of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, including personnel development.

SEMINAR ON THE TOPIC “STATE EXPORT CONTROL. IDENTIFICATION OF DUAL-USE GOODS”

The seminar “State export control. Identification of dual-use goods” was held for officials of customs clearance divisions on June 6-10, 2016 at the premises of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine.

The aim of the workshop was to deepen professional knowledge and improve special skills of the personnel of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine on such matters:

- The threat of proliferation: tendencies of procurement of dual-use goods to develop the weapons of mass destruction;
- Basics of export control in Ukraine and its procedure;
- Identification of dual use goods;
- The role of customs in the export control system;
- Nuclear fuel cycle and the development of nuclear weapons;
- Nuclear cycle: produced dual-use components and electronic equipment;
- Missile cycle. Delivery systems. The threat of expansion. Ballistic delivery system. Winged delivery systems, unmanned aircraft. Basics of their construction and functioning of missile systems;
- Single control list of dual use goods (European and Ukrainian versions);
- Missile cycle: aggregates and components of delivery systems and their identification in accordance with the checklist;
- Biological cycle. Biological weapons, its types and ways to use equipment and components;
- Chemical cycle. Equipment and components, chemicals and their identification.

The event was held with the participation of experts from Kiev Institute for Nuclear Research, the State Export Control Service, specialists of the main office and experts of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine: the Department for Customs Control, the Specialized Laboratory on Expertise and Research, the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services.

The technical expert of Argonne National Laboratory, US Department of Energy also took part in the seminar as the coordinator of the event.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ON TOPIC: “INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF CUSTOMS CONTROL”



The special training of customs officials on International standards of customs control was held on June 22-23, 2016 at the premises of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services.

The workshop covered the following matters:

- Main Provisions of the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures;
- The Concept of the EU Authorized Economic Operator Programme”;
- The Procedure of Customs Clearance of Cargoes Liable to Customs Control. The Identification of Dual-use Goods;
 - Main Provisions of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;
 - International Common Transit Procedure;
 - Main Elements of International Road Transportation (Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets);
 - Structure and Functions of the National Customs Administrations of the European Union;
 - Main elements of the WCO SAFE Framework.

The workshop was held with the participation of an expert of European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM).

Fifteen customs officers of the the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine completed specialized training and received the certificates.