Assistance to the Mauritius Revenue Authority in Developing the WCO Training Course

At the request of the World Customs Organization (WCO), the representative of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine was invited to the Republic of Mauritius as an expert to conduct the Train-the-Trainer Integrity Workshop in accordance with the WCO best practices. The event, which took place on January 30 – February 3, 2017 involved 30 officials of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA).

The training was conducted jointly with Patricia Revesz, the WCO Integrity Development Advisor.

Upon completion of the course, the action plan with recommendations for further development of the Integrity course was presented for Mr. Sudhamo Lal, Director General of the MRA and the division of Internal Affairs of the MRA.

Visit of the WCO Expert to the Department

On April 26-27, 2017 Mr. Giovanni Gaeta, the technical Officer of the Capacity Building Directorate of the World Customs organization (WCO), visited the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine to prepare the concept document for further development and effective functioning of the WCO Regional Training Centre (WCO RTC) in Khmelnytskyi.

In the course of the visit intensive discussions about the role and functions of
Regional Training Centres, including their status, the status and size of the RTC team, Strategic Planning, Financial arrangements, National contact points, Website and visibility, Effective regional training activities and Staff training opportunities were discussed.

Moreover, the parties agreed on continued collaboration and conducting regular meetings to ensure closer interaction.

Third International Competition for Canine Teams, Ukraine-2017

On May 11-12, 2017 the Third International Competition for Canine Teams, Ukraine-2017 (Competition) in the search for narcotic drugs, weapons, ammunition and tobacco products, was held in Ternopil, Ukraine as a joint initiative of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine (Khmelnytskyi) and Ternopil National Economics University (TNEU).

The event was conducted with the participation of canine teams of customs services of foreign countries: the Republic of Poland, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Georgia, the Republic of Turkey, the Republic of Azerbaijan; canine teams of law enforcement agencies and organizations of Ukraine: the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, the National Police of Ukraine, the Boryspil International Airport State Enterprise.

Among invited participants were representatives from the World Customs Organization, the Twinning project, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Ukraine, the European Union Advisory Mission Ukraine (EUAM), the
Ukrainian Kennel Union and “Imperial Tobacco Ukraine”. The Competition was attended by 29 canine teams.

**Working Meetings within the Third International Competition for Canine Teams, Ukraine-2017**

On May 10-11, 2017 the representatives of the World Customs Organization, the Federal Ministry of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Ukraine and the head of the Twinning project visited the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine to get acquainted with the activity of the Department, to discuss the strategic plans of the activities of the WCO Regional Training Center and the WCO Regional Dog Training Centre, as well as the ways for further development of cooperation.

The parties discussed a range of important issues on further cooperation, in particular to ensure efficiency of the process of professional development of employees of customs services of the countries of the WCO European region; to involve leading WCO experts in workshops, trainings and other events related to the professional development of employees, as well as in conducting trainings of canine teams of customs authorities of Eastern Europe and the Black Sea basin countries; to release e-journal “Customs. K-9” jointly with customs administrations of WCO European region, etc.

**WCO API / PNR Workshop in Ukraine**
The World Customs organization, in cooperation with the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, where the WCO Regional Training Centre is located, and with the assistance of Lviv Customs Office organized and conducted the workshop on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) on May 22-25, 2017 in Lviv (Ukraine).

Main objectives of the workshop were:

- to develop participants’ understanding of API and PNR data, relevant international standards, tools and guidelines as well as to consider options for using data on passenger risk management;
- to support the process of engagement with stakeholders, such as governing body partner, airlines and their service provider;
- to develop capabilities for establishing the API-PNR system.

The events programme included training classes at the air checkpoint.

The workshop was conducted by Mr. Tejo Kusuma, WCO technical officer and Mr. Edwin Trudo Jansen, officer of the risk management division of the customs service of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (airport in Amsterdam), with the participation of invited speakers from IATA company in Ukraine.

The representatives of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and customs services of Azerbaijan, Moldova, Georgia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Armenia participated at the event.

At the end of workshop all participants received WCO certificates.