Participation of a Representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the first WCO Global Accreditation Workshop on Human Resource Management (HRM)

At the invitation of the WCO Secretary General Kunio Mikuria a representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine – a specialist of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS participated in the first WCO Global Accreditation Workshop on Human Resource Management (HRM) which was conducted on February 04-08, 2019 in Brussels.

The objective of the workshop is strengthening the knowledge of recognized experts capable of organizing and implementing WCO capacity building activities, as well as providing support to member countries to improve their HRM system based on international standards and best practices.

This accreditation workshop gave the possibility for the employees of customs administrations of 12 countries of the world to demonstrate their strategic skills and knowledge of the WCO tools and instruments.

A Step in the Development of “Pool of PCA Trainers” in East Africa

A specialist of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine as a recognized expert of the World Customs Organization took part in the Second Working Group Activity (sub-regional workshop) of the Master Trainers Programme (MTP) on Post Clearance Audit (PCA) which was held under the
The first meeting of the working group in September 2018 focused on determining common needs of the region in post-clearance audit, the second activity was aimed at development of trainer’s competences as one of the major prerequisites of formation of a qualified trainer. Experts from East African Community (EAC) Secretariat, Japan Customs and Ukraine Customs (on behalf of the WCO) shared their knowledge and expertise on PCA and training to improve the understanding of the participants on both theory and practice.

**Customs Officers in Tajikistan were trained on Strategic Trade Control Enforcement (STCE)**

Within the framework of the WCO STCE Programme and with the support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), representatives of the SFS of Ukraine - officials of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS Pavlo Biletskyi and Maksym Prykhodchenko were invited to participate as trainers in the regional STCE training course in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, on May 07-10, 2019.

The objective of this training course is to strengthen possibilities of the Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in the sphere of control of dual-use goods, namely: defining the role of the customs in the system of export control, acquiring professional knowledge and specialist skills by customs officers on the issues related to the threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and identification of strategic goods, as well as familiarization with the instruments of the World Customs Organization on trade in strategic goods.

The workshop was conducted together with a WCO expert for customs officials of territorial units of the Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and Regional Training
Centre for Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Export Control (25 officials).

Representatives of the UN, OSCE, EXBS Program of the US Department of State were present during the event.

The specialists of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS had the opportunity to complete the accreditation process as WCO experts participating in delivering this training event.

Following the results of the second stage of the WCO accreditation process Maksym Prykhodchenko and Pavlo Biletskyi were accredited as World Customs Organization expert trainers in the area of Strategic Trade Control Enforcement.

**Creating Pool of WCO Trainers: the First Step**

For the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Regional Training Center of the World Customs Organization (Khmelnitskyi, Ukraine) officials of the bodies of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine as potential candidates for trainers of the World Customs Organization made presentations in various areas of customs affairs. The event was held on May 21-22, 2019, in the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS.
The aim of this event was to assess the level of customs knowledge, practical skills of conducting training activities and proficiency in foreign languages in order to select English and Russian-speaking experts out of the number of officials of the bodies of the SFS who due to their abilities can perform the role of a WCO trainer.

Key skills of the candidates were evaluated according to the following criteria: communication and facilitation skills, computer skills, ability to analyze large volumes of information, to communicate on professional topics, to explain specialized terminology in an accessible way, as well as the level of proficiency in a foreign language.

This event became the first step for the employees of the SFS of Ukraine on the way to be accredited as WCO expert trainers.

Working meeting with the Head of the Regional Office for Capacity Building for the World Customs Organization Europe Region

Following the previous agreement a working meeting of a representative of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS and Mr. Roger Hermann, the Head of the ROCB for the World Customs Organization Europe Region was held in Kyiv, Ukraine, on May 28, 2019.

During the meeting Roger Hermann was informed about the current situation in the WCO Regional Training Centre and the WCO Regional Dog Training Centre (Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine).

The following issues of further cooperation were discussed:
- perspectives of the development of WCO RTC and WCO RDTC (Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine);
- fulfillment of Strategic Plans for years 2019-2021;
- organizing and conducting a train-the-trainer workshop (development of trainer’s skills and competences) under the auspices of the WCO in Ukraine (approximately in the second half of 2019).
Following the results of the meeting with the aim of solving questions raised and in order to improve communication between WCO RTC, WCO RDTC (Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine) and WCO ROCB Europe Region the decision to prepare a number of informational letters to WCO and to WCO ROCB Europe Region was made as well as the recommendations given by Roger Hermann were taken into account.

**Train-the-Trainers Workshop**

in Strategic Trade Control Enforcement of the World Customs Organization

On June 03-11, 2019, train-the-trainers workshop in strategic trade control enforcement of the World Customs Organization under the auspices of the WCO and with the financial support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe was held at the WCO RTC (Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine) which functions on the basis of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS.

The workshop was attended by 15 representatives of the customs administrations of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova and Ukraine who are undergoing the first stage of accreditation. In future after gaining this honorable title these specialists will deliver training events for customs officers all over the world.

The training was delivered by WCO expert trainers, including a representative of the Department who is also a WCO expert trainer in this area from Ukraine. After this workshop one more representative of Ukraine received this international recognition - a WCO expert trainer.

Combination of theory and practice, international best practices, dialogue and lively discussions, natural and positive atmosphere contributed to intensive and fruitful work during all seven days of the workshop.

Conducting such international events in Ukraine promotes the development of mutually beneficial cooperation and partnership between customs administrations of the world, creating a positive image of the service and the state on the world stage.