



**Oceania**  
Customs Organisation

## **GUAM DECLARATION REVISING THE OCO CHARTER**

The representatives of 20 of the 23 Member Customs Administrations meeting in Guam from 7 – 11 March 2005 at Heads of Administration level.

**HAVE AGREED** on the following **REVISED Oceania Customs Organisation Charter**, thereby amending the Charter signed at Niue on 6 August 1999 to:

### **MISSION :**

The OCO recognises that Customs responsibilities span all cross-border activities including the movement of goods, means of transport and people.

The mission of the OCO is to promote efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects of Customs administration in Oceania, with particular emphasis on the needs of Customs administrations of developing countries.

The OCO will foster harmonisation, cooperation and assistance between its Members on Customs administration matters and ensure that their interests and concerns are projected effectively to governments, non-government organisations and the private sector, both within and beyond the region.

Through these measures, the OCO will contribute to the economic development, security and community protection within the region.

### **PRINCIPLES :**

- The activities of the OCO are for the benefit of all Members;
- Cooperation with other regional organisations is essential to the effectiveness of the OCO;
- The work of the OCO will be aligned with and reflect World Customs Organization standards to ensure, where possible, uniform regional Customs administration standards.

### **MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

OCO Members will:

- Participate actively and constructively in the OCO Annual Conference and in the development and implementation of the organisation's Three Year Strategic Plan and its Annual Work Plan;
- Support the work of the OCO Secretariat, the Chair, the OCO Steering Committee and OCO Technical Committees;
- Use their best endeavours to ensure timely, productive and ongoing liaison and information exchange;
- Respond positively, to the extent permitted under domestic legislation, to enquiries and requests for assistance from other Members;
- Where possible assist fellow administrations in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building.

8th March 2005