

CITES: Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group

UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya

June 6-10, 2011

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WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES

About the WCO

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R U I M T E N O O R D

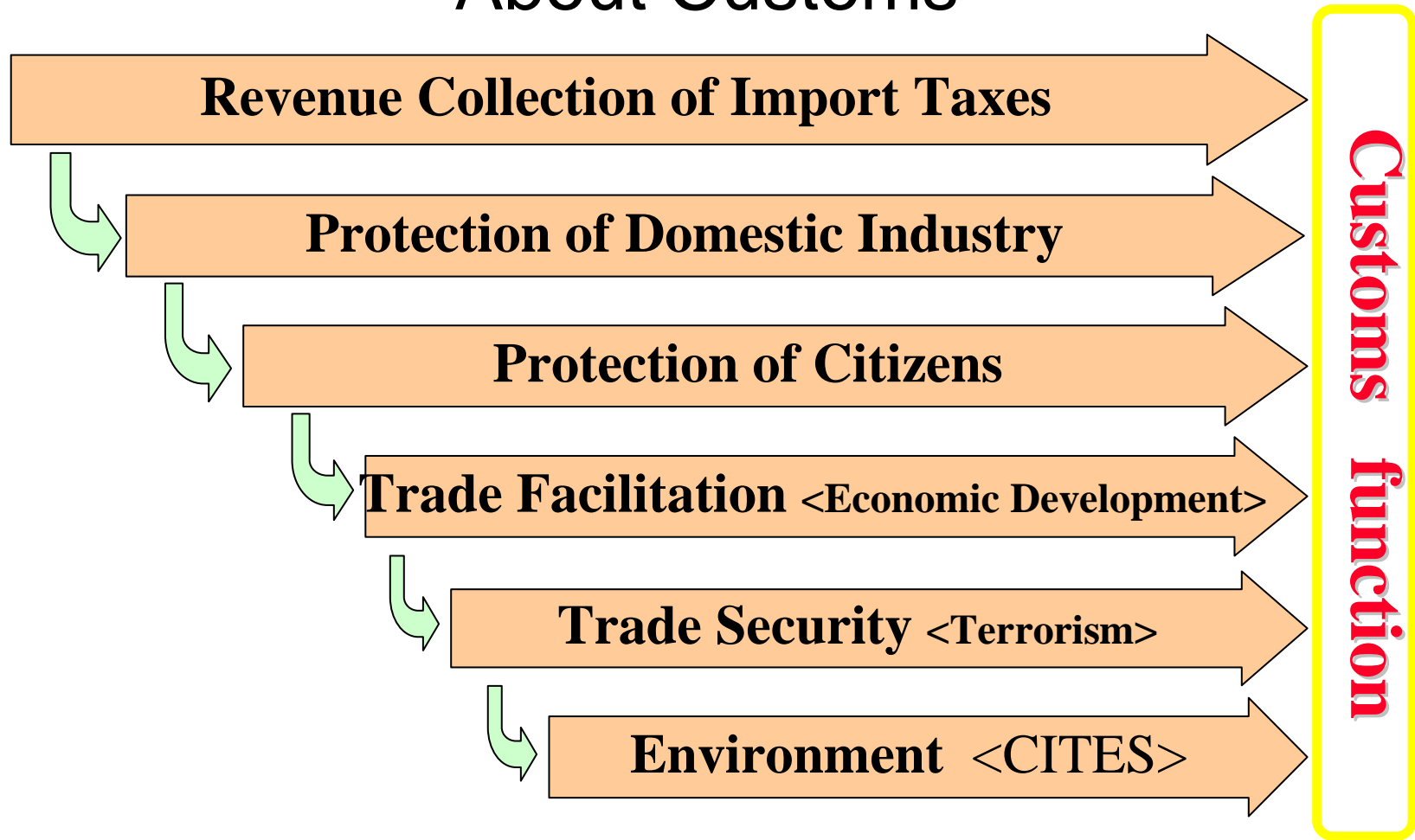
About WCO

The WCO Objective is to:

- **Enhance effectiveness of global information and intelligence exchange;**
- **Facilitate exchange of information and strengthen co-operation between all Member Customs administrations to enable them to contribute successfully to national development goals.**



About Customs



WCO Global RILO NETWORK

Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices



How Do we Do it

Exchange of Information through:

- CEN (Customs Enforcement Network)
- CENCOMM (Operational tool)
- ENVIRONET (dedicated to environment alerts etc. Access is free.)

Operation GAPIN – Illegal Trade in Bush Meat

- This was two-week (Jan 24th to 6th Feb 2011) intelligence-led operation targeting Grate Apes, Ivory and Rhino Horns.
 - It was initiated by WCO with funding from Swedish Government. It resulted in 99 reported seizures relating to over 22,500kgs and 12,700 pieces of protected wildlife species.
 - Fourteen (14) African countries were selected. Another 12 participated and over 22,500kg and 12,700 pieces of protected wildlife derivatives were seized. Another 22 European and Asian countries which are either destination or transit participants.
 - RILO ESA acted as the official coordination Unit
- With support from WCO & CITES secretariats, other



Illegal Trade in Bushmeat – Operation GAPIN

- 4,726 kgs of Pangolin meat were seized
- 50 Kgs of Bush-meat and two dead primates
- 185 Kgs of raw and worked ivory
- 4 Rhino horns
- 252 pieces of dried sea-horses
- 5,300kgs of Shark fins
- 12,056 kgs of sea shells
- 11,250 kgs of sea cucumber
- 1,000 kgs of ell intestines, etc.



Illegal Trade in Bushmeat –



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Illegal Trade in Bushmeat – Operation GAPIN – Origin

Seizure by Region

Asia	-	64 cases	-	4,750kgs
Europe	-	30 cases	-	194 kgs
Africa	-	6 cases	-	17591kgs

Operation GAPIN – Seizure Locations

Brussels	-	11 cases	-	116 kgs
Hong Kong	-	4 cases	-	14.8kgs
Paris	-	3 cases	-	12.6 kgs
Nairobi	-	2 cases	-	8.8 kgs
Johannesburg		2 cases	-	16.2kgs
Goma	-	1 case	-	16kgs

Operation GAPIN – Seizure Locations Type

Airports	-	42 cases	-	244 kgs
Mail Centres	-	28 cases	-	0.083kgs
Seaport	-	6 cases	-	22,276 kgs
Land Border	-	1 case	-	16 kgs



G.A.D.
team

OPSPORINGS-
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Some Statistics - Ivory

- 1996-2010 – 57 ivory seizures from West Africa to China
- Nigeria to Malaysia – 186 Pcs
- Kenya to Dubai – 239 pcs
- Kenya to Bangkok – 296 pcs
- Malaysia to Vietnam – 367 pcs
- Kenya to Vietnam – 985 pcs
- Kenya to Malaysia – 317 pcs
- Mozambique to China
- Tanzania to China
- Ethiopia to China etc.



Support from WCO & RILOs

- Collect, evaluate and circulate info on customs offences
- Prepare and circulate alerts, intelligence profiles and regional tactical analysis, eg. Unusual smuggling methods & trends and consistent patterns.
- Organize and support regional intelligence-based operations (eg. Operation GAPIN, Mamba II, III, BABA etc).
- Facilitate mutual assistance and cooperation with other enforcement agencies
- Promote regional cooperation between customs administrations and other law enforcement agencies



Some of the Recommendations

- WCO and partners to implement long-term projects
- Provide practical assistance to countries suffering most from illegal trade in wildlife
- More countries especially those in the supply chain be involved in future projects.
- Future projects to involve, CITES, INTERPOL, Airport Security Services as well as other enforcement agencies.



Our Pledge

- To facilitate real-time exchange of information
- To coordinate and support any regional or national environmental operation
- To promote multi-agency cooperation
- To participate in joint training sessions and seminars.

Our Commitment

To serve as an OCU if another operation is planned for in the near future.



Conclusion

- Exchange of information, international & multi-agency cooperation is the only sure way of tackling international crime.

Thank you for listening.
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