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**New Zealand
and
European Union**

Agreement between New Zealand and the European Union on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters. Brussels, 3 July 2017

Entry into force: *1 May 2018, in accordance with article 21*

Authentic texts: *Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish and Swedish*

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**Nouvelle-Zélande
et
Union européenne**

Accord de coopération et d'assistance administrative mutuelle en matière douanière entre l'Union européenne et la Nouvelle-Zélande. Bruxelles, 3 juillet 2017

Entrée en vigueur : *1^{er} mai 2018, conformément à l'article 21*

Textes authentiques : *bulgare, croate, tchèque, danois, néerlandais, anglais, estonien, finnois, français, allemand, grec, hongrois, italien, letton, lituanien, maltais, polonais, portugais, roumain, slovaque, slovène, espagnol et suédois*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND
AND THE EUROPEAN UNION
ON COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE
IN CUSTOMS MATTERS

NZ/EU/en 1

NEW ZEALAND, and

THE EUROPEAN UNION (hereinafter referred to as "the Union"),

hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties",

CONSIDERING the importance of the commercial links between New Zealand and the Union and desirous of contributing, to the benefit of both Contracting Parties, to the harmonious development of those links;

RECOGNISING that, in order to attain this objective, there should be an undertaking to develop customs cooperation;

TAKING into account the development of customs cooperation between the Contracting Parties, concerning customs procedures;

CONSIDERING that operations in breach of customs legislation are prejudicial to the economic, fiscal and commercial interests of both Contracting Parties, and recognising the importance of ensuring the accurate assessment of customs duties and other taxes;

CONVINCED that action against such operations can be made more effective by cooperation between customs authorities;

RECOGNISING the significant role of customs authorities and the importance of customs procedures in promoting trade facilitation and the protection of citizens;

AIMING to provide a framework to enhance cooperation with a view to further simplifying and harmonising customs procedures and promoting joint action in the context of relevant international initiatives, including trade facilitation and enhanced supply chain security;

RECOGNISING the significance of the Trade Facilitation Agreement negotiated under the auspices of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and highlighting the importance of its adoption and effective implementation;

BUILDING upon the core elements of the SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade (hereinafter referred to as "the SAFE Framework") of the World Customs Organization (WCO);

HAVING regard to the high level of commitment of both Contracting Parties to customs actions and cooperation in the fight against infringements of intellectual property rights;

HAVING regard to obligations imposed under international conventions already accepted by, or applied to, the Contracting Parties, as well as customs-related activities undertaken by the WTO; and

HAVING regard to the relevant instruments of the WCO, in particular the Recommendation concerning Mutual Administrative Assistance of 5 December 1953;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1

Definitions

1. For the purpose of this Agreement:
 - (a) "customs legislation" shall mean any laws and regulations of the Union or New Zealand governing the import, export and transit of goods and their placing under any other customs regime or procedure, including measures of prohibition, restriction and control, and administered, applied or enforced by the customs authorities of the Contracting Parties in their respective territories;
 - (b) "laws and regulations of the Contracting Party", "laws and regulations of that Contracting Party" and "laws and regulations of each Contracting Party" shall mean the laws and regulations applicable in the Union in the circumstances, or the laws and regulations applicable in New Zealand, as the context requires;
 - (c) "customs authority" shall mean, in the Union, the competent services of the European Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") responsible for customs matters and the customs authorities of the Member States of the Union and, in New Zealand, the New Zealand Customs Service;