



KOREA CUSTOMS SERVICE

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Invitation to the 9th ASEM Customs Enforcement Working Group Meeting and the International Conference on Customs Protection and Enforcement of IPR

Dear ASEM members:

On behalf of Korea Customs Service (KCS), I take it as a great privilege to invite you to the International Conference on Customs Protection and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) on April 19 and the 9th ASEM Customs Enforcement Working Group (EWG) Meeting from April 20 to 21, 2006 to be held in Seoul, Korea.

More than 300 participants are expected to attend the conference including the Customs officials from 39 ASEM members, IPR holders, experts from the private sector, academia and international organizations such as the WCO, WIPO, OECD, ICC and INTA. With the spectrum of conference attendees so wide and various, the event will serve as a venue for meaningful discussions over ways to better protect IPR and countermeasures against IPR violations.

At the 9th ASEM Customs EWG Meeting, best practices of each participating country will be presented on major investigation and surveillance issues such as smuggling, drugs, IPR, illegal weapons, commercial fraud and trade security. Furthermore, participants will discuss cooperative approaches to the issues, evaluate each country's implementation of two action plans, namely "Fight Against Fraud" and "Supply Chain Security & Trade Facilitation and IPR".

Expecting your unreserved support for successful hosting of the conference and the meeting, KCS seeks your cooperation as follows:

KCS hopes each member of ASEM will:



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1. secure the presence of experts on protection and enforcement of IPR who will make presentations on IPR protection techniques and ways to innovate them at the conference;
2. cooperate in efforts to adopt a joint declaration which will include concrete steps for Customs to follow to protect IPR, as a part of efforts to realize the Statement from the 6th ASEM Customs Director General-Commissioner Meeting on Combating Counterfeiting.

Your prompt response over the possibility of dispatching speakers from your country to the conference would be greatly appreciated.

I believe your active participation and unremitted support for the upcoming events will be indispensable for KCS to successfully host them. Soon, KCS will send you the agenda and detailed event schedules.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation. I look forward to seeing you in Seoul, this April.

Sincerely yours,

Kim, Doh-yeol

Director General
Intelligence & International Affairs Bureau
Korea Customs Service