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For the attention of : **Directors General of the WCO**

26.03.2020 / Brussels 20HL0114E/H.C.

Dear Director General,

The 82nd Fellowship Programme of the World Customs Organization (WCO), intended for English-speaking Customs officers, will be held from 21 September to 30 October 2020.

The Fellowship Programme is an integral part of the WCO's Leadership and Management Development Programme. It aims to invest in middle managers with high potential and develop their abilities, skills and knowledge to ensure that they can actively participate in their **Administration's reform and modernization processes** and in on-going organizational development initiatives under the WCO Capacity Building programme.

In this regard, I kindly invite you to identify and nominate **a maximum of 2 candidates** who meet the following conditions :

- A thorough knowledge of one of the technical areas listed in the annex and the capacity to articulate practical recommendations for your Administration's modernization initiatives in this field.
- **Proficiency in both written and spoken English**. One of the selection criteria will involve a telephone conversation between the candidate and the WCO officer in charge of the Programme.
- A mid-level manager having at least four years of service in Customs and with the assessed potential for further advancement.
- Maximum age 45 years and in good health.

Preference will be given to the candidates who meet these criteria.

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The selected candidates will be required to produce a research paper based on the analysis of their national situation and the inventory of the operational problems that their Administration faces, and to put forward recommendations to solve them. This research paper, which will be supervised by a specialized WCO tutor, shall then be presented to the Director General and may be used by WCO experts who carry out missions within the Administration. *Please note that applications for the WCO Fellowship Programme proposing a research topic that was already developed by a previous Fellow selected from your Administration will not be considered for selection.*

Please find appended hereto documents setting out the administrative provisions, as well as a summary of the objectives of this Programme. Kindly note that the application procedures have changed and that the Fellowship Programme nomination form must be **completed online in English** via the WCO CLiKC! Platform. Access to and submission of the nomination form will require approval by the CLiKC! National Coordinator (since the candidates' application and the draft proposal related to his/her study area must be supported by the Administration). Applications must be submitted online **no later than 22 May 2020** (no application will be accepted after that deadline).

The Secretariat will only be able to accept a limited number of candidates subject to the resources provided by the various donors for this Fellowship Programme. In order to promote gender balance, if you are nominating two candidates, you are advised to nominate one female candidate and one male candidate.

Should you require additional information, your staff may contact Ms. Hélène Caux, the Programme Administrator (Tel.: + 32 2 209 92 36, E-mail: helene.caux@wcoomd.org), in the Capacity Building Directorate.

Yours sincerely,

Kunio Mikuriya WCO Secretary General