Coordination of activities of control bodies at border crossings

Contributed by the Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation*

1. On 29 June 2011, Federal Act No. 394-FZ of 28 December 2011 amending certain legislation to transfer to the Customs authorities the power to carry out various functions of State control (hereinafter, the Federal Act) entered into force in the Russian Federation.

2. Under the Federal Act, as from 29 June 2011, the Customs authorities have been authorized to perform all transport checks at border crossings, and at specialized border crossings to verify health quarantine documentation, phytosanitary and veterinary quarantine documentation.

3. The Federal Act was adopted to reduce administrative barriers, avoid duplication of work by border control bodies and allow faster passage of goods and means of transport over the border.

4. Under the Federal Act, since 29 June 2011 the transport inspection units of the Federal Transport Supervision Service have been removed from border crossings; they now carry out their activities within the territory of the Russian Federation. Transport checks at border crossings are now performed by the Customs authorities.

5. In accordance with the Federal Act and the orders issued by the Russian Government pursuant to it, the Customs authorities, while carrying out other forms of State control, decide whether goods:

* This information is contributed by the Russian Federation in accordance with the Working Party’s request at its 128th session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/256, para. 13).
• May be imported into the Russian Federation
• Are prohibited from being imported into the Russian Federation
• Are to be sent for further inspection by officials of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance or the Federal Service for Consumer Protection and Human Welfare

6. In accordance with an established procedure, products placed in quarantine and goods subject to control requiring more thorough inspection by the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance are to be selected automatically, using computer programs (an automated information system) once such programs have been introduced.

7. Pending the introduction of such an automated information system, the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (for quarantined goods) and the Ministry of Agriculture (for goods subject to control measures) agree with the Federal Customs Service on lists of those quarantined products and controlled goods that require further inspection by the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance.

8. The Russian Federal Customs Service, the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance and the Federal Service for Consumer Protection and Human Welfare have agreed on lists of controlled goods subject to decisions by the Customs authorities and of those goods requiring further inspection by the services in question.