

**No. 55638\***

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**European Community  
and  
United States of America**

**Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America on intensifying and broadening the Agreement on customs cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters to include cooperation on container security and related matters (with annex). Washington, 22 April 2004**

**Entry into force:** 22 April 2004 by signature, in accordance with article 7

**Authentic text:** *English*

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**Communauté européenne  
et  
États-Unis d'Amérique**

**Accord entre la Communauté européenne et les États-Unis d'Amérique intensifiant et élargissant le champ d'application de l'accord de coopération douanière et d'assistance mutuelle en matière douanière afin d'y inclure la coopération relative à la sécurité des conteneurs et aux questions connexes (avec annexe). Washington, 22 avril 2004**

**Entrée en vigueur :** 22 avril 2004 par signature, conformément à l'article 7

**Texte authentique :** *anglais*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies :** *Conseil de l'Union européenne, 1<sup>er</sup> février 2019*

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AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY  
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ON INTENSIFYING AND BROADENING THE AGREEMENT ON  
CUSTOMS COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE  
IN CUSTOMS MATTERS TO INCLUDE  
COOPERATION ON CONTAINER SECURITY  
AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Having regard to the provisions of the Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America on customs cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters, which was signed May 28, 1997, hereafter called "the CMAA";

Whereas:

- (1) Acknowledging that U.S. Customs and Border Protection is, as of March 1, 2003, the successor to the United States Customs Service under the CMAA;
- (2) Recalling that the Contracting Parties may by mutual consent decide to expand areas of cooperation under the CMAA pursuant to Article 3;
- (3) Recalling that, under Article 22 of the CMAA, the JCCC consists of representatives of the Customs Authorities of the Contracting Parties, which in the European Community are the competent services of the Commission of the European Communities assisted by the customs authorities of the Member States of the European Community and in the United States of America is the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security;
- (4) Recognising that the Joint Customs Cooperation Committee (JCCC) was established under Article 22 of the CMAA;
- (5) Acknowledging the long-standing, close and productive relations between the Customs Authorities of the United States of America and of the European Community;

- (6) Being convinced that this cooperation can be further improved by, among other things, intensifying the exchange of relevant information and best practices among the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the European Commission and the Customs Authorities of Member States of the European Community in order to ensure that general customs controls of international trade take due account of security concerns;
- (7) Acknowledging the importance of extending this cooperation to all modes of international transport and all kinds of goods, initially putting priority on sea-container transport;
- (8) Recognising the high volume of two-way sea-container and other modes of trade between the European Community and the United States of America, and the important role of both the European Community and the U.S. as transport hubs for containers coming from many countries;
- (9) Recognising that global sea containers are imported into, transhipped through, or transiting the United States of America and the European Community;
- (10) Being convinced that there is a need to deter, prevent, and interdict any terrorist attempts to disrupt global trade by concealing terrorist weapons in global sea-container trade or other shipments, or by using such shipments as weapons;