

**NOTIFICATION CONCERNING THE DECISION UNDER PARAGRAPH 1
OF ANNEX III OF THE AGREEMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF
ARTICLE VII OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE 1994**

KUWAIT

The following communication, dated 21 February 2001, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Kuwait.

In reference to the commitment entered into by the Government of the State of Kuwait, Decision G/VAL/18, adopted by the Committee on Customs Valuation on 17 December 1999, attached is a copy of the second report on the progress made in executing the work programme for the application of the Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994.

Special report on the progress of the Work Programme regarding the
implementation of the WTO Valuation Agreement

As the time-limit ended on 31 December 2000, the Kuwait General Administration of Customs (KGAC) has implemented the Agreement on 1 January 2001.

The following is an outline of the accomplishments of the Work Programme:

- A. The training stages of KGAC employees at beginner and intermediate levels. KGAC, under the supervision of the WTO Valuation Committee, concluded the necessary training plan in cooperation with the US Customs Advisory Team:**
1. KGAC conducted several technical valuation training courses designated for the Audit sector, aiming to enrich their skills in the field of valuation. These training courses included 336 attendants.
 2. KGAC conducted several technical valuation training courses designated for managers and their deputies.
 3. KGAC conducted several introductory valuation seminars aimed at Documental Directorates supervisors.
 4. KGAC distributed 400 copies of the Trainee briefcase and Article 7 of the Valuation Agreement to all officials and auditors.

5. KGAC trained customs auditors specializing in the field of valuation in order to bear the task of conducting seminars and training other auditors at the beginner level.

B. The stages of training the private sector, including businessmen and brokers:

1. KGAC conducted several compulsory valuation training courses designated for all customs brokers (public, private or subsidiary). These training courses included 430 attendants. The training is aimed at providing the necessary information on the basic principles of the Valuation Agreement. The lecturers were professional custom auditors in the field.

2. KGAC is in preparations to hold a valuation seminar designated for importers in order to introduce their duty with regard to implementing Article 7 of the Agreement.

C. KGAC technical assistance request to both WTO and WCO:

1. KGAC held the Technical Valuation Workshop conducted by Hasan Abu Tahir, Counsellor of the WTO Technical Cooperation Division and Mr. Ian Cremer, Customs Officer at HM Customs and Excise in the UK. It aimed at illustrating the core of Articles 1 and 8 of the Valuation Agreement.

2. KGAC invited to the mentioned workshop some of the local sectors, Governmental bodies and related public institutions.

3. In addition, KGAC is constantly contributing and following up the local and international valuation seminars and meetings. Moreover, a KGAC specialized delegation attended the WTO Valuation Committee meeting held at the WTO headquarters in Geneva on 12 April 2000. KGAC also attended the tenth meeting of the WCO Technical Committee on Customs Valuation held in Brussels from 22-25 May 2000.

D. Table containing the Valuation training courses and seminars conducted by KGAC for the year 2000:

Programme	Date		Trainees	No. of attendants
	From	Until		
Valuation Training Course	11.3.00	17.5.00	KGAC Audit Sector	336
Valuation Training Course and the principles of building database	15.4.00	16.4.00	Supervisors and Heads of Divisions at KGAC Documental Directorates	22
Customs Valuation Seminar	1.7.00	1.7.00	Custom brokers	64
Obligatory Courses on Customs Valuation	22.7.00	20.11.00	Custom brokers (Private, public or subsidiary)	430
Seminar on the first steps to use the database	27.9.00	27.9.00	Custom auditors specialized in the field of valuation	12
Valuation Workshop	7.10.00	11.10.00	Ministries, Institutions and Governmental bodies	62

Programme	Date		Trainees	No. of attendants
	From	Until		
Valuation training course	14.11.00	15.11.00	Directors, Deputies and Heads of Divisions at KGAC	12

E. KGAC finished reorganizing all matters relating to the implementation of the Valuation Agreement by building a database:

KGAC issued Customs Instructions No. 17/2000 mandating all Documental Directorates to build an automated database in light of the special Valuation Work Programme. It deals with all matters related to the imported goods origin, value, quantity etc., in order to study and analyze specific goods.

Also KGAC has created an official e-mail address: q8customs@hotmail.com.

In addition, KGAC finished printing, distributing and using the following forms:

- Information Request Form: KGAC submits this form to the customs broker in request of certain information and details from the importer regarding the imported goods. This form comes in three pages.
- Import Record Form: This form includes all necessary information such as Harmonized System Code, the goods specifications, the country of origin, the shipper and the importer.

F. The necessary booklets, brochures etc.:

1. The WTO Customs Valuation Committee at KGAC finished preparing, printing and distributing to related authorities a special booklet on Article 7 of the Valuation Agreement.
2. Special Valuation introductory brochures are now under preparation.

G. Local Customs Legislation and the necessary amendments to Customs Law in order to be suitable for the implementation of Article 7:

KGAC prepared and reviewed with the related bodies a draft law amending some of the Customs Law No. 13/1980 Articles. Also the Department of Legal Advice and Legislation at the Cabinet has written the draft law in legal form.

Moreover, the mentioned draft law is now in the hands of the National Assembly for review and adoption of an amended law before the end of this year. As soon as it is issued, KGAC will send a copy to the WTO Secretariat.
