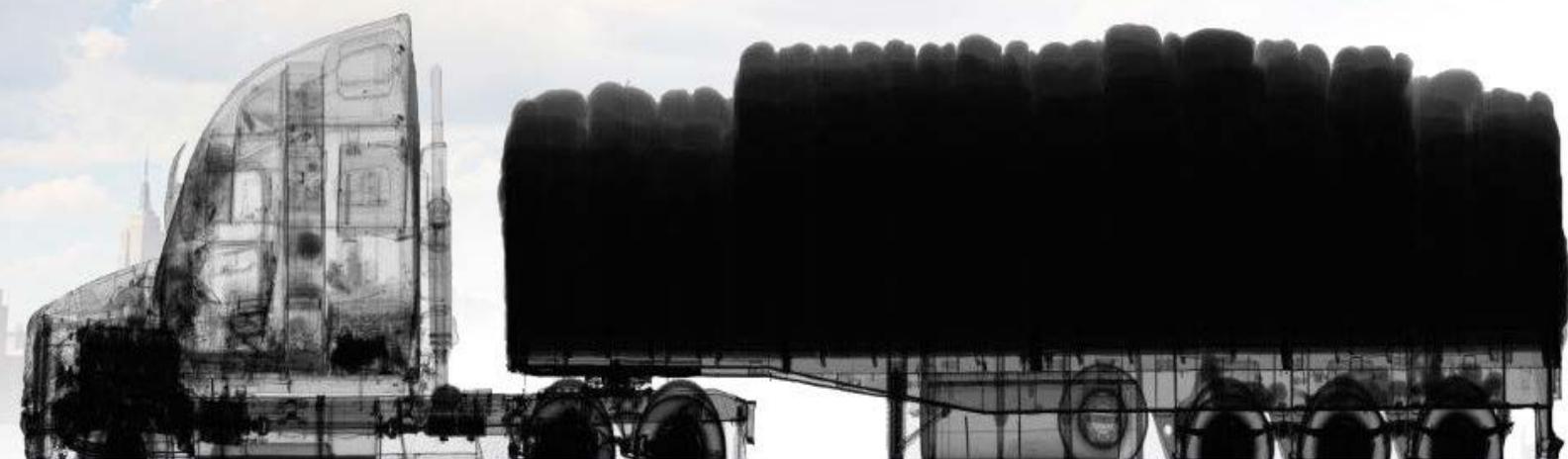


ESA Sotho Photo Book

A collection of photos that tell Customs stories

Annual ESA 'Sotho' Photo Contest 2016



[World Customs Organization](#)



East and Southern Africa
Region

Larry Liza
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Background

The World Customs Organization, East and Southern Africa, Regional Office for Capacity Building, launched the **Annual ESA 'Sotho photo' Contest**. This called for Members to submit their 'best' photos to be displayed and voted for during the meeting of the region's Directors General, the Governing Council, annually. This contest was christened 'Sotho' in honour of the nation and people of Lesotho, which hosted the first photo contest in the region during Governing Council in May, 2016. We also hoped that this contest will further boost our Members' submission of photos for the WCO Annual Photo Competition.

Meanwhile, all the photos submitted form part of the **'ESA Sotho photo Book, a collection of photos that tell Customs stories**.

Editorial

I am happy to present to you the first ever **ESA Sotho photo Book, a collection of photos that tell Customs stories**. For the 2016 contest, we received photos from 14 out of our 24 Members countries. It is therefore our pleasure to present to you stories from Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa, South Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

I congratulate the worthy winners of this contest, who were voted by the Members. As you flip through, enjoy the beautiful stories of our Members, showing reform and modernization, dedication and industry, zeal and zest in service delivery, and the ever growing opportunities for our region.



Larry Liza, Director.

World Customs Organization



**East and Southern Africa
Region**

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ANGOLA

Use of sniffer dogs



Canine Unit: School children in rural areas learn about Customs and the use of Sniffer dogs as a working tool.





BOTSWANA

The BURS headquarters



The BURS headquarters, upon completion will ease the provision of its services to taxpayers, strategically located within the CBD. The design of the building encompasses some of the most modern state of the art information technology systems and takes into account the critical role BURS plays in mobilizing the resources needed for development in Botswana.

The ground breaking ceremony was attended by the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Kenneth Matambo, who pointed to the buildings iconic and timeless status. "This is done because modern revenue services are enhanced by the efficiencies that can hold and should be derived from the use of ICT to drive business processes" he said. Since its establishment, BURS has managed to meet and in some years exceed its revenue collection targets. The revenue collected over the past eight years has grown by 152 percent over the eight years period. On the other hand, the proportion of tax revenues to the total revenue has averaged around 70 percent for the period 2005 to 2014.





ETHIOPIA

LIDAR remote sensing

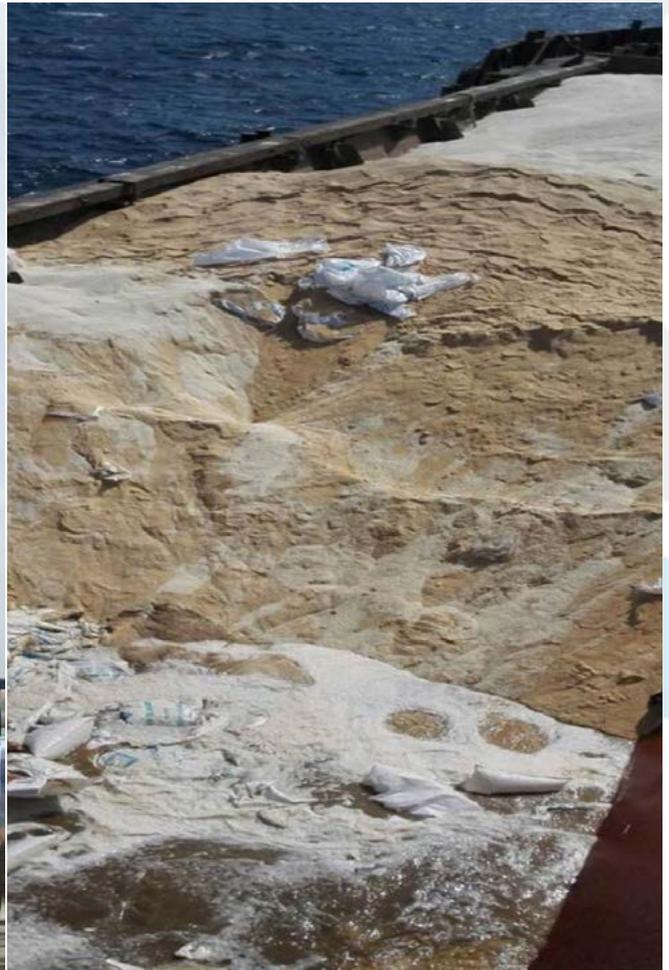


The ERC surveyed 5,000km with the latest LIDAR remote sensing technology to create high-resolution maps to plan routes for the national railway network. On September 21, 2015, Addis Ababa opened the first part of its urban light rail system – the first of its type in sub-Saharan Africa.



KENYA

Consignment intercepted



Kenya Revenue Authority, Customs and Border Control Department destroy illicit goods and contraband consignment intercepted at the Port of Mombasa at high seas on 22nd January 2016.

The Commissioner of Customs and Border Control, Mr. Julius Musyoki among other KRA officials witnesses the destruction exercise at the high seas.





LESOTHO

Digital Customs



“**Digital Customs:** The LRA Clearance Hub was put in place following the introduction of the ASYCUDA World System at border posts in 2015. The WCO 2016 theme talks directly to the automation of customs procedures and processes that LRA customs has recently introduced. LRA embarked on Customs Modernization Programme in 2012 which comprised number of projects including; Trade Portal, Customs Scanners and Customs Procedures and Automation (CPA). The CPA incorporates the Centralized Clearing Hub, which meant to encourage standardized, fair and non-biased inspection to all declarants. There will also be clear guidelines for cause of action to avoid confusion and eliminate potential conflict with declarants.”





MADAGASCAR

Contrôle de routine



Contrôle de routine au scanner des marchandises au bureau des douanes de Mamory Ivato effectué par les douaniers.”

Customs Officials making routine checks for scanner goods at the customs office.





MALAWI

781 pieces of ivory seized



The Malawi Customs Officers seized 781 pieces of Ivory whose value was approximately estimated at US\$158 400 on 31st May 2013. The Ivory was in a van from Mbeya in Tanzania to Lilongwe, Malawi. The consignment was hidden between bags of cement.

The Customs Anti-Smuggling Team intercepted the vehicle on suspicion that it contained smuggled goods because it had no seals. After examination by Customs Officers it was discovered that underneath bags of cement were pieces of Ivory.

The importer and transporter were punished for smuggling prohibited goods against Section 142 of Malawi Customs and Excise Act.

The Ivory was surrendered to the Malawi Government which burned the Ivory in March 2016 in its effort to curb Illegal Trade and Wildlife Crime.



MAURITIUS

Use of technology



This picture shows the contrast between Customs and other stakeholders as far as the use of technology is concerned. The Customs Officer examining the consignment is accessing relevant information/documentation required for this process online on his laptop whereas the Customs agent is still relying on paper documentations. This picture evidenced the willingness of the Mauritius Revenue Authority to digitalise its Customs administration as encouraged by the various WCO instruments.





SEYCHELLES

Customs staff training

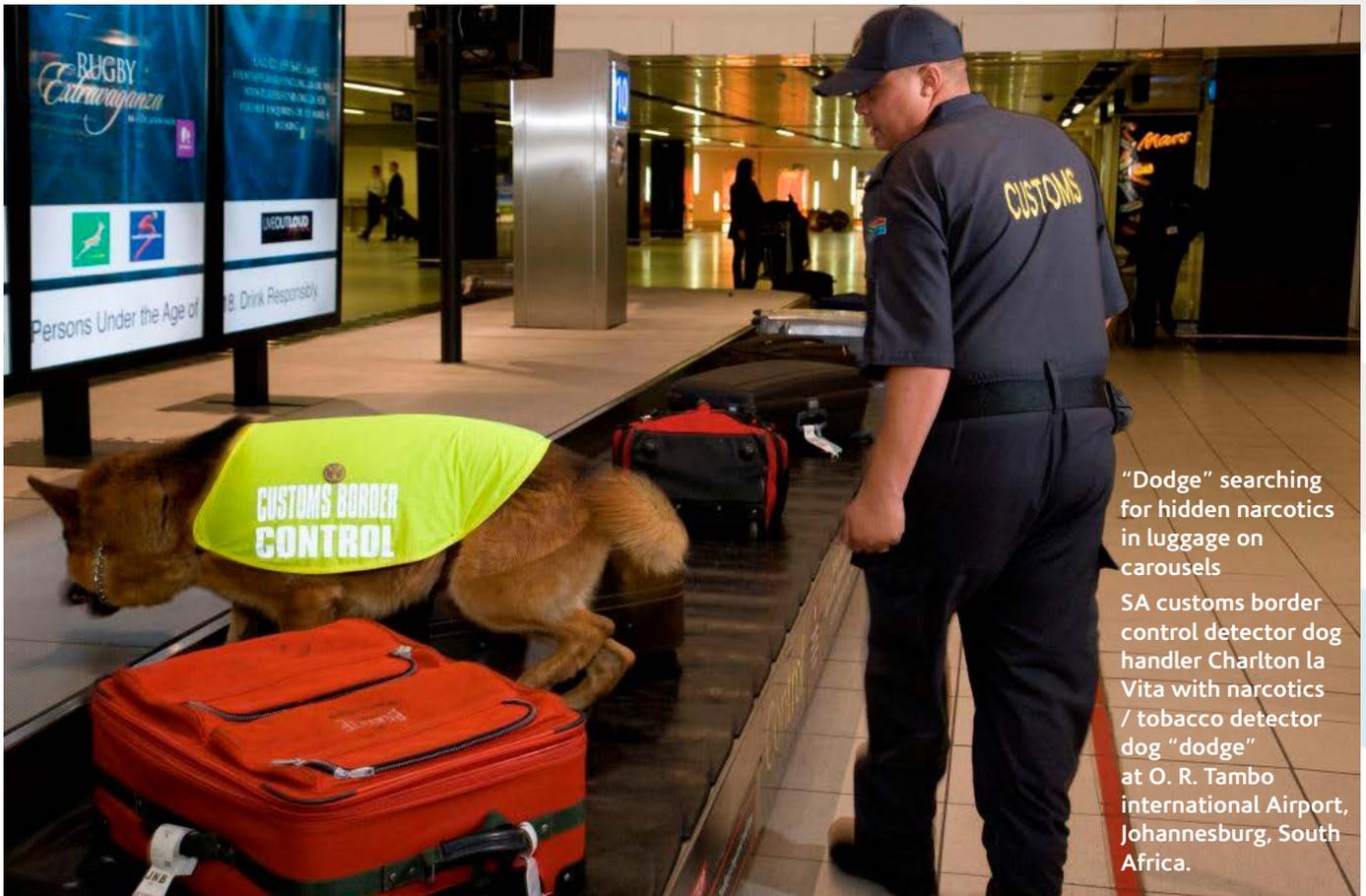


A group of Customs staff who participated in the Harmonized System Classification training held by WCO consultants.



SOUTH AFRICA

Hidden narcotics detection



“Dodge” searching for hidden narcotics in luggage on carousels
SA customs border control detector dog handler Charlton la Vita with narcotics / tobacco detector dog “dodge” at O. R. Tambo international Airport, Johannesburg, South Africa.

The South African Customs Border Control Detector Dog Unit established in 2007 has 112 dual trained dogs and handlers currently operational at air-, sea- and land ports of entry. The detector dogs are trained to detect the following illegal / illicit goods / substances hidden in vehicles, trucks, trailers, vessels, aircraft, containers, cargo, mail, rail, luggage and building: Explosives, firearms and ammunition; Narcotics; Endangered species; Currency; Tobacco products; Copper wire and DVDs. Over the 2015/16 financial year, the Detector Dog Unit assisted in detecting illicit drugs to the value of over R43 million that were being smuggled into South Africa.



SWAZILAND

Profiling and intelligence information



Profiling and intelligence information led to the detection of the smuggling of the cigarettes which were found concealed in a specially designed compartment underneath the body of the caravan. The caravan is fully equipped for a tourist and a ladder has to be used to climb inside. The smuggler, an old man was a regular frequenter into Mozambique from South Africa and would occasionally, cross the Lomahasha border, travelling alone in the evening and return the following morning.





SOUTH SUDAN

Nimule border post



Centre: Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Hon. David Deng, Left: Director General for Customs Mr. Mikaya Modi Legge and his deputy next to him in the far right is an official from Uganda Revenue Authority and the Media Houses

Photo Taken: On 11th January 2016 at 12:00 pm noon at Nimule Customs Enclosure
The photo depicts the visit by the Director General South Sudan Customs Service to Nimule Border Post (January 2016) where he was accompanied by the National Minister of Finance and Economic Planning plus officials from the neighbouring Uganda Revenue Authority after some Clearing Agents were been arrested for using false bank receipts as a result of not using Asycuda (Automation) to replace the current paper based documentation and the Trucks being showcased (background) under Customs Enclosure during the visit.

The visit was to foresee how the yet to be implemented One Stop Borders Post project would be set and also foresee the input on trade facilitation (Risk Management. News Papers, Radio Broadcasts were also present to increase awareness about the benefits of Customs Reforms and promote cooperation of business in following new procedures.





UGANDA

Destroying contraband



Uganda Customs Officials destroying cigarette contrabands.



ZAMBIA

Digital detection



DIGITAL DETECTION OF CONCEALED ELEPHANT TUSKS - KAZUNGULA BORDER POST, ZAMBIA

Zambia Revenue Authority through its modernization program has recently installed Non-Intrusive Equipment (scanners) at major border stations throughout the country. The modernization reforms which have principally also involved enhanced use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in Customs Operations, resonates well with this year's WCO theme 'Digital Customs: Progressive Engagement'.

The Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) has been collaborating with Customs in combatting illegal trade in Wildlife, through WCO project GAPIN and INAMA project Initiatives.

In this pictures above, Zambia Revenue Authority shares with the wider Customs community an interception by Customs officials of elephant tusks which occurred on 31st January 2015 in which a contraband of four (4) tusks, representing two elephants which were killed, was detected using a scanner.

Thanks to 'Digital Customs'. This was a 'Progressive engagement' for Customs and protection of wildlife.

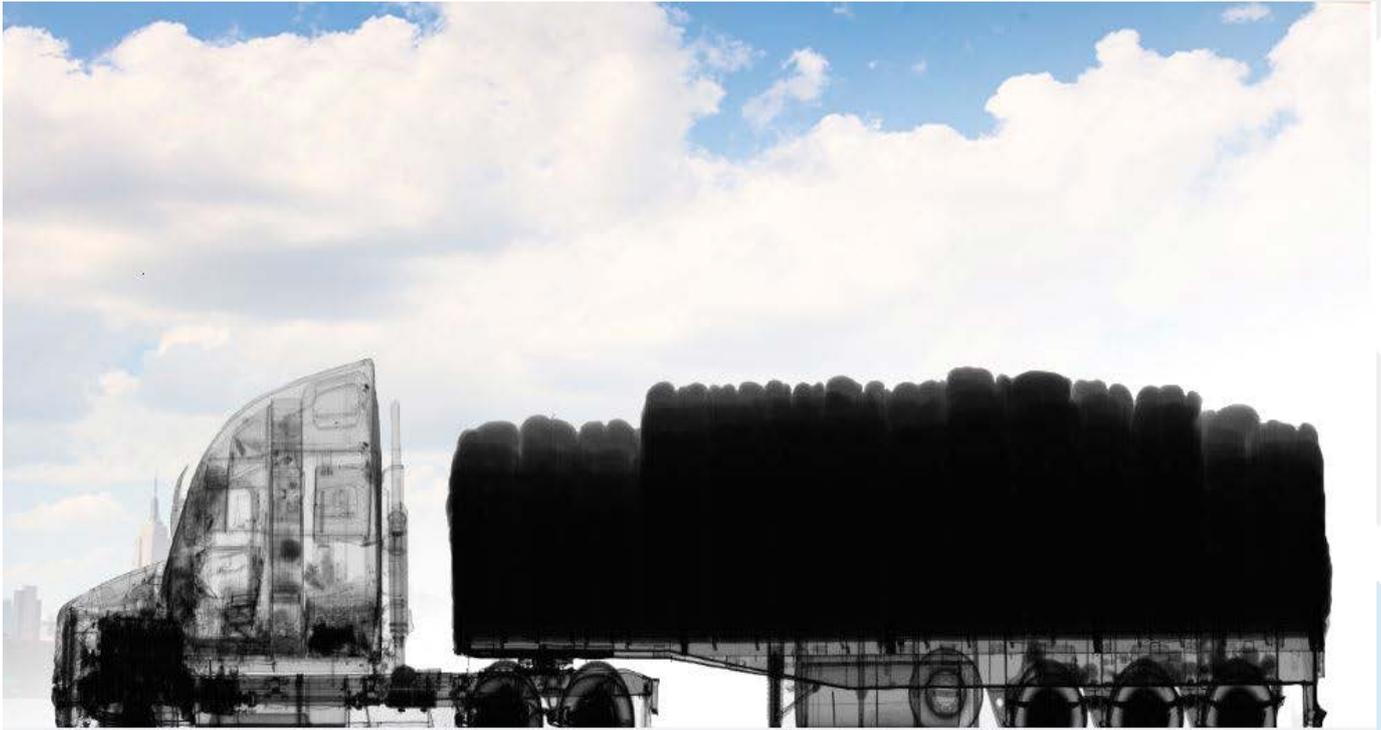
Note: First picture shows scanner image of concealed elephant tusks in the truck. In the second picture elephant tusks retrieved from truck on display.





ZIMBABWE

Fighting human trafficking



The photo shows a scanner image produced at Beitbridge Border Post which resulted in the busting of a human trafficking syndicate. The human trafficker had the nerve to expose the illegal immigrants hiding in the vehicle's compartment to radiation in the false hope that they would be smuggled across the country's border with South Africa. Beitbridge Border Post is the busiest port South of the Sahara. The introduction of non-intrusive inspection equipment in 2003 as part of the Authority's digitalisation and modernisation efforts continues to pay dividends.





Sotho Photo Contest Winners 2016



The WCO Secretary General Regional Vice Chair (South Africa) and hosting Director General presented awards for the 'Photo of the Year', alongside the 1st and 2nd Runners' up.

Zimbabwe was voted as the winner, and awarded a trophy and certificate, with Malawi and Angola voted as 1st and 2nd Runners up and awarded certificate.

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