Brussels,

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Subject: message from European Commission: important changes in the procedure of entry of goods into the EU

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are contacting you to request your support in alerting members/clients of your organisation to important changes in EU entry procedure of goods, which could affect their business and IT operations.

From 1 March 2023, new EU safety and security requirements will apply to all **air carriers, freight forwarders, express couriers and postal operators**. They will have to submit advance cargo information in the form of a complete entry summary declaration (ENS) under the new ICS2 system¹, before the goods arrive to the EU by air.

It is extremely important that every trader and company transporting goods by air to or through the EU² is aware of these changes and complies with the new pre-arrival requirements. If they do not, their goods will be blocked at EU customs until the necessary information is provided. EU customs may also decide to impose administrative sanctions for non-compliance.

The European Commission is conducting a wide communications and outreach campaign to inform the affected operators of these important changes. Your help in getting these messages out to your members would be greatly appreciated and would help avoid unnecessary disruptions for them at EU customs.

You will find an information package in this <u>link</u>, including explanatory factsheets, a news statement and social media posts. Should you require any further information or material, please do not hesitate to let us know or check our <u>website</u>.

I remain at your disposal for any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

(e-Signed) Priscila Fernández-Cañadas

Contact: TAXUD-ICS2-PROJECT-TEAM@ec.europa.eu for questions and further information

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¹ Postal operators and express carriers, who already provide information to ICS2, will also need to switch to Release 2.

² All EU Member States, as well as Norway, Switzerland, and Northern Ireland