

6th EU-Hong Kong JCCC – Hong Kong, 18 November 2005

Issues discussed

- The EU delegation explained **international trends in cigarette smuggling**. Hong Kong's participation in 'Project Crocodile' – an Asian anti-smuggling cooperative project – was also discussed. 33 containers containing 278.4 million sticks of cigarettes had been seized since its implementation.
- On **IPR**, Hong Kong Customs explained their 'holistic approach' to enforcement, which aims to tackle the issue from all angles. They also informed the meeting that the growing threat of internet piracy had led to the establishment of two Anti-Internet Piracy Teams (one in 1999 and one in 2005).
- The EU delegation expressed their concern over counterfeit products and emphasized the importance of information exchanges. In addition they highlighted the action plan agreed at an earlier ASEM DG-Commissioners Meeting in 2005, which focused on a joint approach to combating counterfeiting.