



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
**BUREAU OF CUSTOMS**  
MANILA 1099

August 27, 2001

**CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM ORDER**  
NO. 20-2001

The Directors, ESS & CHS  
All District Collectors  
All Service Chiefs  
Importers/Brokers  
All Others Concerned

**Subject: Rules and regulations on the importation of rice and Coastwise movement of rice shipment to further Implement the Memorandum of Agreement between The Bureau of Customs and National Food Authority.**

**1. Objectives**

- 1.1. To prevent, if not to eliminate, the smuggling of rice in the country and prevent entry thereof into the domestic market.
- 1.2. To derive optimum revenue for the government from such shipments of rice.

**2. Scope**

This Order shall apply to all shipments of rice imported into the country and all coastwise movement of all rice shipments.

**3. General Provisions**

- 3.1. All shipments of rice imported into the country shall be covered by an Import Authority from the National Food Authority and the same shall be entered and discharged only in a District Port and not in any sub-port or private wharf.
- 3.2. Owners/Consignees of rice shipment who will transport the same from one coast to another shall first secure a Shipping Permit from NFA before movement of said rice can be effected.

4. Operational Provisions

4.1. Immediately upon arrival of rice imported into the country, the District Collector of the Port of Entry or any responsible customs official therein shall demand from the importer/consignee/carrier an Import Authority for said rice. The Import Authority shall specify the following:

- 1. volume of rice
- 2. type and brand
- 3. country source and supplier in that country
- 4. importer/consignee
- 5. carrying vessel

4.2. In case of movement of rice from one coast to another, the Collector of the Port where the rice is to be unloaded/discharged or any responsible customs official therein shall require from the consignee/carrier a duly issued Shipping Permit from NFA. The NFA Shipping Permit shall indicate the description of the shipment, including its origin, supplier, destination, and whether it is imported or locally sourced.

If the rice to be transported is imported, the Shipping Permit shall be accompanied by a copy of the Import Authority for that particular shipment and a BoC official receipt showing that duties and taxes has been paid.

4.3. The release of rice from the Bureau of Customs shall be subject to Clearance from the Office of the Commissioner. In view thereof, the Collector shall forward to the Office of the Commissioner the Import Entry, Import Permit/Shipping Permit and other pertinent papers on every shipment of rice and shall not allow release thereof without prior Clearance from the Office of the Commissioner.

4.4. The absence of the pertinent Shipping Permit and/or Import Authority or any violation thereof shall be a ground for the seizure of the rice shipment/vessel in question, which shall be then proceeded against in accordance with applicable law, rules and regulations.

**5. Repealing Clause**

All rules and regulations not consistent herewith are deemed repealed, superseded or modified accordingly.

**6. Effectivity**

This Order shall take effect immediately.



**TIFUS B. VILLANUEVA**  
Commissioner

Copy furnished:

Hon. Anthony R. A. Abad  
Administrator  
National Food Authority