



OCOM Memo No. 102-2022

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO :** ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS  
 ALL SUPPORT COLLECTORS  
 ALL DEPUTY COLLECTORS FOR ASSESSMENT  
 ALL CHIEFS, INFORMAL ENTRY DIVISION  
 OR EQUIVALENT UNITS  
 ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

**FROM :** *Y* ~~YOGI FLEMON L. RUIZ~~  
 Acting Commissioner *Y*

**SUBJECT :** EXEMPTION OF SHIPMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED  
 BALIKBAYAN BOXES FROM THE 100% PHYSICAL  
 EXAMINATION REQUIRED OF SHIPMENTS  
 TAGGED ABANDONED IN THE E2M CUSTOMS  
 SYSTEM.

**DATE :** 22 August 2022

*Y* ~~YOGI FLEMON L. RUIZ~~  
 Acting Commissioner *Y*

AUG 1 - 2022



BOC-18-012038

The sending of balikbayan boxes by OFW families and Filipinos abroad is a big part of the Filipino culture and these boxes are often full of gifts for each member of the family. More often than not, delays in the filing of the required Goods Declaration and processing of these balikbayan boxes are due to reasons outside the control of their senders thus affecting their delivery to the recipients in the Philippines.

One of the reasons being attributed to the delays in the clearance of Balikbayan Boxes sent through DTI-FTEB Accredited Cargo Forwarders is the requirement imposed by the Bureau that all shipments subject of request for the untagging/lifting of their abandonment status in the e2m Customs System must be 100% physically examined during the cargo clearance procedure to effect their release from the Bureau.

In recognition of the hard work of our OFWs and other Filipinos abroad and as part of its social responsibility and to have an effective balance between trade facilitation and border protection to prevent the entry of illicit and prohibited goods through the use of the Balikbayan Box System, shipments of consolidated balikbayan boxes sent through DTI-FTEB accredited cargo forwarders or deconsolidators tagged abandoned shall undergo the mandatory non-intrusive inspection and 10% physical examination, and Trace Detention System scanning. Only if there is an irregularity in the image, or if alerted shall said shipments be subject to 100% physical examination at the Ports.

For strict compliance.