



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
1099 Manila

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May 15, 2018

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

NO. 101-2018

To: All Deputy Commissioners
All Directors/District and Port Collectors
All Chiefs of Division Concerned

Subject: IQOS¹ Subject to Import/Export/Transshipment Commodity Clearance from the National Tobacco Administration

Attached is the letter dated May 03, 2018 of Mr. Roberto L. Seares M.D., Administrator and Vice Chairman, National Tobacco Administration, regarding the inclusion of **IQOS** in the list of tobacco related commodities which require Import/Export/ Transshipment Commodity Clearance from their office.

For your information and guidance.

For record purposes, please confirm the dissemination of this circular throughout your offices within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof.



Bureau of Customs
ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA
Commissioner
18-08266
ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA, PhD, CSEE
Commissioner *fl*

MAY 22 2018

¹ IQOS – a pen-shaped and comes with an iPod like charger, vaporizes mini tobacco sticks by heating them. The IQOS smokeless cigarette looks a lot like a second generation vaporizer, but is very different from modern electronic cigarettes in terms of functionality. Instead of nicotine-laced e-liquid, it uses actual tobacco in the shape of small cigarettes that are heated at high temperatures but are not burned.



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION

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03 May 2018

Commissioner ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA
Bureau of Customs
Port Area, Manila



Dear **Commissioner Lapeña**,

It has been observed that the use of IQOS¹ in the Philippines has significantly increased for the past few years. Presently, IQOS are being imported into the country without the necessary import commodity clearance and this poses danger to the public from being exposed to its harmful effects.

In view of the above premises and in furtherance to the implementation of Customs Memorandum Circular No. 29-2016 dated 29 February 2016, we would like to further request your good Office to include IQOS and other similar products in the list of tobacco related commodities which require the issuance of Import/Export/Transshipment Commodity Clearance from the NTA.

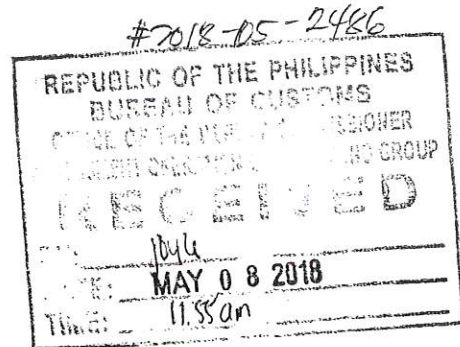
As always, we trust the continuing support of the Honorable Commissioner on this request for the best interest of the public.

Please accept our warm regards.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


ROBERT L. SEARES, M.D.
Administrator and Vice-Chairman
NTA Governing Board



¹ Note: IQOS-a pen-shaped and comes with an iPod-like recharger, vaporizes mini tobacco sticks by heating them.

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