



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

MANILA 1099  
South Harbor, Gate 3, Port Area, Manila

MASTER COPY

February 14, 2019

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

NO. 48-2019

To: All Deputy Commissioners  
All Service Directors  
All District/Port Collectors  
All Others Concerned

**SUBJECT: Request to prioritize the unloading and other necessary arrangements in relation to imported fishery products**

With reference to the letter dated January 29, 2019 from Eduardo B. Gongona, Undersecretary for Fisheries/Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, all concerned are informed to prioritize the processing and release of imported fishery products to fast track their entry into the wet markets and to address the spiking prices of fish and their limited stock, subject to compliance with existing customs rules and regulations.

For your information and immediate compliance.

**REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO**  
Commissioner, BOC

FEB 19 2019



CMC 48-2019P-2



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture

**BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, PCA Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City  
Tel. Nos. 929 – 9597, 929-8047

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*Handwritten initials*

29 January 2019

**HON. REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO**  
Commissioner  
Bureau of Customs,  
G/F OCOM Building, 16th St.,  
South Harbor, Port Area, Manila

IMPORTS ASSESSMENT SERVICE

**RECEIVED**

By: *[Signature]*  
Date: 2/13/19  
Time: 9:37am  
Control No: 2019-02-50

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS  
MESSAGE CENTER  
**RECEIVED**  
FEB 08 2019  
TIME: 3:20

Bureau of Customs  
Office of the Commissioner  
19-04640

Subject: Request to Prioritize the Unloading and Other Necessary Arrangements  
in Relation to Imported Fishery Products

Dear Commissioner Guerrero,

Recent studies and statistical data have shown that most Philippine fishing grounds have depleted, and conservation measures have been implemented by this Bureau to rehabilitate such fishing grounds. However, it was observed that there is still a temporary decline in fish production, which is no longer sufficient to meet the demands of the fish-eating population.

This is the reason behind the drafting of Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) No. 259, series of 2018, entitled "Rules and Regulations on the Importation of Frozen Fish and Fishery/Aquatic Products for Wet Markets During Closed and Off-Fishing Seasons or During the Occurrence of Calamities."

Arrival and unloading of the imported fish products under the above-mentioned Order are already on-going. To fast track the entry of these imported products into the wet markets and to address the spiking prices of fish and the limited stock, we respectfully request your good Office to prioritize the unloading and all the necessary arrangements in relation thereto.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
ASSESSMENT OPERATION COORDINATING GROUP  
**RECEIVED**  
BY: DENNIS P.  
DATE: FEB 12 2019  
TIME: 10:35 AM

**EDUARDO B. GONGONA**  
Undersecretary for Fisheries /  
Director, BFAR

IF 1019-02-078

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
IAS

**RECEIVED**

By: *[Signature]*  
Date: 2/13/19  
Time: 10:26 AM

*Handwritten notes*