



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
Manila

February 14, 2014

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM ORDER
NO. 06-2014

SUBJECT: REALIGNMENT OF THE X-RAY INSPECTION PROJECT (XIP) TO THE ENFORCEMENT GROUP AND DESIGNATION OF DUTY CUSTOMS EXAMINERS AT THE XIP DESIGNATED EXAMINATION AREA/FIELD OFFICE BY THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR

In line with the on-going reorganization of the Bureau, there is a need to realign the X-ray Inspection Project (*XIP*) in recognition of its law enforcement function considering that x-ray is a frontline border protection facility. Beyond question, x-ray inspection is a centerpiece project for a modernized and efficient customs service and should therefore, be accorded permanency.

There is also a need to strengthen integrity in the Bureau of Customs by enhancing transparency in customs processes and procedures.

It is along this line that customs examiners will be given a role in the conduct of non-intrusive container inspection. Container X-ray operation neither diminishes nor supplants the statutory duties of a customs officer to examine, classify, and appraise imported articles pursuant to Section 1403 of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines (TCCP), as amended. It is foremost a mandate on the part of customs examiner to conduct thorough examination on selected high-risk shipments, under pain of sanction under Section 3604 of the TCCP.

To prevent, however, potential overcrowding at the x-ray examination area, it is practical to rationalize the deployment of customs examiners who will be tasked to conduct preliminary inspection of the cargo. This will dispense with the need for every assigned examiner for a specific Import Entry to perform the preliminary inspection by themselves at the XIP Designated Examination Area (XIP-DEA).

In view of the foregoing, the following rules and regulations are hereby adopted:

SECTION 1. REALIGNMENT OF XIP TO THE ENFORCEMENT GROUP. The X-ray Inspection Project (XIP) is hereby realigned from the Office of the Commissioner to the Enforcement Group (EG). Henceforth, the Head, XIP shall report directly to the Deputy Commissioner, EG.

SECTION 1.1. In the interim, the Deputy Commissioner, EG, upon the recommendation of the XIP Head and in consultation with the Director, Enforcement and Security Service (ESS), is hereby authorized to reshuffle personnel within the XIP or reassign existing ESS personnel performing duties at the XIP back to their mother units and *vice versa*.

