


2018-03-002



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS
ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : *[Signature]*  Bureau of Customs
ISIDRO S LAPEÑA
Commissioner
18-03326

SUBJECT : REFRAIN FROM OPENING THE LUGGAGE OF OFWS

DATE : February 28, 2018

Forwarded for your information and implementation a copy of OSEC-2018-111 and Presidential Directive No. 2017-0100 dated February 14, 2018 clarifying that the directive which was reiterated by the President during his February 9 meeting with DOLE and DFA shall cover only returning Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and shall not prejudice the stringent and proper implementation of security and safety measures.

For your appropriate action.

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

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Office of the President
of the Philippines

OSEC-2018- 111

MASTER COPY *mm*

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	
RECEIVED	
FEB 26 2018	
BY: <i>[Signature]</i>	TIME: 11:55
<small>Bureau of Customs Office of the Commissioner Incoming Document No</small>	
18-03926	

20 February 2018

Sir:

Thank you for your letter dated 15 January 2018, and received by this office only last 14 February, requesting for clarification on the President's directive to the Bureau of Customs to refrain from opening the luggage of passengers arriving in the Philippines.

We wish to note that per Presidential Directive no. 2017-0100 addressed to the Secretary of Transportation and the Commissioners of Immigration and Customs issued last 14 February 2018, it was clarified that the directive - which was reiterated by the President during his 09 February meeting with DOLE and DFA - covers only returning Overseas Filipinos Workers (OFWs). It was further clarified that the directive is without prejudice to the stringent and proper implementation of security and safety measures.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
LEONCIO B. EVASCO JR.
Cabinet Secretary

Commissioner ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA PhD CSEE
Bureau of Customs
South Harbor, Port Area
Manila

OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY
MALACAÑAN PALACE, J.P. LAUREL STREET, SAN MIGUEL, MANILA
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Office of the President of the Philippines
PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT STAFF
Malacañang

Presidential Directive no. 2017-0100

FOR : The Secretary of Transportation (DOTr)
The Commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration (BI)
The Commissioner of the Bureau of Customs (BOC)

FROM : The Acting Head, Presidential Management Staff

SUBJECT : **REFRAIN FROM OPENING THE LUGGAGE OF OFWS**

DATE : 14 February 2018

During the President's meeting with DOLE and DFA and Press Conference at the Matina Enclaves, Davao City on 09 February 2018, he emphasized that the protection of our Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) should start here in the country. Thus, the President directed the DOTr, BI, and BOC to refrain from opening the luggage of OFWs to avoid incidents of luggage theft, without prejudice to the stringent and proper implementation of security and safety measures.

We note that this is a reiteration of the President's directive in various engagements¹. We note further that this memorandum is being issued as a formality as said directive has been communicated in advance to the DOTr Secretary and the BI and BOC Commissioners.

Kindly submit a report on your compliance with this directive, indicating the reference number above, not later than fifteen (15) days upon receipt of this memo, to the Presidential Management Staff through directives@pms.gov.ph.

For your guidance.


FERDINAND B. CUI JR.

Copy furnished:

The Executive Secretary
The Cabinet Secretary
The Special Assistant to the President



¹ 1st NAPC En Banc Meeting (Malacañan Palace, 30 January 2017); Housing Summit Part 1: Dialogue with Partner Communities (Dilliman, Quezon City, 08 February 2017); and Induction of the Officers of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cebu, 02 March 2017)

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