



BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

Professionalism Integrity Accountability

MASTER COPY



27 May 2020

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 167 - 2020


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

SUBJECT: National Tobacco Administration (NTA) Resumption of Processing of Applications for Commodity Clearances (ICC/ECC/TCC) for the Exportation/Importation/Transshipment of Tobacco Leaves, Tobacco Products, Tobacco Related Materials/ Ingredients/Spareparts and Heated Tobacco Products (HTPs)

Attached is the letter dated 29 April 2020 from Mr. Roberto R. Bonoan, Ph. D., OIC, Administrator, National Tobacco Administration, Department of Agriculture informing this Bureau on the resumption of the processing of applications for Commodity Clearances (ICC/ECC/TCC) for the exportation, importation, transshipment of tobacco leaves, tobacco products, tobacco related materials, ingredients, spareparts and heated tobacco products (HTPs).

For your information, guidance and appropriate action.

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


REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO
Commissioner



JUN 26 2020
BOC-03-05527 -A

South Harbor, Gate 3, Port Area, Manila 1099
Tel. Nos 527-4537, 527-1935

Website: www.customs.gov.ph Email: Boc.cares@customs.gov.ph

A Modernized and Credible Customs Administration That is Among the World's Best



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION
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Tel No. (02) 8374-3987 / Fax. No. (02) 8374-2505 / Website: nta.da.gov.ph
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BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
RECEIVED
MAY 12 2020
BY: *JTW* TIME: *9:40 AM*

29 April 2020

HON. REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO

Commissioner
Bureau of Customs
Port Area, Manila



BOC-03-05527 -A

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
MESSAGE CENTER
RECEIVED
MAY 11 2020
BY: *Per* TIME: *1:01*

Dear *Commissioner Guerrero,*

In line with the directive from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture to provide skeleton force under all DA attached agencies to be able to continue the services to our clientele, please be informed that, **beginning 04 May 2020**, the National Tobacco Administration (NTA) shall resume the processing of applications for Commodity Clearances (ICC/ECC/TCC) for the Exportation/Importation/Transshipment of Tobacco Leaves, Tobacco Products, Tobacco Related Materials/Ingredients/Spareparts and Heated Tobacco Products (HTPs).

In this connection, we would like to serve notice to the Bureau of Customs for the resumption of the previous procedure by requiring all importers/exporters/transshippers of tobacco commodities to submit an NTA-Approved ICC/ECC/TCC for all their shipments, except those exempted under NTA Memorandum Circular No. 003 (Annex "A") and 004 (Annex "B"), Series of 2019. In view of the adoption by the NTA of online processing and approval of ICC/ECC/TCC to maintain no contact/social distancing, we would like to request the BOC to honor the submission by the concerned importers/exporters/transshippers of the NTA-Approved ICC/ECC/TCC in ".PDF" format.

As always, we would like to extend our profound gratitude for your continued cooperation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

ROBERTO R. BONOAN, Ph.D.
OIC Administrator

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
ASSESSMENT AND SALES GROUP
BY: *Charles* 12 MAY 2020
DATE: _____
TIME: *4:11 pm*

NOTED
[Signature]
MAY 12 2020

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
PORT OPERATIONS SERVICE
RECEIVED BY: *Remus*
DATE: *1:58*
TIME: *13 MAY 2020*

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Recg
Inform all dist and collectors



MAY 12 2020



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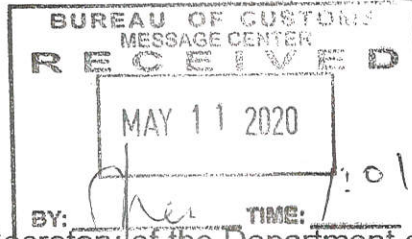
29 April 2020



BOC-03-05527

HON. REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO

Commissioner
Bureau of Customs
Port Area, Manila



BOC-03-05527
RECEIVED
DANM
5/11/20
4/11

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ROBERTO R. BONOAN, Ph.D.
OIC Administrator





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U.P. LAW CENTER
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER
Administrative Rules and Regulations

RECEIVED
AUG 23 2019
TIME: 01:05 BY: [Signature]

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 003, SERIES OF 2019

TO : ALL EXPORTERS/IMPORTERS/TRANSSHIPPERS OF LEAF TOBACCO/TOBACCO PRODUCTS, OTHER TOBACCO RELATED MATERIALS, SPARE PARTS AND INGREDIENTS

SUBJECT : EXEMPTION IN THE FILING OF COMMODITY CLEARANCE FOR EXPORTATION/ IMPORTATION/TRANSSHIPMENT OF CERTAIN MAXIMUM VOLUME OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS/E-CIGARETTE/ E-JUICE FOR PERSONAL CONSUMPTION

DATE : 14 AUGUST 2019

WHEREAS, pursuant to its regulatory powers vested under Executive Order No. 245, the National Tobacco Administration (NTA), has issued the Rules and Regulations Governing Exportation/Importation/Transshipment of Tobacco Leaf/Tobacco Product/Other Tobacco Related Materials and Spare parts, as amended;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the aforesaid Rules and Regulations, as amended, all Exporters/Importers/Transshippers are required to secure from the NTA the Export/Import/Transshipment Commodity Clearances (ECC/ICC/TCC) for all their shipments of tobacco leaf, tobacco products and other tobacco related materials, ingredients and spare parts, including e-cigarettes and e-juices;

WHEREAS, there are exportation/importation/transshipment of tobacco commodities, other tobacco related materials, ingredients and spare parts, e-cigarettes and e-juices of minimal volume, for personal consumption;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, the following Memorandum Circular is hereby adopted, to wit:

Section 1. Tobacco commodities, other tobacco related materials, ingredients and spare parts, e-cigarettes and e-juices are exempted from the filing of commodity clearance for the following volume or net weight, for personal consumption, to wit:

- a. Cigarettes - not exceeding 5 reams (50 packs), per Passenger/consignee
- b. Cigars - not exceeding 20 sticks, per passenger/consignee
- c. Snus - not exceeding 10 tins or maximum of 200 pcs, per passenger/consignee
- d. E-Cigarettes - not exceeding 2 sets of Atomizer device, per passenger/consignee
- e. E-juices - not exceeding 200 ml, per passenger/consignee
- f. Parts/Accessories of Atomizer Devices - not exceeding 100 grams, per Passenger/consignee

Provided, that the subject tobacco commodities/related materials is/are registered with the Bureau of Quarantine and is/are carried in a passenger's hand-carried or check-in baggage or sent via parcels/courier.

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
[Signature]
ATTY. ROBERT A. AMBI
BY: [Signature]
SIG NATURE
NOV 26 2019 / 3:00 PM
DATE/TIME

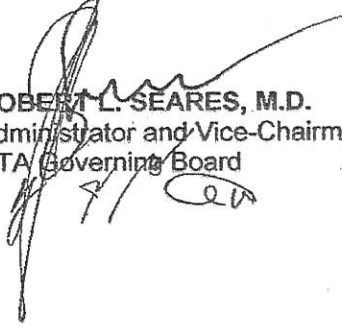
Section 2. In excess of the above quantities, the concerned exporter/importer/transshipper shall be required to secure the necessary ECC/ICC/TCC from the NTA.

Section 3. This Memorandum Circular shall take effect on 01 September 2019. The foregoing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation and shall be filed with the Office of the National Administrative Registrar (ONAR), U.P. Law Center.

For the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

APPROVED UNDER BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 1107-2019 DATED 14 AUGUST 2019.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS.


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





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ANNEX B

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 004, SERIES OF 2019

TO : ALL EXPORTERS/IMPORTERS/TRANSSHIPPERS OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

SUBJECT : EXEMPTION IN THE FILING OF COMMODITY CLEARANCE FOR EXPORTATION/IMPORTATION/TRANSSHIPMENT OF TOBACCO FREE PRODUCTS WHETHER FOR PERSONAL CONSUMPTION OR FOR SALE/DISTRIBUTION

DATE : 25 SEPTEMBER 2019

WHEREAS, pursuant to its regulatory powers vested under Executive Order No. 245, the National Tobacco Administration (NTA), has issued the Rules and Regulations Governing Exportation/Importation/Transshipment of Tobacco Leaf/Tobacco Product/Other Tobacco Related Materials and Spare parts, as amended;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the aforesaid Rules and Regulations, as amended, all Exporters/Importers/Transshippers are required to secure from the NTA the Export/Import/Transshipment Commodity Clearances (ECC/ICC/TCC) for all their shipments of tobacco products;

WHEREAS, there are exportation/importation/transshipment of tobacco-free commodities for personal consumption or sale/distribution which is beyond the regulatory authority of the NTA;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, the following Memorandum Circular is hereby adopted, to wit:

Section 1. Tobacco-free commodities are hereby exempted from the application of NTA commodity clearance, whether for export/import/transshipment.

Section 2. The following are examples of Tobacco-free products, to wit:

- a. Snus
- b. E-liquid
- c. Pod
- d. Other similar tobacco-free products

Section 3. This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately. The foregoing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation and shall be filed with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), U.P. Law Center.

For the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

APPROVED UNDER BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 1141-2019 DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2019.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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

REGULATION DEPARTMENT
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
BY: *Rob*
ATTY. ROBERT A. TIME
SIGNATURE
NOV 26 2019/3:00PM
DATE/TIME

U.P. LAW CENTER
OFFICE of the NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER
Administrative Rules and Regulations
RECEIVED
SEP 26 2019
TIME: 1:25 BY: Ceille

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26 November 2019

GEN. REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO (Ret.)

Commissioner
Bureau of Customs
Port Area, Manila

SIR:

Please be informed that the National Tobacco Administration (NTA) has recently issued two (2) Memorandum Circulars in connection with the exemption from the filing of commodity clearance for exportation/importation/trans-shipment of tobacco products for personal consumption and tobacco-free products, to wit:

- a. Memorandum Circular No. 003, Series of 2019 (took effect on 01 September 2019)
– Exemption in the filing of commodity clearance for exportation/importation/transshipment of certain maximum volume of tobacco products/e-cigarette/e-juice for personal consumption as follows:

1. Cigarettes - not exceeding 5 reams (50 packs), per passenger/consignee
2. Cigars - not exceeding 20 sticks, per passenger/consignee
3. Snus - not exceeding 10 tins or maximum of 200 pcs, per passenger/consignee
4. E-Cigarettes - not exceeding 2 sets of Atomizer device, per passenger/consignee
5. E-juices - not exceeding 200ml, per passenger/consignee
6. Parts/Accessories of Atomizer Devices - not exceeding 100 grams, per passenger/consignee

And

- b. Memorandum Circular No. 004, Series of 2019 (took effect on 25 September 2019)
– Exemption in the filing of commodity clearance for exportation/importation/transshipment of tobacco free products whether for personal consumption or for sale/distribution, as follows:

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rpld.

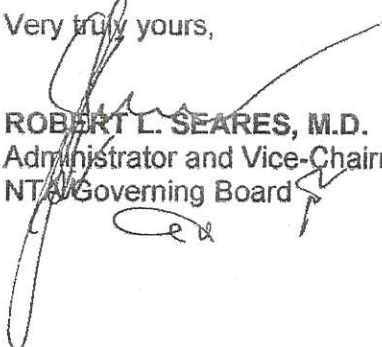
1. Snus
2. E-Liquid
3. Pod; and
4. Other similar tobacco-free products

Henceforth, all importations/exportations which are within the above exemptions shall no longer require NTA Import/Export Commodity Clearance.

For your information and guidance.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


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

