



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

1099 Manila

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12 December 2019

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 21-2020

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

SUBJECT: National Tobacco Administration (NTA) – Issuance of Memorandum Circulars for the Exemption from Filing of Commodity Clearance for Exportation, Importation, and Transshipment of Tobacco Products for Personal Consumption and Tobacco-Free Products

Attached is the letter dated 26 November 2019 from Mr. Robert L. Seares, M.D., Administrator and Vice- Chairman, NTA Governing Board informing this Bureau on the two (2) recently issued Memorandum Circulars in connection with the exemption from the filing of commodity clearance for exportation, importation, and transshipment of tobacco products for personal consumption and tobacco-free products.

The issued Memorandum Circulars are the following:

a. Memorandum Circular No. 003, Series of 2019 that took effect on 01 September 2019. The said MC is for the exemption in the filing of commodity clearance for exportation, importation, and transshipment of certain maximum volume of tobacco products; e-cigarettes, e-juice for personal consumption as follows:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Cigarettes | - | Not exceeding five (5) reams (50 packs), per passenger/consignee |
| 2. Cigars | - | Not exceeding twenty (20) sticks, per passenger/ consignee |
| 3. Snus | - | Not exceeding ten (10) tins or maximum of two hundred (200) pieces per passenger/consignee |
| 4. E-Cigarettes | - | Not exceeding two (2) sets of Atomizer device, per passenger/consignee |
| 5. E-juices | - | Not exceeding 200 mL, per passenger/consignee |
| 6. Parts/ Accessories of Atomizer Devices | - | Not exceeding 100 grams, per passenger/consignee |

- b. Memorandum Circular No. 004, Series of 2019 that took effect on 25 September 2019. MC No. 004 is the exemption of filing of commodity clearance for exportation, importation and transshipment of tobacco free products whether for personal consumption or for sale/distribution as follows:
- i. Snus;
 - ii. E- Liquid;
 - iii. Pod; and
 - iv. Other similar tobacco- free products.

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.

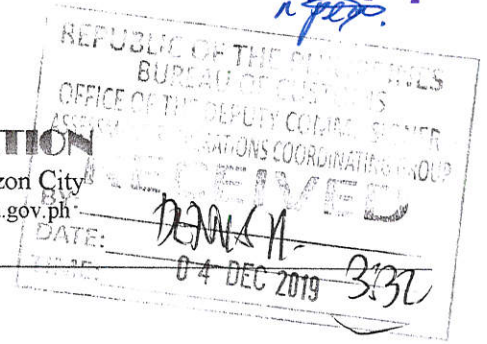

REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO
Commissioner

JAN 23 2021



BOC-09-09371

Republic of the Philippines
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION
 3rd & 4th Floor, Ben-Lor Building, 1184 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
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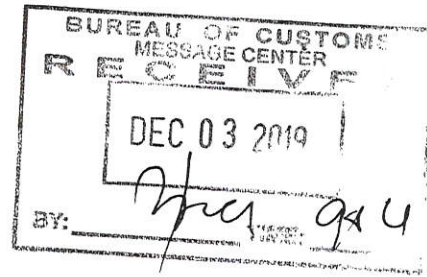


26 November 2019

GEN. REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO (Ret.)
 Commissioner
 Bureau of Customs
 Port Area, Manila



BOC-09-09371



SIR:

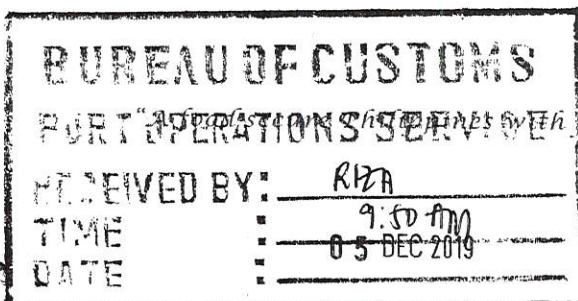
Please be informed that the National Tobacco Administration (NTA) has recently issued two (2) Memorandum Circulars in connection with the exemption from the filing of commodity clearance for exportation/importation/trans-shipment of tobacco products for personal consumption and tobacco-free products,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



prosperous farmers and fisherfolk



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



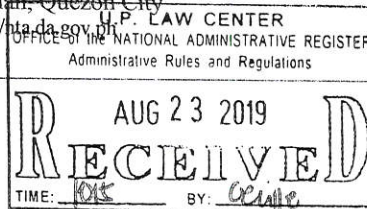
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Republic of the Philippines
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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 003, SERIES OF 2019

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;

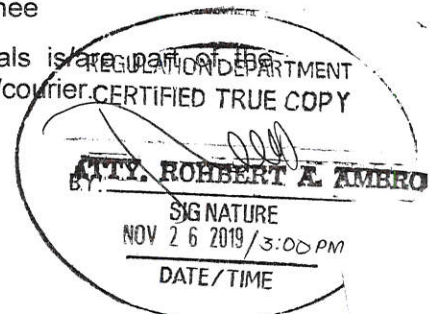
WHEREAS, there are exportation/importation/transshipment of tobacco commodities, other tobacco related materials, ingredients and spare parts, e-cigarettes and e-juices of minimal volume, for personal consumption;

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 part of the passenger's hand-carried or check-in baggage or sent via parcels/courier.



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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.

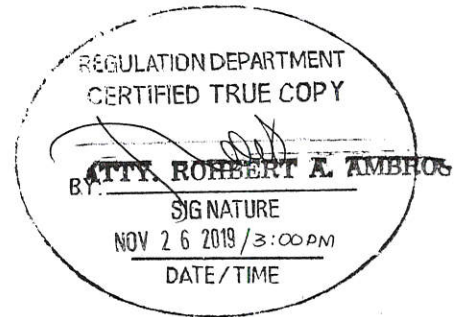
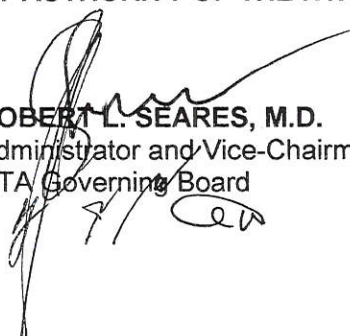
Section 3. This Memorandum Circular shall take effect on 01 September 2019. The foregoing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation and shall be filed with the Office of the National Administrative Registrar (ONAR), U.P. Law Center.

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





CMC No. 21-2020

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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

[Handwritten signature of Robert L. Seares]

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

U.P. LAW CENTER
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TIME: 11:25 BY: Ceille