



BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

MAKABAGONG ADUANA, MATATAG NA EKONOMIYA



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PROFESSIONALISM INTEGRITY ACCOUNTABILITY

MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL DISTRICT AND SUB-PORT COLLECTORS

FROM : REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO
Commissioner   BOC-02-05725
MAY 03 2021

SUBJECT : STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT (RA) NO. 4653, "AN ACT TO SAFEGUARD THE HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE AND MAINTAIN THE DIGNITY OF THE NATION BY DECLARING IT A NATIONAL POLICY TO PROHIBIT THE COMMERCIAL IMPORTATION OF TEXTILE ARTICLES COMMONLY KNOWN AS USED CLOTHING AND RAGS"

DATE : 03 May 2021

Pursuant to the legal opinion of the Office of the Solicitor General on the matter of RA 4653 in relation to importation inside the Freeport Zones, the Bureau will abide by the principle of *stare decisis* in the application of RA 4653 to importation of used clothing inside the Freeport Zones as instructed by the OSG.

The doctrine of *stare decisis* directs the adherence to judicial precedents and pursuant to the Supreme Court Resolution in *Bureau of Customs vs. Interlink Recyclers Philippines*, Freeport Zones being treated as separate customs territory shall be excluded from the prohibition provided under RA 4653, unless the goods are brought into domestic commerce.

For strict compliance.