



**CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM ORDER**

No. 13-2011

**Subject : MEASURES TO BE UNDERTAKEN TO PREVENT ENTRY OF POPPY SEEDS AND POPPY SEEDS CONTAINING PRODUCTS.**

Pursuant to Section 4, Article II of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002", importation of dangerous drugs, which include any and all species of opium poppy or any part thereof or substances derived therefrom even for floral, decorative and culinary purposes is prohibited. The Food and Drugs Administration, in coordination with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, ordered several establishments to immediately stop the importation, distribution and use of poppy seeds and poppy seeds containing products; ordered the revocation of the Certificates of Product Registration for food products containing poppy seeds; and resolved to deny all applications for registration of the abovementioned products.

Thus, in order to prevent entry of any and all species of poppy seeds and poppy seeds containing products, it is hereby ordered that all importation of plants, seeds, culinary ingredients derived from plants, and food products containing the same must be referred by the customs personnel concerned to the Customs Task Group/Force on Dangerous Drugs and Controlled Chemicals (CTGFDDCC) before:

- a) its physical examination if selected Red;
- b) finality of assessment if selected Green or Yellow; or
- c) its intended release from port of entry if under warehousing entry or transshipment.

The CTGFDDCC personnel concerned shall only allow the processing of the shipment after a careful scrutiny of the documents enumerated hereunder and the same has been found in order and not within the prohibition:

1. Import Entry and Internal Revenue Declaration (IEIRD) Form;
2. Bill of Lading or Air Way Bill or House Bill of Lading, whichever is applicable;
3. Commercial Invoice;
4. Packing List;
5. Technical Manuals such as the Material Safety Data Sheet, Certificate of Analysis, Brochure or Literature, showing its composition, issued from the country of origin; and
6. Permits, Clearances and/or Licenses from government agencies concerned, if applicable.

All apprehended and forfeited poppy seeds and poppy seeds containing products shall be turned-over to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency subject to existing rules and regulations in the disposition of forfeited cargoes.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_, 2011, Bureau of Customs, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila.

*[Signature]*  
**ANGELITO A. ALVAREZ**  
Commissioner of Customs 3/11/11

