

CUSTOMS GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Bureau of Customs

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BOC receives Highest Award for PGS Compliance Stage

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) passed the Compliance Stage of the Performance Governance System (PGS) and received the Gold Governance Trailblazer award, the highest PGS award during the Public Governance Forum - BOC Compliance Revalida via Zoom Meeting on November 10, 2020.

During the Compliance Revalida organized by the Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA), Commissioner of Customs Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero presented the BOC's performance and compliance reports, programs and innovations and its drive in ensuring the alignment of resources and stakeholders to the

4-year Strategic Roadmap which aims to transform the Bureau into a world-class Customs Administration by 2022.

Among the initiatives the Bureau presented, which are aligned to its 10-Point Priority Program 2020, are the (1) full automation of processes including the implementation

[\(See more in page 14\)](#)

The 15th Strike Wing of Philippine Air Force awards Bureau of Customs and Port of NAIA

The Bureau of Customs under the leadership of Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, and Port of NAIA were awarded with Plaques of Recognition from the Philippine Air Force during the celebration of the 15th Strike Wing's 47th anniversary on November 26, 2020.



The Plaques of Recognition were presented by Brigadier General Araus Robert F. Musico, Wing Commander in acknowledgment to the invaluable support rendered by the BOC to various CMO activities of the Wing, moreso the 24/7 government service thru its One Stop Shop in NAIA ensuring an efficient processing and immediate release of medical supplies, donations, and PPEs.

CCC Port of Manila gets ISO certified

The BOC Customer Care Center - Port of Manila (CCC-POM) was awarded ISO 9001 : 2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Certification by TUV SUD Philippines on December 4, 2020.

CCC-POM, headed by District Collector Michael Angelo DC Vargas,

[\(See more in page 14\)](#)



United Nations Environment Programme commends Customs-CDO in the fight against environmental crimes



The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) commended the Bureau of Customs (BOC) Port of Cagayan de Oro last November for its continued commitment to address global transboundary environmental crime as evident in the successful re-exportation of more than 7,500 metric tons of illegally imported South Korean wastes on August 4, 2020.

[\(See more in page 13\)](#)



A modernized and credible Customs administration that is among the world's best.

CONGRATULATIONS

for hitting the December 2020 Revenue Collection Target



Bureau of Customs

46,945 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of P1.8 billion Pesos.



Port of Batangas

11.41 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 1.02 Billion Pesos.



Port of Subic

2.87 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 509 Million Pesos.



Port of Tacloban

247.15 Million Pesos posting a surplus of 38 Million Pesos.



Port of Manila

4.61 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 66 Million Pesos.



Port of Zamboanga

517 Million Pesos posting a surplus of 128 Million Pesos.



Port of Cebu

2.99 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 442 Million Pesos.



Port of NAIA

3.3 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 479 Million Pesos.



Port of Clark

162.36 Million Pesos posting a surplus of 15 Million Pesos.



Port of Davao

2.92 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 377 Million Pesos.



Manila International Container Port

12.28 Billion Pesos posting a surplus of 363 Million Pesos.



Port of Legaspi

42.14 Million Pesos posting a surplus of 14 Million Pesos.

Professionalism

Integrity

Accountability



FUEL MARKING PROGRAM UPDATE

Volume of Marked Petroleum Products
September 2019 – December 31, 2020

17.55

Billion Liters

Taxes Collected by BOC
September 2019 – December 31, 2020

147.78

Billion Pesos

BOC hits collection target for the 7th consecutive month

Consistent with its mandate to collect lawful revenues for the country, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) exceeded its December target collection by 9.1% or P3.95 billion based on the preliminary report from the BOC Financial Service. A total of P47.316 billion was collected against the target of P43.368 billion.

Furthermore, ten out of the seventeen collection districts exceeded their target for 2020, namely the Ports of Cebu, Tacloban, Surigao, Cagayan De Oro, Zamboanga, Davao, Subic, Clark, Aparri, and Limay.

In January to December 2020, the BOC collected P539.660 billion, reflecting 106.6% of the target collection of P506.150 billion based from the initial report.

The BOC's positive revenue collection performance is attributed to the improved valuation and intensified collection efforts of all the ports, gradual improvement of importation volume and the government's effort in ensuring unhampered movement of goods domestically and internationally considering the pandemic situation.

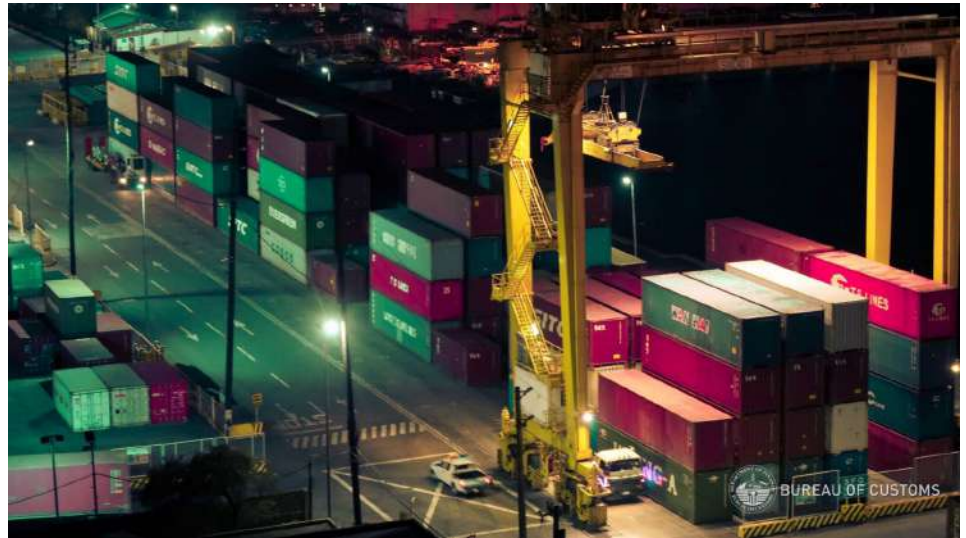


BOC to prevent possible port congestion in view of truck ban

Starting December 14, 2020, a total truck ban will be enforced on six-wheelers and up from EDSA Magallanes in Pasay to North Avenue in Quezon City with window hours set on other major thoroughfares to address the increasing traffic volume in Metro Manila. The implementation of the Truck ban has been re-instated after nine (9) months since the onset of the pandemic.

While the reimposition may ease traffic flow in the meantime, this resulted to allegation from a group of truckers contesting that it would lead to different problems such as increased congestion. As it has been long noted that the implementation of truck ban significantly constricts the flow of trade, the public does not only foresee traffic congestion but a repetition of the chaotic port situation that marred the years 2014 and 2018.

However, the Bureau of Customs is optimistic amid the threat of port congestion in the resumption of the truck ban as the agency has been keeping the yard utilization rate within



the desired level in alignment with the global standard rate which does not exceed 70%. Meanwhile, for December 1-13, the average yard utilization of Manila International Container Port (MICEP) is at a manageable level of 75%.

Further, after the conduct of the Time-Release Study at the MICEP to measure the actual average release time of goods, the study shows that

the actual customs clearance time for importation is two (2) days, ten (10) hours, and three (3) minutes from submission of Goods declaration to issuance of clearance and three (3) days, thirteen (13) hours, and twenty-nine (29) minutes on exportation. The immediate release of shipments greatly contributes in reducing congestion in the ports.

Philippine Sinter Corporation commends BOC Port of CDO in the facilitation of Project Fast Cares

The Philippine Sinter Corporation in Villanueva, Misamis Oriental, a subsidiary of JFE Steel Corporation in Japan, commends the Bureau of Customs (BOC) - Port of Cagayan de Oro for facilitating the release of its shipment covering 27,500 metric tons of Russian Anthracite Coal in just 25 minutes under Project FAST-CaReS, otherwise known as "First ASEAN Standard Time Cargo Releasing System", on November 11, 2020.

The facilitation of the shipment consigned to Philippine Sinter surpassed the record of the pilot bulk cargo of Pilipinas Kao Incorporated which was released in 26 minutes under FAST-CaRes on October 28, 2020.

"This is a very good procedure, very good for us multinational companies because it is very hard before and time consuming in getting clearances but now we can do it in 25 minutes," Philippine Sinter Makati Office Vice President Rey Santos said.

Atty. Roswald Joseph Pague, Head of Office of the Strategy Management (OSM) of the Port of Cagayan de Oro, also expects for more trusted

A modernized and credible Customs administration that is among the world's best.

This is a very good procedure, very good for us multinational companies because it is very hard before and time consuming in getting clearances but now we can do it in 25 minutes.

The Project Fast-CaRes is the first in the country that adopts the ASEAN standard time of 30-minutes cargo clearance from the electronic lodgement of the goods declaration to the actual release of the cargo to the importer's premises.

As one of the most trusted traders engaged in the movement of bulk and break-bulk cargoes in Northern Mindanao, the Philippine Sinter was among the selected companies of the Port of Cagayan de Oro to participate in the project.

Philippine Sinter Makati Office Vice President
Mr. Rey Santos
on the successful operation of Project Fast-CaRes | last November 2020

Professionalism Integrity Accountability

companies of the Bureau to benefit from the project.

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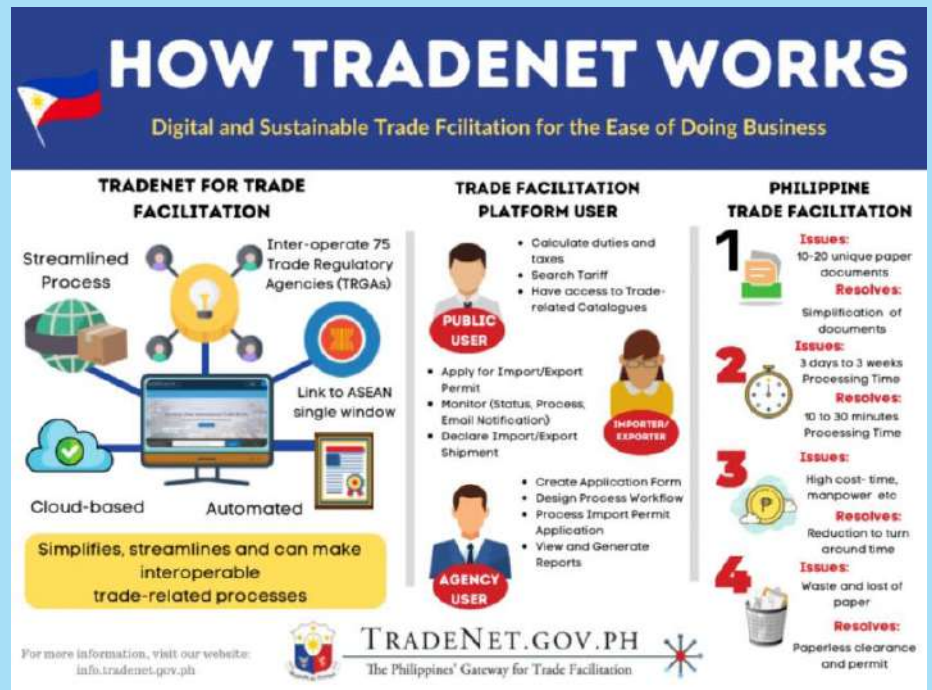
Bureau of Customs Links New Website Feature to TradeNet Portal

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) – Management Information System and Technology Group (MISTG) upon the guidance of the Department of Finance (DOF), introduced a new feature “TradeNet” in the BOC Website which links directly to the TradeNet portal.

TradeNet portal or Tradenet.gov.ph is the Philippines’ gateway for trade facilitation which provides for automated licensing, permit, clearance, and certification system with regulatory agencies integrated into one internet-based platform. It covers the functions of the Philippine National Single Window (PNSW) and makes trade facilitation processes of government agencies inter-operable.

The portal is designed as a single-entry point where users can submit information and documents to government agencies in order to comply with import / export requirements. A total of 75 Trade Regulatory Agencies (TRGAs) are so far connected to the TradeNet system.

Available to registered users, the TradeNet portal is equipped with the database of trade-related information



such as the list of trade regulatory and oversight government agencies; legislation, department orders, and memorandum issuances; trade and tariff table with up-to-date tariff schedules and information; duty and tax calculator; list of regulated

importable goods; and other trade related information. Aside from the public, the primary users of this system are importers, exporters, customs brokers, banks, shippers, forwarders, as well as government sector.

Port of Cagayan de Oro inaugurates Customer Care Center on its 70th founding anniversary

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) - Port of Cagayan de Oro marked its 70th Founding Anniversary with the inauguration of its Customer Care Center (CCC) on November 18, 2020 in Macabalan, Cagayan de Oro.

Fr. Jonas Awayan led the blessing of the CCC together with Port of Cagayan's top officials led by District Collector John Simon and guest of honor Cong. Frederick Siao, representative of the lone District of Iligan City.

The CCC is a modern customs service center that will provide centralized document receiving and releasing service, information kiosks, gate pass issuance, payment booth and other customs services.

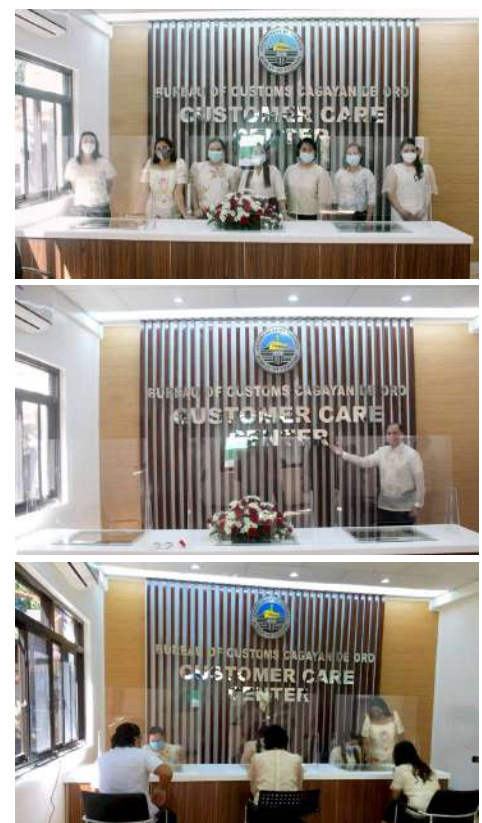
The facility will serve as a one-stop shop for stakeholders with concerns on various customs services and will be manned by trained customs service officers of the Bureau.

The CCC is one of the programs of the Bureau in compliance to RA 11032

or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act. It is designed to streamline the processes of the Bureau and to promote zero contact policy in support of BOC's directive to lessen face-to-face transaction with stakeholders.

In his message, District Collector Simon expressed his gratitude towards the hardworking men and women of the port for their unwavering commitment in achieving a world class customs administration through efficient delivery of services to the Bureau's stakeholders. Simon also recognized the valuable contribution of the port personnel in the significant achievements of the BOC in terms of trade facilitation, revenue generation, anti-smuggling campaign and fight against environmental crimes.

The CCC of the Port of Cagayan de Oro is the 14th established Customer Care Center in the country in support to Commissioner Rey Leonardo Guerrero's 10-Point Priority Program.





BOC NAIA, PDEA, and NAIA-IADITG intercepts 35,345 tablets of dangerous drugs worth Php 1.8M

The Bureau of Customs–NAIA, together with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and NAIA Inter-Agency Drug Interdiction Task Group (NAIA-IADITG) intercepted a total of 35,345 tablets of diazepam (Valium) and nitrazepam (Mogadon) with an estimated street value of Php 1.8 million.

The seized tablets were discovered by BOC-NAIA frontliners during the inspection and examination of parcels in Paircargo warehouse.

Records show that the cargo was shipped by a certain “Muztaza and brother” from Pakistan and was misdeclared as “Health Care Products”.

Diazepam (Valium) and Nitrazepam (Mogadon) are included in the 1971 United Nations Single Convention on Psychotropic Substances under Schedule IV. Both have addictive properties and characteristics, and considered as highly regulated drugs.

Upon further investigation, the seized tablets were unlawfully imported into the country without the required License to Operate and Certificate of Product Registration from the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA), and Import Permit from PDEA pursuant to the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

BOC MICP intercepts Php 60M worth of smuggled cigarettes

The Bureau, through the Manila International Container Port (MICP)

intercepted smuggled cigarettes through the efforts of the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS) and Xray Inspection Unit (XIP).

On September 30, said goods were imported by OCEAN WORLD ENTERPRISES and were declared as various items which included cartons, furnitures and bags, among others. Upon verification, it was found out that subject containers actually comprised 500 cases and 1,198 boxes of smuggled cigarettes from China with an estimated amount of Php 60 million.

Currently, a total of eleven (11) shipments are being investigated on suspicion for illegal importation of cigarettes. The importer, on the other hand will face charges for violation of section 1400 in relation to section 1113 of Republic Act (RA) No. 10863 otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) as well as violation of Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) guidelines and regulations, and pertinent National Tobacco Authority (NTA) Memorandum. Other shipments of the importer are now subject for further investigation to ascertain if they are also in violation of Customs laws, rules and regulations.

BOC-Zamboanga with partner agencies intercept Php 120M worth of smuggled cigarettes in Tawi-Tawi

The BOC-Port of Zamboanga, together

with its partner agencies, intercepted on November 6, 2020 more than P120 million-worth of smuggled cigarettes.

The operation stemmed from a call received from a concerned citizen about a certain vessel allegedly carrying smuggled cigarettes. This prompted Customs Zamboanga to conduct an operation vis-a-vis M/L Nur 1 which was then departing from Indonesia en route to Indanan, Sulu.

Guided by the Intelligence Group, the information was then relayed to the Customs personnel in Taganak Island, Tawi Tawi for validation and coordination.

This resulted in the seizure of more or less 3,000 boxes of undocumented cigarettes estimated to be worth P120 million. The seized goods were then turned over to the BOC for verification of volume and amount of smuggled cigarettes. This shall undergo proper disposition procedure pursuant to Customs laws. Also, a Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD) will be issued against the subject goods for lack of permit from the National Tobacco Administration (NTA) and for violation of the Amended Rules and Regulations Governing the Exportation and Importation of Tobacco and Tobacco Products pursuant to Executive Order No. 245, as well as violations of R.A 8424 known as National Internal Revenue Code of the Philippines and Section 1401 of R.A 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tarrif Act.



Port of Davao seizes Php 13.19M worth of smuggled cigarettes

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) Port of Davao thru Sub-port in Parang together with the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS) and Enforcement and Security Service (ESS), and in coordination with the Philippine Marines, Philippine National Police (PNP) and Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) seized 432 boxes of smuggled cigarettes last December 7, 2020 in Cotabato City.

The shipment was intercepted while entering the country aboard a

motorized banca bearing the name Al-Shameem and was at the time plying the Rio Grande river in Cotabato City. The goods were identified to have brands such as Fort, Bravo, Canon, New Berlin, Astro, Famous and Aries with an estimated value of Php 13,188,411.09.

A Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD) has already been issued against the illicit articles in violation of R.A. 10863 also known as the Customs Modernization and Tarif Act (CMTA).

BOC Port of Zamboanga destroys Php 183M worth of smuggled cigarettes

The Bureau of Customs (BOC)-Port of Zamboanga destroyed some PHP183 million worth of smuggled cigarettes on December 7, 2020 in a warehouse in Brgy. Baliwasan, Zamboanga City.

More than 5,200 master cases of cigarettes, seized in separate anti-smuggling operations since September 2020 were crushed by a payloader equipment in an outdoor yard, drenched with water by firemen and disposed in a sanitary landfill in Brgy. Salaan.

The immediate destruction and disposal of such contrabands is a firm directive from Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero to promote transparency and remove doubts of corruption, theft or pilferage in the agency. District Collector Segundo Sigmundfreud Z. Barte Jr. reports that this is the third condemnation of the Port for the year following the May 2020 and September 2020 condemnation activities which resulted to the destruction and disposal of seized illicit and fake cigarettes, raw materials and counterfeit internal revenue stamps worth P254 million and P1.5 billion, respectively.

BOC - Port of Cagayan de Oro, PNP Lanao del Sur apprehends illicit cigarettes worth Php 3.5M

The Bureau of Customs Port of Cagayan de Oro Enforcement and Security Services (ESS), in a joint operation with Lanao del Sur Police Provincial Office, seized a truck loaded with 68 master cases of San Marino cigarettes in Brgy. Pawak, Saguiaran, Lanao del Sur on November 25, 2020.

The PNP Lanao del Sur, while conducting a routine quarantine control checkpoint, arrested the suspects on-board a wing van for failure to present their quarantine pass and medical certificates. Thorough inspection revealed the carriage of cigarettes.

In coordination with SP/Capt. Abdila Maulana Jr., District Commander of ESS CPD, it was found out that cigarettes on board the van were illegally imported for failure to present the import permit and other necessary documents.

SP/Capt. Abdila Maulana Jr. said they already initiated close coordination



with PNP beforehand after receiving intelligence report that smuggled cigarettes will be transported from Zamboanga to some parts of Lanao del Sur.

The PNP already turned-over to the Bureau of Customs the wing van and the 68 master cases containing 3,400 reams of cigarettes estimated to worth

3.5 million pesos.

Meanwhile, ESS operatives of the Port of Cagayan de Oro while proceeding to Iligan City was fired upon by a drunk officer prompting the Lanao del Sur PPO to respond to the incident and the officer is now under investigation.



Port of Batangas destroys Php 79.51M worth of smuggled cigarettes



The Port of Batangas destroyed the Php79.51 Million worth of smuggled cigarettes on December 5-6 and December 8, 2020 in a destruction facility located at Greenleaf 888 Waste Disposal at Purok 1, Brgy. Mitla, Porac, Pampanga.

The shipments arrived in the Port of Batangas from China on October 12 declared as Laptop Bags and was then alerted on October 13 based on derogatory information received by the port. A Warrant of Seizure and Detention was subsequently issued upon recommendation of Acting District Collector Atty. Ma. Rhea M. Gregorio in violation of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act.

The condemnation ceremony was witnessed by the representatives from PMFTC Inc., JTI Law Firm, Intelligence Group (IG), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Assessment & Operation Coordinating Group - Assessment Coordination and Monitoring Division (AOCG-ACMD), Enforcement & Security Service (ESS), Customs Intelligence & Investigation Service (CIIS) and Office of the District Collector (ODC)-Port of Batangas.

BOC MICP condemns seized cigarettes

The Manila International Container Port (MICP) on 28 October 2020 condemned 2 x 40' containers of seized cigarettes. The condemnation was conducted at Porac, Pampanga and made through the combined efforts of the Auction and Cargo Disposal Division (ACDD), Piers Inspection Division (PID), Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS) and Enforcement and Security Services (ESS).

The seized goods were part of a string of seizures and apprehensions of

MICP which started early this year. The smuggled cigarettes consist of Two Moon, Marvel and Mighty among others. Some of the items were found to contain fake tax seals. The latest batch of condemned cigarettes were estimated to have a value amounting to Php 70 Million.

The condemnation was an offshoot of violation of Section 1400 of Republic Act (RA) 10863 also known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) to include pertinent laws such as National Tobacco Administration (NTA), other memoranda, guidelines, laws, rules and regulations of the Bureau of Internal Revenues.

Port of Cebu destroys Php 374M worth of seized smuggled cigarettes

The Port of Cebu condemned on November 2020 eight (8) containers of seized smuggled cigarettes with an estimated street value of Php 374 Million.

Deputy Collector for Operations Atty. Marc Anthony C. Patriarca and Auction and Cargo Disposal Unit Chief Engr. Ronald Morillo supervised the condemnation process. The Port's Enforcement and Security Service, Port Operations Division, and Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service, together with the Philippine Coast Guard and the Philippine National Police provided the security during the condemnation and transport of the eight containers from the port to the destruction facility of Pinoy Basurero Corporation / Arn Central Waste Management Inc. in Barangay Binaliw, Talamban, Cebu City.

Representatives from Japan Tobacco Inc. and Philip Morris Fortune Tobacco Corp. witnessed the condemnation.

Port of Subic destroys illegal and counterfeit cigarettes and various vegetables

The Port of Subic started the condemnation of seized illegal and counterfeit cigarettes and various vegetables at a rendering facility located at Porac, Pampanga on October 30, 2020.

The condemnation was spearheaded by the Port's Deputy Collector for Assessment and Chief, Auction and Cargo Disposal Division (ACDD), Ms. Maita S. Acevedo, together with the Port's Enforcement and Security Service (ESS) and Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS), as well as Atty. Reynaldo N. Yacat, ACDMD-POS-AOCG together with the representatives from PMFTC, JTI, PDEA and Bureau of Plant Industry.

Loaded in a 6x40' container vans bearing a total of 5,810 master cases of illegal and counterfeit cigarettes with various brands like Fortune, Jackpot, Mighty, Two Moon, D&B, Seven Stars, Union and Marvels cigarettes and 3x40' container vans bearing various kinds of vegetables were also seized and condemned through crushing, shredding and dumping. The seized and condemned goods were estimated to cost for about Php 215 Million.





I would like to acknowledge and congratulate you (BOC) on the recent completion of return of Korean waste last August 4, 2020 in spite of the pandemic and restrictions in logistical operations. This is a triumph on the priorities and programs of the Bureau of Customs Philippines on environmental side so congratulations on this effort and achievement.



Mr. Ricardo Treviño Chapa

Deputy Secretary-General, World Customs Organization



The gold trailblazer is a recognition of BOC's dogged commitment to transformation. The country is looking forward to a fully automated customs administration counted among the world's best. More breakthrough results, more innovations, and a more robust strategy management process in the next stage: PGS Proficiency!



Mr. Chris Zaens

Executive Director of ISA



On behalf of the Department of Finance, I would like to extend my sincerest compliments to the BOC for receiving the Gold Governance Trailblazer Award in the recently concluded Compliance Revalida for the Performance Governance System. This is a testament to the Bureau's dedication and excellence towards a modernized and efficient customs administration for the country.



Asec. Dakila Elteen M. Napao

Assistant Secretary, Revenue Operations Group (ROG) - Department of Finance (DOF)

“ I share my deepest appreciation to the efforts of the bureau of customs under the leadership of Comm Guerrero- a governance warrior- in pursuing the Performance governance system (PGS). Being conferred Compliant is a badge of honor in itself but being bestowed with a gold trailblazer award should make each BOC official and staff proud! The PGS journey requires effort and discipline. As a globally accepted and tested performance management tool, the PGS expects government agencies to pursue strategic objectives, foster transparency and accountability in all levels of the organization. I salute the BOC for challenging the status quo. ”

Asec. Mary Jean T. Pacheco
Assistant Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry



“ Congratulations to the Bureau of Customs (BOC) for attaining the PGS Compliance Status and achieving this with distinction, worthy of a Gold Trailblazer Award! Indeed this is a testament to the passion and patriotic fervor of all members of Team BOC as you journey towards your vision of 'A modernized and credible Customs administration that is among the world's best' - an aspiration that we, the Filipino People share with you. ”

Gen. Emmanuel T. Bautista (RET)
Trustee, Institute for Solidarity in Asia



“ Congratulations to Commissioner Rey Guerrero and the entire Bureau of Customs organization for attaining the Gold Trailblazer Award during the Public Revalida for PGS Compliance last November 10, 2020. The sincerity and commitment of Commissioner Guerrero and his team to transform the Bureau into a transparent, responsive and world-class customs agency by 2022 was clearly evident during the Revalida, and in the Bureau's programs and accomplishments. This is a light of hope for all Filipinos who dream of a better Philippines. ”

Atty. Alexander L. Lacson
Trustee, Institute for Solidarity in Asia (Revalida Panel Chairman)





BOC NAIA intercepts Php 2.4M worth of rare Agarwood, the world's most expensive tree

Bureau of Customs – Port of NAIA, in coordination with the Environment Protection Compliance Division (EPCD) of the Bureau of Customs, intercepted 3 packages weighing 28 kilos of Agarwood with an estimated street value of Php2,400,000 in a Fedex warehouse, Pasay City.

Agarwood is classified under the “Appendix 2” of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). According to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Agarwood is a resin valued for its distinctive fragrance. It is formed when the host tree becomes infected with a mold called *Phialophoraparasitica*. The mold infection makes the tree produce a dark aromatic resin called aloes or aga in its heartwood. The fragrant resin is used to make incense, perfume and medicinal products particularly in the Middle East and Asia.

According to reports, the treasure is one of the rarest and expensive trees in the world. A kilo of agarwood fetches as much as P750,000.

Documents showed that the packages were misdeclared as “face masks and clothes”, “shoes and hand bags”, and “leather jackets, face masks, man pants”. All three packages were shipped by a resident from Davao to the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Upon x-ray inspection, the packages yielded different images compared to what were declared by the sender. Consequently, these were subjected to 100% physical examination.

A total of 28 kilos of agarwood were found during the examination. Additionally, the packages were attempted to be exported without the necessary permits from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The subject packages shall be subjected to seizure and forfeiture proceedings for violation of Section 117 (Regulated Shipments), Section 1400 (Misdeclaration) and Section 1113 (Property Subject to Seizure and Forfeiture), all of Republic Act No. 10863 (CMTA) in relation to Section 27 (i) [Illegal Transport] of Republic Act No. 9147 (Wild Life Act). Thereafter, these will be turned over to the Department



of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

BOC Davao seizes Php 1.72M worth of Agarwood, world's most expensive tree

The Bureau of Customs - Port of Davao, through its office at the Davao International Airport and its Environmental Protection and Compliance Division, in coordination with BOC - Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the PNP Aviation Security Group and the DENR Region XI, had intercepted a shipment of agarwood, the most expensive tree, worth 1.72 Million Pesos thereby prohibiting potential illegal export thereof. This type of wood is included in the National List of Threatened Philippine Plants per DENR Administrative Order No. 2007-01.

Records show that the package was initially misdeclared as “wood frames for souvenirs”. However, after x-ray scanning and physical examination, the package was instead found to contain 671 pieces of Agarwood chips sought to be illegally exported from the country without the necessary permits from the DENR.

The apprehension took place after this Port had intensified its watch over these types of shipments in a more strengthen coordination with the Bureau of Customs NAIA.

The seized package shall be now subjected to seizure and forfeiture proceedings for violation of Section

117 (Regulated Shipments), Section 1400 (Misdeclaration) and Section 1113 (Property Subject to Seizure and Forfeiture), all of Republic Act No. 10863 (CMTA) in relation to Section 27 (i) [Illegal Transport] of Republic Act No. 9147 (Wild Life Act), and shall be turned over to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

BOC NAIA intercepts 75 poker chips sets and other gambling paraphernalia

The Bureau of Customs – NAIA, in coordination with the Philippine Postal Corporation (Philpost), intercepted 38 parcels with 75 poker chip-sets and other gambling paraphernalia imported in the Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC). The items were without the required permit from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

Thru the vigilance of BOC-NAIA frontliners, Customs Intelligence & Investigation Service (CIIS-NAIA), Enforcement and Security Service (ESS-NAIA), X-ray Inspection Project (XIP-NAIA), shipments were apprehended in violation of Section 119 (b) of the R.A. 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

The intercepted poker sets, dealer chips, and other gambling paraphernalia shall be turned over to the Auction and Cargo Disposal Division for safe keeping pending seizure and forfeiture proceedings.



BOC-MICP apprehends shipment containing undeclared frozen mackerel

The Bureau of Customs through the Manila International Container Port (MICP), in coordination with officials from the Enforcement and Security Services (ESS), Customs Intelligence and Investigation Services (CIIS), Piers and Inspection Division (PID) and Formal Entry Division (FED) apprehended a shipment consigned to Hightower Inc. on December 02, 2020.

The drivers of the two 40-foot laden containers which were declared to contain Frozen Squid were reported to have illegally removed the Electronic Tracking of Containerized Cargo (ETRACC) GPS Seal without the presence of proper authorities, which was a grave violation under the Customs Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 04-2020. Furthermore, on initial findings of BOC personnel revealed that



the shipment actually contained Frozen Mackerel Scad.

A Mission Order was issued by MICP District Collector Romeo Allan R.

Rosales for the conduct of full inventory of the goods at a cold storage facility located at Parañaque City.

Subport of Mactan seizes 14 kgs of illegal live fish shipment from Taiwan

The Bureau of Customs in the Subport of Mactan seized fourteen kilograms of Live Fish from Taiwan last week. The shipment which arrived at Mactan-Cebu International Airport on November 25 lacked the required Import Clearance from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

In a joint inspection conducted by Customs Acting Warehouseman Niña Cheza A. Dela Peña with BFAR Quarantine Officer Ronald O. Cabiles on 26 November, the ornamental fish locally known as Angelfish and Guppies

which arrived from Taiwan via Hong Kong were packed in plastic bags which were then boxed.

Verification of documents upon arrival showed these fish have no prior clearances from BFAR. Port of Cebu Acting District Collector Atty. Charlito Martin R. Mendoza has accordingly issued a Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the shipment for violation of Section 1113 (F) and (L) (5) in relation to Section 117 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).



Customs NAIA intercepts another 3 parcels with undeclared foreign currencies concealed in magazines



The Bureau of Customs—Port of NAIA has intercepted another three (3) packages containing United States

Dollar(USD) Bills concealed inside magazines with a total amount of \$38,700 in Fedex warehouse.

The packages were misdeclared as “documents”, which arrived on November 2, 2020. All were sent by the same sender, a certain “Jacqualine Paas” from the United States of America, and are consigned to individuals from Poblacion, Muntinlupa City.

Upon 100% physical examination, the packages were found to contain US dollar bills concealed in magazines.

The seized foreign currencies shall be subjected to seizure and forfeiture proceedings in violation of Sections 1400 (Misdeclaration) and 1113 of R.A. No. 10863 (CMTA) in relation to the R.A. 7653 (New Central Bank Act) and BSP Foreign Exchange Transaction Manual.



Customs NAIA intercepts undeclared \$13,500 in two packages

The Bureau of Customs-Port of NAIA intercepted two (2) packages of undeclared foreign currencies with a total amount of \$13,500 in Fedex warehouse last October 30, 2020.

The packages were both misdeclared as "correspondence/no value", which arrived on October 23 and 29, 2020, respectively. Both were sent by the

same sender from Jefferson city, USA, and consigned to the same person from Poblacion, Muntinlupa City.

Upon 100% physical examination, the first package was found to contain 75 pieces of \$100 Bills. While the other package contained 150 pieces of \$20 Bills, 20 pieces of \$50 Bills, and 20 pieces of \$100 Bills.

The seized foreign currencies shall be subjected to seizure and forfeiture proceedings in violation of Sections 1400 (Misdeclaration) and 1113 of R.A. No. 10863 (CMTA) in relation to the R.A. 7653 (New Central Bank Act) and BSP Foreign Exchange Transaction Manual.

Customs Clark condemns expired medicines, cosmetic products and various abandoned goods

The Bureau of Customs – Port of Clark disposed expired medicines, cosmetic products without FDA health approval and various abandoned goods through condemnation last November 24, 2020 at Trece Martires City, Cavite.

Among the 4,146 kgs. of goods that were condemned include assorted expired medicines, food supplements, cosmetic products, expired foodstuff, etc. which were imported without the necessary permit/approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as required under Section 117 of R.A. 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act.

The condemnation activity was made in accordance with Section 1145 of the CMTA and facilitated by Port of Clark Auction and Cargo Disposal Unit headed by Ms. Venus Juico in the presence of representatives from FDA, Commission on Audit, Enforcement and Security Service (ESS) and Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS).



BOC NAIA condemns 4.28 Tons of unregistered and hazardous goods

The Bureau of Customs-NAIA, last December 7, 2020, condemned 4.28 tons of unregistered and hazardous goods in Trece Martires, Cavite.

The condemnation of unregistered cosmetics and food products is part of Bureau of Customs border protection

initiatives to protect the public against unsafe and hazardous consumer products.

The goods were destroyed using the Thermal Decomposer (Pyrolysis) Facility of the Integrated Waste Management Inc. (IWMI) to ensure that these items will not be sold or made available in the market.



BOC Surigao turns-over hygiene kits to persons deprived of liberty

The Bureau of Customs District Port of Surigao led by District Collector Noli P Santua Jr. handed over 320 packs of hygiene kits for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) through Bureau of Jail, Management and Penology - Surigao del Norte District Jail XIII (BJMP-SDNJ XIII) represented by JO1 Nathaniel Ver Morite and JO1 Jeth Christine Caba on December 10, 2020. The activity is in line with the Bureau's Social Responsibility Program, especially during this time of COVID-19 crisis.

JO1 Jeth Christine Caba of the BJMP-SDNDJ XIII expressed her gratitude upon the acceptance of the hygiene kits. Each pack consists of toothpaste, towel, bath and laundry soaps which are indeed what they need most since supplies are dwindling due to quarantine lockdown.

United Nations Environment Programme commends Customs-CDO in the fight against environmental crimes

From page 1

In a letter to District Collector John Simon on October 30, Dechen Tsering the UNEP Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific recognized the importance of international collaboration to disrupt environmental crime, advance the protection of the environment and support cooperation between Customs and other agencies.

The UNEP serves as a secretariat to the Green Customs Initiative (GCI) which is an informal partnership of international organizations to prevent the illegal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities and substances, and to facilitate legal trade.

Tsering added that the full cooperation between the Korean government and the Philippine government resulted in the success of the operation.

Aside from the UNEP, the World Customs Organization (WCO) through its Deputy Secretary General Ricardo Treviña Chapa also congratulated the Bureau of Customs for successfully completing the return of the South Korean waste despite the pandemic.



BOC-NAIA, DENR-NCR and Office of the City Prosecutor of Pasay City successfully caused the conviction of a wildlife smuggler

On 20 November 2020, Judge Allan B. Ariola, Branch 48, Metropolitan Trial Court of Pasay City, found guilty as charged the apprehended importer of 757 pieces of tarantulas in BOC-NAIA for violation of Section 27 of Republic Act No. 9147 otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, and Section 1401 in relation to Section 117 of Republic Act No. 10863 otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act. He was sentenced to serve a straight penalty of six (6) months imprisonment and ordered to pay fine in the aggregate amount of One Hundred Twenty

Thousand Pesos (Php120,000.00).

It can be recalled that the convicted wildlife smuggler was apprehended by BOC-NAIA frontliners, ESS-NAIA, CIIS-NAIA and XIP-NAIA operatives, in collaboration with DENR-NCR operatives last April 1, 2019 while claiming the illegally imported 757 tarantulas concealed inside boxes of cookies and oatmeal from Poland, at the Central Mail Exchange Center, without the required import permit from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The seized tarantulas were immediately turned over to the Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Unit of the Department of Natural Resources.



BOC receives Highest Award for PGS Compliance Stage

From page 1

of No Contact Policy and establishment of Customer Care Centers, (2) development of Universal Risk Management System which improves the risk management capabilities of the Bureau, (3) Implementation of the Internal Administration Management System, and all other projects and programs.

The BOC was commended by the Revalida panelists for the overall Revalida performance. Among the members of the panel were: Atty. Alexander L. Lacson, Trustee, ISA; Undersecretary Emmanuel T. Bautista, Trustee, ISA; Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Assistant Secretary Mary Jean T. Pacheco, Associate, ISA; Department of Finance-Revenue Operations Group (DOF-ROG) Assistant Secretary Dakila Elteen M. Napao; Mr. Ryan G. Evangelista, Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia Center for International Private Enterprise, and Hon. Dakila "Daks" Carlo E. Cua,

Provincial Governor of Quirino.

Last November 2019, the Bureau of Customs was also awarded with the Gold Governance Trailblazer award by the ISA as it passed the 1st Stage or the Initiation Stage.

For the 3rd Stage - Proficiency Stage, the Bureau will focus on the monitoring and management of the strategies executed, and will aim to achieve a proficient status after an ISA audit review of the BOC's performance as measured by its scorecard. The Office for Strategy Management is in charge of the strategy execution and will be fully functional in this stage.

The Bureau aims to carry this momentum through until it passes the 4th and final stage which is the Institutionalization Stage to truly ensure that reforms are truly achieved.

"I know that the transformation of the BOC would be difficult to achieve in a year or even more, but I firmly believe that it will never be achieved unless we took the first step. More than the

certificates, awards and accolades, what we really hope to gain is a change in mindset, attitude, and discipline, and the commitment that would come out from this experience, this PGS journey, that would sustain the agency's true transformation long after completing this 4-step pathway." Guerrero emphasized.

CCC Port of Manila gets ISO Certified

From page 1

has undergone and passed its first stage audit last October 22 and was recommended for ISO Certification after its final audit on November 6, 2020.

The ISO 9001:2015 QMS Certification is the international standard that specifies requirements for a quality management system. Organizations use the standard to demonstrate the ability to consistently provide products and services that meet customer and regulatory requirements.

CUSTOMS GAZETTE

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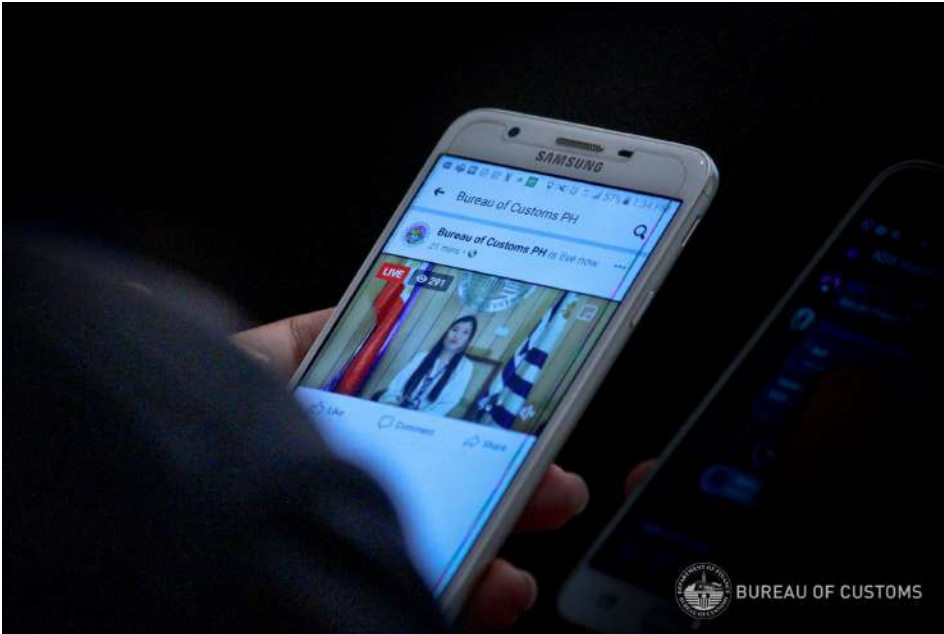
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BOC hosts webinar on NSW and Trade Facilitation



On 27 November 2020, the BOC hosted a Webinar on Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Program, and Advance Ruling System on Valuation and Rules of Origin.

The activity was attended by 230 stakeholders from various companies and industry partners with simulcast through the BOC official social media platform. The resource speakers include Atty. Maria Yasmin

Obillos-Mapa, Director of the BOC Legal Office and Chief of AEO Office; Mr. Antonio Meliton T. Pascual, Chief Customs Operations Officer of the Manila International Container Port; Mr. Evez Dexter A. Carcedo, Customs Operations Officer IV of BOC-Imports & Assessment Service, Assessment and Operations Coordinating Group; and Ms. Gina C. German, Customs Operations Officer III of the Port of Manila.

On November 05, 2020, the Bureau of

Customs also conducted a webinar on NSW attended by various stakeholders.

The event provided an overview on NSW and ASEAN Single Window (ASW) Systems as well as the functionalities of the new NSW System called TRADENET.gov.ph. The webinar also discussed the step-by-step process in applying for Product Evaluation Report (PER) and Electronic Certificate of Origin (e-CO) using the NSW System.

The NSW is an online portal where the automated licensing, permit, clearance and certification systems of TRGAs for the export and import of goods across the region are integrated. Meanwhile, the ASW is the regional initiative designed to expedite cargo clearance and promote regional economic integration through electronic exchange of border documents among the ASEAN's 10 member states. On December 30, 2019 the country joined the live operations of ASW enabling BOC to issue electronic Certificate of Origin (eCO) using the NSW or TRADENET.gov.ph platform.

The conduct of webinars is the Bureau's way to educate and encourage stakeholders to take advantage of these TFA facilities for the enhanced cooperation of the BOC and its stakeholders.

BOC receives narcotics identification devices from the US Drug Enforcement Agency

On December 3, 2020, the US Drug Enforcement Agency and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs officially turned over to the Bureau of Customs (BOC) three units of handheld narcotics identification devices.

Present during the handover of RIGAKU Raman Spectrometer were US Drug Enforcement Agency Attache, Mr. Christopher Adduci, Philippine Director

for Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Ms. Kelia Cummins and other US DEA officials.

BOC Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, together with the BOC Deputy Commissioners, received the illegal drug detection devices that will be used to further enhance the capacity of illegal drugs detection of the bureau and strengthen border security and protection against illegal narcotics.

German auditing and certification service provider conducted the audit to determine Dumaguete's conformity to the ISO standards to consistently provide services that meet customer and regulatory requirements. The German certifying body found the requirements for ISO standard to have been satisfied and recommended the Subport for issuance of ISO 9001:2015 Certification.

"This milestone was made possible through the dedication of everyone in the Subport with the assistance of the District Port and the members of BOC Interim Internal Quality Management System Office (IIQMSO). We will not be resting on our laurels and will continue to undertake more initiatives to consistently improve the way we deliver our services to our stakeholders", said Port Collector Fe Luelyn G. Toring who led the Subport's application for ISO 9001:2015 Certification.



Subport of Dumaguete passes final audit for ISO 9001:2015 Certification

The Bureau of Customs Subport of Dumaguete on Tuesday successfully passed the Final External Audit, the last stage needed to be granted the ISO 9001:2015 Certification. The Subport of Dumaguete now holds the distinction of being the first subport of the BOC and third Customs office to be granted this ISO certification.

TüvSüd Management Service, a

CUSTOMS101

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS GUIDELINES ON

AMO ACCREDITATION

The BOC issued Customs Memorandum Orders on the guidelines for registration of importers and customs brokers with the BOC to ensure that accredited stakeholders are not used as dummies, thus maximizing accountability of real importers and brokers. Both memorandum orders are accessible online.

HOW TO SUBMIT ONLINE APPLICATIONS



01

OPEN BROWSER
(client.customs.gov.ph)



02

SIGN IN USING YOUR
ACCOUNT



03

CLICK OPEN A NEW
TICKET



04

HELP TOPIC
(select topic/transaction)



05

ISSUE SUMMARY
(input complete name of
the company)



06

UPLOAD FILES
(Write New/renewal of
accreditation in the text box)



07

CLICK CREATE TICKET



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW:

Accreditation Process Flow

Online Registration Flow

Documentary Requirements

CMO 31-2019

CMO 11-2014

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