



Date **26 MAY 2023**
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 OFFICE of the NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER
 Administrative Rules and Regulations

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 TIME: **3:50** BY: **[Signature]**

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM ORDER (CMO)
 NO. 12-2023

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE ISSUANCE OF PROOF OF ORIGIN, GRANTING OF PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT, AND VERIFICATION PROCEDURES UNDER THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (RCEP) AGREEMENT

Section 1. Scope. This Order shall govern the implementation of the issuance and acceptance of Proof of Origin, application of the provision on tariff differentials, and verification procedures under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement.

Section 2. Objectives. The objectives of this Order are to:

- 2.1. implement Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods)¹ and Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement;
- 2.2. provide procedures for the issuance of Proof of Origin and granting of preferential tariff treatment for goods that qualify as originating under the RCEP Agreement, including under tariff differentials, application for refund and post-importation claims; and
- 2.3. establish a mechanism to accredit exporters as "Approved Exporter" under the RCEP Agreement.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. For purposes of this Order, the following terms are defined accordingly:

- 3.1. **Approved Exporter** – shall refer to an exporter authorized by the Bureau of Customs (BOC) to complete a Declaration of Origin (DO) in accordance with Section 5.5;
- 3.2. **Authorization Code** – shall refer to an alphanumeric code that will be assigned to the Approved Exporter which must be included in the DO;

¹ This Order covers Articles 2.4 (Reduction or Elimination of Customs Duties) and 2.6 (Tariff Differentials).

- 3.3. Certificate of Origin (CO)** – shall refer to the document issued by the issuing body of an exporting Party in accordance with Section 5.2;
- 3.4. Declaration of Origin (DO)** – shall refer to a declaration on the originating status of a good that is completed by an Approved Exporter in accordance with Section 5.5;
- 3.5. Export Coordination Division (ECD)** – shall refer to the division under the Assessment and Operations Coordinating Group (AOCG) of the BOC which shall process the applications for Approved Exporters and shall conduct verifications of the originating status of the goods;
- 3.6. Exporter** – shall refer to a natural or juridical person located in the territory of an RCEP Party where a good is exported from by such a person;
- 3.7. Importer** – shall refer to a natural or juridical person located in the territory of an RCEP Party where a good is imported into by such a person;
- 3.8. Originating good** – shall refer to a good that qualifies as an originating good in accordance with the Rules of Origin (ROO);
- 3.9. Producer** – shall refer to a natural or juridical person who engages in the production of goods;
- 3.10. Production** – shall refer to methods of obtaining goods including growing, mining, harvesting, farming, raising, breeding, extracting, gathering, collecting, capturing, fishing, aquaculture, trapping, hunting, manufacturing, producing, processing, or assembling;
- 3.11. Product Evaluation Report (PER)** – shall refer to a document issued to applicants that contains the result of the evaluation on export products after complying with the requirements of the BOC;
- 3.12. Preferential Rate Unit (PRU)** – shall refer to the Preferential Rate Unit or its equivalent units in all ports of the BOC that shall evaluate the authenticity, accuracy, and validity of the Proof of Origin submitted by importers and grant RCEP preferential tariff rates accordingly;
- 3.13. Proof of Origin** – shall refer to either a CO issued by an issuing body or a DO by an Approved Exporter;

- 3.14. RCEP Party** – shall refer to any State or separate customs territory for which the RCEP Agreement is in force;
- 3.15. Rules of Origin (ROO)** – shall refer to rules in determining the originating status of goods and procedures to claim preferential tariff treatment in accordance with Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement;
- 3.16. Tariff Differential** – shall refer to the different tariff treatment that an RCEP importing Party applies to different RCEP Parties for the same RCEP originating good².

Section 4. General Provisions.

- 4.1.** Originating goods shall be eligible for RCEP preferential tariff treatment at the time of importation, pursuant to Executive Order (EO) No. 25, series of 2023. The applicable RCEP preferential tariff rate shall be determined based on the RCEP Country of Origin of the originating goods in accordance with Section 5.7.
- 4.2.** The BOC shall only accept CO Form RCEP and DO issued by an Approved Exporter as Proof of Origin upon the effectivity of this Order. The DO issued by an exporter or producer shall only be accepted when the Philippines implements subparagraph 1(c), Article 3.16 of the RCEP Agreement. The back-to-back Proof of Origin issued by the intermediate Party shall only be accepted by BOC if it was based on a CO Form RCEP or DO issued by an Approved Exporter.
- 4.3.** In cases where the RCEP preferential tariff rate is higher than the applied rate at the time of importation, the importer shall be allowed to apply for a refund of any excess duties and taxes paid for originating goods covered by a Proof of Origin in accordance with Customs Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 25-2020.
- 4.4.** In cases where the importer did not make a claim for preferential tariff treatment under the RCEP Agreement at the time of importation, the importer shall be allowed to apply for a refund of any excess duties and taxes paid as the result of a good not having been granted preferential tariff treatment upon the submission of the following:
- 4.4.1.** a Proof of Origin and other evidence that the good qualifies as an originating good; and

² Refer to Annex 1 for the list of relevant goods.

- 4.4.2.** such other documentation in relation to the importation as the BOC may require to satisfactorily evidence the preferential tariff treatment claimed in accordance with CMO No. 25-2020.
- 4.5.** The ECD or Export Division/Unit, shall carry out proper examination of all applications for issuance of CO under the RCEP Agreement.
- 4.6.** The AOCG, through the ECD, shall carry out proper examination of all applications for Approved Exporter status under the RCEP Agreement. They shall also have the right to request for additional supporting documentary evidence, as necessary.
- 4.7.** The AOCG, through the ECD, shall maintain an Approved Exporter database to monitor Philippine Approved Exporters relative to their compliance with domestic laws, rules, and regulations pertinent to exportation and the ROO.
- 4.8.** The PRU or its equivalent units in all ports shall evaluate the authenticity, accuracy, and validity of the Proof of Origin submitted by importers and grant RCEP preferential tariff rates accordingly.
- 4.9.** The PRU or its equivalent units in all ports may request for verification, through the ECD, when it has reasonable doubt as to the authenticity and validity of the Proof of Origin or as to the accuracy of the information regarding the origin of the goods.
- 4.10.** The PRU or its equivalent units in all ports shall be provided access to the RCEP Approved Exporter database and other RCEP Parties' own secured website to view the registered Approved Exporters of other RCEP Parties.
- 4.11.** The AOCG, through the ECD, shall carry out verifications of the originating status of the good upon request of the RCEP importing Party or based on risk analysis criteria. Verifications can be made based on documents requested from the exporter or producer or by inspections at the exporter's or producer's premises.

Section 5. Operational Provisions.

5.1. Application Procedure for PER.

- 5.1.1.** Producers, traders, or their authorized representatives shall apply to ECD (for Metro Manila stakeholders) or Export Division/Unit (for outside Metro Manila

stakeholders) for an evaluation of goods to be exported with the intention of claiming preferential tariff treatment in an RCEP Party and submit the following documents:

- a. Letter-Request addressed to the ECD Chief specifying the intention to use the RCEP Agreement, description of the goods, HS Code, and country of destination;
 - b. Company profile;
 - c. Manufacturing flowchart;
 - d. Cost of production analysis per product;
 - e. List of raw materials, including HS Code and country of origin, used in the production of the goods to be exported;
 - f. Copy of import documents, invoice, and Proof of Origin for imported raw materials;
 - g. Copy of sales invoice for local raw materials; and
 - h. Proposed date for plant visit, if deemed necessary by ECD or Export Division/Unit.
- 5.1.2.** Each application must create a ticket through the BOC Portal³ and upload all the documents under Section 5.1.1. Hard copies of the documents must also be submitted to the BOC's Customer Care Center (CCC)⁴ for processing of the application.
- 5.1.3.** The ECD or Export Division/Unit shall review the documents and act on the application within twenty-one (21) working days from the date of receipt of complete documents. The evaluation may be extended for another ten (10) working days in case of plant visits.
- 5.1.4.** Once the goods have been evaluated based on Article 2.6 (Tariff Differentials), and Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement, a PER shall be issued to the applicant indicating the origin criteria and RCEP Country of Origin to be used in their respective Proof of Origin application. However, if the goods do not qualify as originating goods, the PER shall contain the basis for its disapproval.
- 5.1.5.** Once the applicant has been duly notified that the PER is available for release through the BOC Portal, the applicant may claim the PER at CCC.

³ BOC Portal website: <https://client.customs.gov.ph/>

⁴ CCC Address: Gate 3, Bureau of Customs, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila 1099

5.2. Application Procedure for issuance of CO.

- 5.2.1.** Exporters, producers, or their authorized representatives shall apply to ECD or Export Division/Unit for issuance of a CO Form RCEP along with the following documents:
- a.** Export Declaration;
 - b.** Commercial Invoice;
 - c.** Bill of lading/Airway bill;
 - d.** PER (if applicable); and
 - e.** Other relevant permits (Philippine Coconut Authority, Phytosanitary certificate, Food and Drug Administration, etc.).
- 5.2.2.** Each application must create a ticket through the BOC Portal and upload all the documents under Section 5.2.1, together with the accomplished CO Form RCEP. Hard copies of the documents must also be submitted to the CCC for processing of the application.
- 5.2.3.** The ECD or Export Division/Unit shall evaluate the CO Form RCEP and affix the signature of the authorized signatory, together with the BOC seal, upon approval. The signed CO Form RCEP with a unique CO number shall be transmitted back to CCC for retrieval of the copies intended for exporter and importer.

5.3. Application Procedure for Approved Exporter Status.

- 5.3.1.** An exporter which intends to be an Approved Exporter shall submit the following documentary requirements to the BOC through the AOCG Deputy Commissioner:
- a.** Duly accomplished application form (Annex 2);
 - b.** BOC's Certificate of Registration;
 - c.** PER (if applicable);
 - d.** In the case of a trader, a producer's declaration indicating the originating status of the good for which it will complete a DO and the readiness of the producer to cooperate in verification procedures in accordance with Article 3.24 (Verification) of the RCEP Agreement and Section 6 of this Order; and
 - e.** List of authorized signatories and their respective specimen signatures.

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- 5.3.2.** The application shall be submitted both in hard copy and in electronic Portable Document Format (PDF) to the AOCG Deputy Commissioner through the CCC.
- 5.3.3.** The ECD shall evaluate the application based on the following criteria:
- a.** Exporter is a legitimate exporter, who must have been transacting with the BOC for at least one (1) year prior to the date of application;
 - b.** Exporter must have been exporting products to at least one (1) RCEP Party for at least one (1) year;
 - c.** Exporter must have a good compliance, measured by risk management of the BOC;
 - d.** Exporter must have a sound bookkeeping and record keeping system;
 - e.** Exporter must have responsible officer/s or person/s authorized to sign the DO, who must have sufficient knowledge, competence in ROO application; and
 - f.** Exporter must be willing to undergo regular monitoring and inspection to determine the correctness of its declaration with respect to the goods exported.
- 5.3.4.** After evaluation, if the application is found to be meritorious, the ECD shall grant the Approved Exporter status through the issuance of a written authorization with the corresponding authorization code within fourteen (14) working days from the date of receipt of complete application. If not, it shall issue a letter of disapproval stating the reason/s for the denial.
- 5.3.5.** As endorsed by the ECD, either the written authorization or letter of disapproval shall be duly signed by the AOCG Deputy Commissioner.
- 5.3.6.** Immediately after the grant of Approved Exporter status, the ECD shall promptly include the following details in the Approved Exporter database:
- a.** Legal name and address of the Approved Exporter;
 - b.** Authorization code;
 - c.** Issuance date and, if applicable, the expiry date of the authorization code;
 - d.** List of goods subject to the authorization, including product description HS in six digit or AHTN Code/s; and

- e. List of authorized signatories and their respective specimen signatures.

5.3.7. Any change in subparagraphs (a) to (e) of Section 5.3.6 above shall be promptly included in the Approved Exporter database by the ECD in the same manner. Withdrawal or suspension of the authorizations shall also be included in the same manner by the ECD.

5.4. Obligation of Approved Exporters

5.4.1. The following are the obligations of an Approved Exporter:

- a. allow the BOC to access records and premises for the purposes of monitoring the use of authorization and of the verification of the accuracy of the declarations made;
- b. complete DO only for goods for which the Approved Exporter has been allowed to do so by the BOC and for which it has all appropriate documents proving the originating status of the goods concerned at the time of completing the declaration;
- c. take full responsibility for all DO completed, including any misuse;
- d. promptly inform the BOC of any changes related to the following information:
 - i. Legal name and address of the Approved Exporter;
 - ii. List of goods subject to the authorization, including product description HS in six - digit or AHTN Code/s; and
 - iii. List of authorized signatories and their respective specimen signatures; and
- e. cooperate in verification procedures.

5.4.2. An Approved Exporter must keep a copy of the DO and all documents supporting the originating status of the good, in paper or in electronic form, for at least three (3) years from the date of its completion.

5.5. Procedures for Completing a DO.

5.5.1. Approved Exporters can use any format for a DO (Annex 3) provided that it:

a. contains the following information requirements:

- i. exporter's name and address;
- ii. producer's name and address, if known;
- iii. importer's or consignee's name and address;
- iv. description of the goods and the HS Code of the goods (six - digit level);
- v. authorization code or identification code of the Approved Exporter;
- vi. unique reference number;
- vii. origin conferring criterion;
- viii. certification by an authorized signatory that the goods specified in the DO meet all the relevant requirements of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement;
- ix. RCEP Country of Origin;
- x. Free on Board (FOB) value, if the regional value content origin conferring criterion is used;
- xi. quantity of the goods; and
- xii. in the case of a back-to-back DO, original Proof of Origin reference number, date of issuance, RCEP Country of Origin of the first RCEP exporting Party, and, if applicable, Approved Exporter authorization code of the first RCEP exporting Party;

b. is in the English language;

c. bears the name and signature of the certifying person; and

d. bears the date on which the DO was completed.

5.5.2. The manner of reflecting the information requirements referred to in Section 5.5.1.a should follow the description of the CO Form RCEP Overleaf Notes, where applicable.

5.6. Procedures for Issuance / Completing a Back-to-back Proof of Origin.

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5.6.1. A back-to-back Proof of Origin may be issued by the BOC or completed by an Approved Exporter provided that:

- a.** a valid original Proof of Origin or its certified true copy is presented to the BOC or is in possession of the Approved Exporter for a CO and DO, respectively;
- b.** the period of validity of the back-to-back Proof of Origin does not exceed the period of validity of the original Proof of Origin;

c. the back-to-back Proof of Origin contains relevant information from the original Proof of Origin in accordance with Annex 3B (Minimum Information Requirements) of the RCEP Agreement:

i. For CO:

- 1.** Exporter's name and address;
- 2.** Producer's name and address, if known;
- 3.** Importer's or consignee's name and address;
- 4.** Description of the goods and the HS Code of the goods (six – digit level);
- 5.** CO number;
- 6.** Origin conferring criterion;
- 7.** Declaration by the exporter or producer;
- 8.** Certification by the issuing body that the goods specified in the CO meet all the relevant requirements of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement based on the evidence provided with the authorized signature and official seal of the issuing body;
- 9.** RCEP Country of Origin;
- 10.** Details to identify the consignment such as invoice number, departure date, vessel name or aircraft flight number, and port of discharge;
- 11.** FOB value, if the regional value content origin conferring criterion is used;
- 12.** Quantity of the goods;
- 13.** In the case of a back-to-back CO, original Proof of Origin reference number, date of issuance, RCEP Country of Origin of the first RCEP exporting Party, and, if applicable, Approved Exporter authorization code of the first RCEP exporting Party.

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- ii. For DO:
1. Exporter's name and address;
 2. Producer's name and address, if known;
 3. Importer's or consignee's name and address;
 4. Description of the goods and the HS Code of the goods (six-digit level);
 5. In the case of an Approved Exporter, authorization code or identification code of the exporter or producer;
 6. Unique reference number;
 7. Origin conferring criterion;
 8. Certification by an authorized signatory that the goods specified in the DO meet all the relevant requirements of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement;
 9. RCEP Country of Origin;
 10. FOB value, if the regional value content origin conferring criterion is used;
 11. Quantity of the goods; and
 12. In the case of back-to-back DO, original Proof of Origin reference number, date of issuance, RCEP Country of Origin of the first RCEP exporting Party, and, if applicable, Approved Exporter authorization code of the first RCEP exporting Party;
- d. the consignment which is to be re-exported using the back-to-back Proof of Origin does not undergo any further processing in the intermediate Party, except for repacking or logistics activities such as unloading, reloading, storing, splitting up of the consignment, or labelling only as required by the laws, regulations, procedures, administrative decisions, and policies of the importing Party, or any other operations necessary to preserve a good in good condition or to transport a good to the importing Party;
- e. for partial export shipments, the partial export quantity shall be shown instead of the full quantity of the original Proof of Origin, and the total quantity re-exported under the partial shipment shall not exceed the total quantity of the original Proof of Origin; and

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- f. information on the back-to-back Proof of Origin includes the date of issuance and reference number of the original Proof of Origin.

5.7. Determination of RCEP Country of Origin.

5.7.1. The RCEP Country of Origin is the exporting Party when the good is:

- a. Not listed in Annex 1 of this Order, and meets any of the following conditions:
 - i. produced exclusively from originating materials in accordance with Article 3.2 (b) of the RCEP Agreement and processed beyond the minimal operations set out in Article 2.6.5 of the RCEP Agreement;
 - ii. wholly obtained or produced in accordance with Article 3.2 (a) of the RCEP Agreement; or
 - iii. satisfies the required Product Specific Rule (PSR) in accordance with Article 3.2 (c) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement; or
- b. Listed in Annex 1 of this Order and meet the additional requirement specified therein, i.e., Domestic Value Addition of 20% (DV20);

5.7.2. Should the exporting Party fail to meet the conditions set out in Section 5.7.1 a.i and b, the RCEP Country of Origin is the RCEP Party that contributed the highest value of originating materials used in the production of that good in the exporting Party.

5.7.3. Notwithstanding Sections 5.7.1 and 5.7.2, either the RCEP Party contributing originating materials used in the production of the good with the highest rate of customs duty applied by the RCEP importing Party or the RCEP Party with the highest rate of customs duty applied by the RCEP importing Party will be the RCEP Country of Origin, if requested by the importer for purposes of claiming preferential tariff treatment in the RCEP importing Party. When reflecting this in the Proof of Origin, the name of the RCEP Country of Origin will be followed by " * " if Article 2.6.6(a) of the RCEP Agreement is being used or " ** " if Article 2.6.6(b) of the RCEP Agreement is being used, respectively.

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5.8. Import Procedures in Granting RCEP Preferential Tariff Rates.

- 5.8.1.** Imported goods from RCEP Parties that are originating based on Article 3.2 (Originating Goods) of the RCEP Agreement shall be qualified to claim preferential tariff treatment based on the Philippines' Schedule of Commitments under EO No. 25, series of 2023.
- 5.8.2.** For goods where there is tariff differential, the rate to be applied is the rate allocated for the RCEP Country of Origin of that good pursuant to Sections 5.7.1 and 5.7.2.
- 5.8.3.** Notwithstanding Section 5.8.2, the importer is allowed to make a claim for preferential tariff treatment at either:
- a.** the highest rate of customs duty the RCEP importing Party applies to the same originating good from any of the RCEP Parties contributing originating materials used in the production of such good; or
 - b.** the highest rate of customs duty that the RCEP importing Party applies to the same originating good from any of the RCEP Parties.
- 5.8.4.** An original copy of any Proof of Origin must be submitted along with the other pertinent documents before a claim for preferential tariff treatment under the RCEP Agreement can be made.
- 5.8.5.** In accordance with subparagraph 5(a) of Article 3.16 (Proof of Origin) of the RCEP Agreement, a Proof of Origin may be in electronic format. The relevant conditions can be found in the *Status of RCEP Parties and Signatory States Issuance/Acceptance of Proof of Origin* which can be accessed at the official RCEP website: <https://rcepsec.org/rules-of-origin/>.
- 5.8.6.** The final determination on the rate of duty shall be based from the assessment of the submitted documents from the importer.

Section 6. Verification Procedures.

6.1. Verification Procedures for Imported Goods Covered by Proof of Origin.

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- 6.1.1.** Pursuant to Article 3.24 (Verification) of the RCEP Agreement, the BOC may request for a verification of the Proof of Origin to the importer, exporter, producer, or issuing body or competent authority of the RCEP exporting Party indicating the reason/s thereof. Verification requests may occur up to three (3) years after the date of importation;
- 6.1.2.** The PRU or its equivalent units in all ports may conduct verification, for the purpose of determining whether a good imported qualifies as an originating good, or determining the authenticity and validity of the Proof of Origin, through a written request or verification visit;
- 6.1.3.** The written request for verification to the exporter, producer, issuing body or competent authority, shall be accompanied by a copy of the Proof of Origin being verified and shall specify the reason/s for verification such as the authenticity and validity of the Proof of Origin or as to the accuracy of the information regarding the origin of the goods;
- 6.1.4.** The written request for verification shall be endorsed by the PRU or its equivalent units in all ports through the District Collector of the port concerned and shall be forwarded to the AOCG through the ECD;
- 6.1.5.** The ECD shall send the written request to the importer, exporter, producer or to the issuing body or competent authority of the RCEP exporting Party. The importer, exporter, producer or the issuing body or competent authority of the RCEP exporting Party shall be given between thirty (30) days and ninety (90) days from the date of receipt of the written request to provide additional information relative to the written request made by the BOC;
- 6.1.6.** Upon receipt of the verification reply, the PRU or its equivalent units in all ports shall make a decision within ninety (90) and one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of its receipt of the information necessary to make the determination whether or not the goods imported qualify as originating goods or on the authenticity or validity of the Proof of Origin;
- 6.1.7.** If the goods have yet to be released, the Proof of Origin that is subject to verification shall have a guarantee in

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the form of manager's check equivalent to the difference of the duties and taxes based on the applicable Most-Favoured Nation (MFN) and RCEP rates before the release of goods. In cases where the verification check is limited only to certain goods, the guarantee shall only cover these goods. The Cash Division of the port concerned shall hold in abeyance the manager's check until ECD orders its deposit or return;

6.1.8. The PRU or its equivalent units in all ports may suspend the granting of preferential tariff treatment for the same goods from the succeeding shipments of the same exporter or producer while waiting for the result of verification. However, the goods may be released provided that the subject shipment shall have a guarantee in the form of manager's check equivalent to the difference of the duties and taxes based on the applicable MFN and RCEP rates before the release of goods;

6.1.9. In case of verification visit, the exporter, producer, or the competent authority of the RCEP exporting Party shall be given thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written request to consent or refuse the verification visit. In cases where the request for verification visit is refused, the claim for preferential tariff treatment may be denied; and

6.1.10. The ECD shall conduct the verification visit within sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of the consent, and shall make a decision within thirty (30) days from the conduct of the verification visit.

6.2. Verification Procedures for Exported Goods Covered by Proof of Origin.

6.2.1. Pursuant to Article 3.24 (Verification) of the RCEP Agreement, the RCEP importing Party may request for a verification of the Proof of Origin to the exporter or producer, or issuing body or competent authority of the RCEP exporting party indicating the reason/s thereof. Verification requests by the RCEP importing Party may occur up to three (3) years after the date of importation;

6.2.2. All verification requests shall be addressed to the AOCG Deputy Commissioner, copy furnished the ECD Chief;

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- 6.2.3.** Upon receipt of a written request for verification from an RCEP importing Party, the ECD or Export Division/Unit of the port concerned shall coordinate with the exporter or producer to provide additional information being requested;
- 6.2.4.** The exporter or producer shall be given thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written request to provide additional information relative to the written request made by the RCEP importing Party;
- 6.2.5.** The ECD or Export Division/Unit shall assess the additional information provided by the exporter or producer, and thereafter the ECD shall transmit the verification result to the RCEP importing Party within ninety (90) days from the date of receipt of the written request;
- 6.2.6.** A Verification visit may be conducted by an RCEP importing Party. The exporter, producer, or the ECD or Export Division/Unit of the port concerned shall be given thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written request to consent or refuse the verification visit. In cases where the request for verification visit is refused, the claim for preferential tariff treatment may be denied; and
- 6.2.7.** All verification visits conducted by an RCEP importing Party shall be attended by at least the ECD. The ECD may invite other relevant government agencies to attend, as deemed necessary.

Section 7. Repealing Clause. All CMOs inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby modified and/or amended accordingly.

Section 8. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect on 02 June 2023, which is the effectivity date of EO No. 25, series of 2023.

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