



# BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

MAKABAGONG ADUANA, MATATAG NA EKONOMIYA



PROFESSIONALISM

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AOCG Memo No. 251-2023

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BOC-09-43298 *km*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO :** ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS  
ALL SUB-PORT COLLECTORS  
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

**FROM :**   
**ATTY. VENER S. BAQUIRAN**  
Deputy Commissioner  
Assessment and Operations Coordinating Group

**SUBJECT :** FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA)  
RECOMMENDATION FOR THE RELEASE OF DONATED FOOD  
PRODUCTS FROM CONVOY OF HOPE TO CONVOY OF HOPE  
PHILIPPINES, INC. (COHPI)

**DATE :** 15 September 2023

Forwarding the herein attached letter from Engr. Ana Trinidad F. Rivera, Director IV, Center for Cosmetics and Household/Urban Hazardous Substances Regulation and Research, FDA, addressed to Mr. Luis Jose Raymundo S. Sasuman, Chief of Operations and Finance, COHPI, recommending clearance for the release of the following donated food products from Convoy of Hope to COHPI:

Date	Container Number	Seal Number	Product Name	Quantity	Expiry Date
23 August 2023	MEDU 8986880	UL-0893646	Nutritional Powder	2 cases	January 2025
			Nutritional Powder	314 cases	April 2025
			Nutritional Powder	210 cases	May 2025
			Nutritional Powder	104 cases	August 2025
			Soup Mix	288 cases	February 2025
			Rice and Veggie Meals	276 cases	August 2024

However, it is indicated from the FDA recommendation that the importation of **Four (4) cases of Nutritional Powder** bearing an expiration date of January 2024 has been **DENIED** since it has a shelf life of less than six (6) months from the date of arrival in the Philippines. Administrative Order No. 2020-0001 Guidelines in the Importation, Facilitation and Management of Foreign Donations involving Health and Health-related Products states that, *"Processed food and food products shall have a minimum of six (6) months Expiration date upon arrival in the port of entry."*



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The release of the donated food products shall be subject to the following conditions: Jmm

1. the products shall have been inspected and cleared by a representative from FDA – Regional Field Office;
2. the clearance shall solely be for the release of the products from this Bureau and shall not be construed as an authorization for its distribution, sale, offer for sales, and use.
3. FDA shall not be held liable for any damage, injury, illness, death that may result from the distribution and use of the donated food products.
4. the clearance is without prejudice to existing tariff rules and customs regulations.

For information and appropriate action.



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**



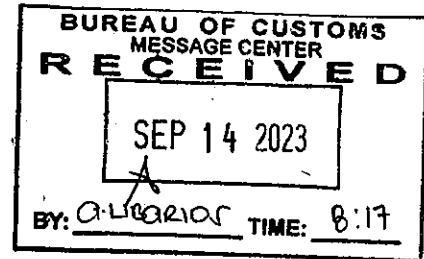
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23 August 2023



BOC-09-43298

**MR. LUIS JOSE RAYMUNDO S. SASUMAN**  
Chief of Operations and Finance  
**Convoy of Hope Philippines, Inc.**  
1924, Taft Avenue corner Bernabe Street,  
Brgy. 044, Pasay City



Dear Mr. Sasuman:

Please be informed that this Office recommends the release of the following food product donated by Convoy of Hope – 330 S. Patterson Springfield, MO 65802, US to **CONVOY OF HOPE PHILIPPINES, INC.** located at Municipal Nursery, Sta. Rosa 1, Marilao, Bulacan, Philippines:

Product Name	Quantity	Expiry Date
Nutritional Powder	2 cases	January 2025
Nutritional Powder	314 cases	April 2025
Nutritional Powder	210 cases	May 2025
Nutritional Powder	104 cases	August 2025
Soup Mix	288 cases	February 2025
Rice and Veggie Meals	276 cases	August 2024
Container Number MEDU 8986880		Seal Number UL-0893646

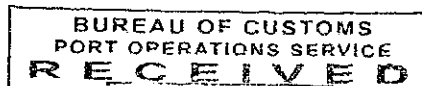
The release of said donated food products is on the condition that the said product **shall have been inspected and cleared** by a representative from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) – Regional Field Office.

This clearance shall only be for the **RELEASE** of the product from the Bureau of Customs and shall not be construed as an authorization for its distribution, sale, offer for sales and use. FDA shall not be held liable for any damage, injury, illness, death that may result from the distribution and use of the donated food product.

However, we regret to inform you that the importation of **4 cases of Nutritional Powder** bearing an expiration date of January 2024 has been **DENIED** since it has a shelf life of less than six (6) months from the date of arrival in the Philippines. Administrative Order No. 2020-0001 Guidelines in the Importation, Facilitation and Management of Foreign Donations involving Health and Health-Related Products states that, *“processed food and food products shall have a minimum of six (6) months expiration date upon arrival in the port of entry.”*

This clearance is without prejudice to existing tariff rules and customs regulations.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
ASSESSMENT & OPERATIONS COORDINATING GROUP (AOCG)



Civic Drive, Filinvest Corporate **SEP 15 2023** 1781 Muntinlupa, Philippines

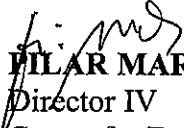
BY: *[Signature]*  
DATE & TIME: **09-14-23** *[Signature]*  
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TIME: *[Signature]*  
Fax +63 2 807 0751  
Email : info@fda.gov.ph

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For inspection schedule, please contact the FDA – Regional Field Office at [rfoncr@fda.gov.ph](mailto:rfoncr@fda.gov.ph).

Very truly yours,

  
**PILAR MARILYN M. PAGAYUNAN**  
Director IV  
Center for Food Regulation and Research

cc: **ANNA MARIE CELINA G. GARFIN, MD, MM<sup>T</sup>**  
OIC-Director IV, Bureau of International Health Cooperation  
**COMMISSIONER BIENVENIDO Y. RUBIO**  
Commissioner, Bureau of Customs  
**CAROLYN P. CUSTODIO**  
Regional Supervisor, NCR

RSN: 20230816174243

Amount: ₱ 510

OR Number: 52200

Date: 17 Aug 2023

hmr/hsa