

Myanmar Customs Department

Myanmar Automated Cargo Clearance System (MACCS)

Announcement No. 019/2020

13 October 2020

**The Procedure of the Customs Department for the Importation of Plants and Plant Products, Pesticides, and Fertilizers**

1. As for the Myanmar Customs Department, in order to facilitate the Customs service procedures, reduce time-consuming procedures, expedite trade facilitation, and mitigate face-to-face contact during the COVID-19 pandemic, some procedures regarding obtaining the recommendations of pest-free and qualified products from the Department of Agriculture will be liberalized and undertaken by the following measures:

**(A) Liberalization for the importation of Pesticide and Fertilizer**

(A.1) Concerning the application of the import declaration, the procedure of taking out the goods with the "After Release Order" pattern instead of the "After Declaration" pattern is going to be liberalized.

(A.2) The Customs Officer will not carry out the procedure for any selectivity criteria in giving out the sample of goods and sealing the importer's warehouse where the goods are stored.

(A.3) Obtained pesticides and fertilizers with the "After Release Order" in the importer's warehouse are taken out for the procurement and testing by the directives of the Department of Agriculture.

**(B) For importing Plants and Plant Products**, the prevailing conditions shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Agriculture and the statutory provisions of the Plant Pest Quarantine Law.

2. In corroboration of the aforementioned, the Customs Department shall provide the list of the goods retrieved from the Customs controlled Areas as real time information on a daily basis to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) so that comprehensive monitoring can be supervised.
3. Accordingly, the above-mentioned procedures shall be carried out by the importer in self-compliance, and the procedures is attached to Appendix (A) as to be efficient in the working process.
4. Given a notice that the previously stated redundancies in the Customs procedures will be initiated, commencing on October 14, 2020.

**Myanmar Customs Department**

**The procedures for the Importers in Importing the Plants and Plant Products, Pesticides, and Fertilizers**

**(A) Liberalization for the importation of Pesticide and Fertilizer**

- (i) Concerning the application of the import declaration, the procedure of taking out the goods with the "After Release Order" pattern instead of the "After Declaration" pattern is going to be liberalized.
- (ii) Regarding the importation of Fertilizers, the declarant who imports with the "After Release Order" pattern not only must input the "E1AR" code in the License/Approval Type code, fill up the quantity of the IOA application, but also input "Y" in the "After Release Order" pattern. Afterwards, the goods can be taken out after acquiring release order permission.
- (iii) On no account will the process of giving out samples or sealing be carried out by a customs officer, irrespective of selectivity criteria.

(or)

The Customs Officer will not carry out the procedure for any selectivity criteria in giving out the sample of goods and sealing the importer's warehouse where the goods are stored.

- (iv) The importer shall report to the Department of Agriculture in advance before taking out the goods from the port. (The contact number of the Plant Protection Division is 0943136365 to import pesticides; the contact number of the Land Use Division is 067-3410667 or 01-3588854 to import fertilizers.) In this reporting circumstance, the following guidelines will be given by the Department of Agriculture according to the rank of the specified company or based on the origin and types of the exported goods:

- (a) In relation to these goods, the Inspection Board assigned by the Department of Agriculture will come to obtain a sample of the goods from the importer's warehouse.
  - (or)
  - (b) Importers must deliver for a sample of the goods in person to the respective laboratories, Department of Agriculture.
- (v) If the directive from the Department of Agriculture that a sample of the goods be taken out under the control of the Inspection Board at the importer's warehouse is received, the importer shall give preliminary notice to the respective Inspection Board of the DOA before the goods arrived in Private Warehouse so as to examine and take out on the day of bring out the goods from the Customs Control Area. In addition, the line seal or Customs Metal Seal are not allowed to unlock before the Inspection Board of the DOA arrived. Seals must be unlocked in the presence of the Inspection Board of the DOA.
- (vi) The Department of Agriculture shall examine the goods stored in the warehouse and reseal them after acquiring the sample. The goods are not allowed to be distributed on the market without removing the seal of the Department of Agriculture after completing the test process and giving out the OGA approval used by the MACCS system.
- (vii) If the directive that the sample can be taken out and delivered in person is received, the importer must deliver a sample of the goods in person to the respective laboratory of the Department of Agriculture after taking out the sample in accordance with the stipulation of the Department of Agriculture.
- (viii) In such doing, under Paragraphs 5 and 7, whether methods are practically used, regarding importing Pesticide, a Declarant or Importer shall submit the OGA application with the "IOA Service" by the MACCS system in the designated region for the system, and OGA approval is undertaken by the Department of Agriculture using the MACCS system. Regarding importing Fertilizer, a Declarant or Importer shall procure the

approval by applying manually on account of the approval process not being joined in the MACCS system.

- (ix) The Importer must take responsibility for conserving the goods and not distribute them on the market without getting the approval of the Department of Agriculture. If the importer is absent to inform and examine or distributes on the market before testing or getting approval, actions shall be taken seriously and penalized in accordance with the existing laws, procedures, orders, and directives of the Department of Agriculture.
- (x) In respect of re-exporting the disapproved goods that are not in conformity with the standard into the country of origin, the importer is required to obtain evidence from the Department of Agriculture and promptly undertake to re-export in accordance with the Reshipment Procedures of the Customs Department. Giving out the recommendation for the Imported pesticide is suspended temporarily in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Agriculture if the Reshipment procedure has not been completed yet.

**(B) Procedure for the Importation of Plants and Plant Products**

(1) In the case of normal procedures for taking out the goods from the airport or seaports (except the procedure of Direct Delivery), the import declaration shall be submitted with the "After Declaration Pattern" as usual. In the import declaration (IDA Screen), the "PLAD" Code and the quantity of the IOA Application shall be filled up in the License/Approval Type Code.

(2) On no account will the process of giving out samples be carried out by a customs officer, irrespective of selectivity criteria. (or) The Customs Officer will not carry out the procedure for any selectivity criteria in giving out the sample of goods and sealing the importer's warehouse where the goods are stored.

However, the importer must inform the respective Department and receive the examination from the Department of Agriculture. In addition, only the importer who obtained the OGA approval can take out the goods from the seaports or airport.

(3) The following procedure shall be adhered to when taking out the Plants and Plants Products by Direct Delivery procedure from the airports or seaports.

(aa) The import declaration shall be submitted with the "After Release Order" pattern and both "PLAD" code, and the quantity of the IOA Application shall be filled up in the License/Approval type code of the Import declaration (IDA Screen). Besides, "Y" shall be inputted in the "After Release Order" pattern.

(bb) The importer must preliminarily inform the Plant Protection Division (Contact number is 0943078290) in order to examine the sample under the supervision of the Inspection Board of the Department of Agriculture at the airport or seaports.

(cc) If the directive for inspection is received, the importer shall take the Inspection board in order to examine the goods to the airport or sea ports on the day of taking out goods from there, and the goods can be taken out when only permission is received.

(4) In the designated region for the MACCS system, the Importer shall submit the OGA Application through the MACCS system, and the Department of Agriculture shall facilitate the approval process by the MACCS system.

**Myanmar Customs Department****Myanmar Automated Cargo Clearance System (MACCS)****Announcement No. 017/2020****September 28, 2020****Notification to Declarant**

1. As for the Myanmar Customs Department, in order to facilitate and reduce time-consuming of Customs procedures, expedite trade facilitation, and mitigate face-to-face contact during the COVID-19 outbreak, the goods must be distributed in the market after only receiving an Import Health Certificate (IHC) from the Food and Drug Administration. Concerning allowing such goods to be released with the "After Declaration" or "After Release Order", it is going to be liberalized and carried out by the following procedures:
  - (a) The Customs Officer will not carry out the procedure for any selectivity criteria in giving out the sample of goods and sealing the importer's warehouse where the goods are stored.
  - (b) With respect to the goods taken out with the "After Release Order" by the importer or Customs broker, preliminary applications with HYS Service to lock the Customs Seal at the Warehouse (no need to input PAAR No.), locking the Seal by the Customs Officer, applications to remove the Customs Seal if you receive FDA approval, making cancellations, and so forth are going to be liberalized and performed by the Myanmar Customs Department.
  - (c) However, the importer or Customs broker shall input "Y" in the "After-Release Order" pattern on the IDA screen as the prevail condition if the import declaration with the "After Release Order" pattern is applied.
  - (d) After taking out the goods, in order to examine them in the FDA laboratory, the importers or Customs brokers shall take out the

sample of goods in person in the specified quantity and type by the Department of Food and Drug Administration without fail, and then such a sample of goods shall be delivered to the Department of Food and Drug Administration within two weeks. In the designated region for the MACCS system, the IOA service shall be used for the OGA application through the MACCS system.

(e) Moreover, the Importer must take responsibility for conserving the goods in order not to distribute them on the market without getting the approval of the Department of Food and Drug Administration. Otherwise, such person shall be taken seriously and penalized in accordance with the legislation and procedures of the Department of Food and Drug Administration.

2. In corroboration of the aforementioned, the Customs Department shall provide the list of the goods retrieved from the Customs controlled Areas as real time information on a daily basis to the Department of Food and Drug Administration so that comprehensive monitoring can be supervised. Accordingly, as for the Importers, they must be required to follow by self-compliance without fail the above-mentioned procedure of paragraphs 1(d) and (e).
3. Given a notice that the previously stated redundancies in the Customs procedures will be initiated, commencing on October 1, 2020.

**Myanmar Customs Department**