

प्रधानमुख्य आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क का कार्यालय,
OFFICE OF THE PR. CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,
 मुंबई जोन -I, दूसरी मंज़िल, नवीन सीमा शुल्क भवन ,बेलाड ईस्टेट,
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Unit IVA

05-10-2023

MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (CCFC) MEETING OF MUMBAI CUSTOMS, ZONE-I HELD ON 22.09.2023 AT NEW CUSTOMS HOUSE, MUMBAI

The 6th meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) for the Financial Year 2023-24 of the Mumbai Customs Zone-I for the month of September 2023 was held on 22.09.2023 at 1600 Hrs in the Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, New Customs House, Mumbai under the Chairmanship of Shri Pramod Kumar Agrawal, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-I.

The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name & Designation	Organization
1.	Shri Sunil Jain, Principal Commissioner of Customs	General Commissionerate
2.	Smt. Kiran Verma, Principal Commissioner of Customs	Import II Commissionerate
3.	Shri A. P. Kothari, Commissioner of Customs	Audit Commissionerate
4.	Shri Vivek Pandey Commissioner of Customs	Import I Commissionerate
5.	Shri R. K. Singh, Commissioner (In-Situ)	Pr. Chief Commissioner's office, Mumbai Customs, Zone-I
6.	Shri Rajiv Magoo, Addl. Commissioner	Pr. Chief Commissioner's office, Mumbai Customs, Zone-I
7.	Shri Manish Yadav, Dy. Commissioner	Pr. Chief Commissioner's office, Mumbai Customs, Zone-I

8	Shri Suresh Kamble, Assistant Commissioner	Export Commissionerate (Drawback)
9.	Ms. Suchita Ambetkar, Assistant Drug Controller	Air Cargo Complex
10.	Dr. Rashmi Pandey Assistant Director (E)	R.P.Q.S., Mumbai
11.	Ms. Karuna Dhale	FSSAI
12.	Shri Dushyant Mulani President	BCBA

13.	Shri Mark Fernandes Chairman	IMC
14.	Shri Paresh Thakker Vice President	BCBA
15.	Shri Manohar Patyane	BCBA
16.	Shri Tej Contractor	BCBA
17.	Shri Harsh Lapsia	BCBA
18.	Shri Omprakash Agrawal	BCBA

3. At the outset, the Chairman extended his greetings and welcomed the members of BCBA, IMC and various PGAs of the Mumbai Customs Zone-I to the CCFC meeting of Mumbai Customs Zone-I. Further chair apprised that new National Trade Facilitation Action Plan (NTFAP) for the period of 2023 to 2026 is under preparation to ensure compliance with the WTO-Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and to provide impetus to trade facilitation and Ease of Doing Business measures.
4. No new agenda point was received for the meeting from the Trade or PGAs. In response to the Chair's query about whether there are any topics/issues for on-the-spot discussion, Shri Dushyant Mulani, President, BCBA presented three booklets with subject 'Insight for augmenting Trade Facilitation Matters' for Imports, Export and ICEGATE/EDI systems respectively for consideration of the Chairman.
5. The chair then took up points pertaining to export and discussion was made, mentioned as below:
 - i. Universal RFID Reader: A need for Universal RFID Reader for factory stuffed containers was emphasized upon by the trade. The Chairman noted the same and directed the Pr. Commissioner(Export) to examine so that proposal be sent for consideration by National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) for upcoming Trade Facilitation Action Plan.
 - ii. SCOMET compliance: Trade emphasized that sometimes exporters are not fully aware about SCOMET requirements and also the RMS instructions are not very clear about its requirements. Exporters face hardship when compliance is informed at ports after entry of goods for export. Trade requested that alert for compliance should be raised at the time of filing of Shipping Bill. The Chairman noted the same and directed the Pr. Commissioner (Export) to examine the issue, so that the proposal be sent for consideration of NCTF.
 - iii. Automatization of Goods Registration: Trade requested that instead of present practice of registration by shed officer in case of export, registration should be made automatic like Imports. The Chairman informed of non-viability of same at present due to issues of short landing, Back to town requests, etc.
6. Points pertaining to Import were taken up further and following discussion was made, as below:
 - i. Section 28 (1) and (2) of Customs Act, 1962: Trade requested that in case of voluntary payment of differential duty and interest by the importer, fine and

penalty should not be imposed. Commissioner, Import-I informed that several cases under section 28(1) of SIIB(I) were referred back to Appraising Groups for re-assessment under section 17 and they are closing the cases under 28(2) as well. Further, cases falling under 28(4) were also closed after payment of 15% penalty, citing recent example of import of solar panels.

- ii. Section 17 of Customs Act: Shri Dushyant Mulani, said that assessment under faceless assessment is non transparent and the principal of natural justice is not being followed. The chair informed that the purpose of faceless assessment is to ensure there shouldn't be any face to face contact during the process of assessment. Further, the chair informed that adjudication order under Customs Act is passed only after giving PH notices. Also, detailed guidelines and timelines are given in the circulars related to faceless assessment, and particular case of deviance shall be brought to notice of the chair.
7. AILBIE raised the issue of delays in getting ADC NOCs at Mumbai ADC Office for liquid bulk consignments having dual use and informed that nowadays 10 to 12 days are being taken for issuance of NOC instead of earlier timeline of 1 to 3 days. The Chair took serious note of the same and instructed Pr. Commissioner, Import-II to arrange a meeting on 25.09.2023 with senior officials from ADC and trade representatives to resolve the issue at the earliest.
8. Trade then requested that the Audit Commissionerate should refrain from issuing CL/ notices under Section 28(4) as the same shall be looked after by SIIB. The chair informed that as per Act same machinery is at disposal of Audit as that of investigative agencies. Further, the Chair directed Commissioner Audit to take up a meeting with reputed and big importers for any audit related objection.
9. The Chair then apprised of various trade facilitation initiatives of CBIC i.e. AEO Scheme, Samvad se Samadhan and recent one of Amnesty scheme for EODC compliance by EPCG and Advance Authorization licenses, and requested trade bodies to disseminate these schemes among importers/exporters for less dispute and court cases. On the request of BCBA for Open House Meeting of all three Customs Zones of Mumbai with the top-level management of Importers, the Chair informed to send issues common to all three zones in advance so that a comprehensive and fruitful discussion can be made in case meeting happens.
10. The Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

This issues with the approval of the Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-I.

Rajiv Magoo

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER

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Copy to:

1. Under Secretary, (CUS IV), CBIC, North Block New Delhi
2. All Pr.Commissioners /Commissioners of Customs, Mumbai Zone I
3. All the Members of CCFC Meeting by email
4. BCBA, Mumbai by email
5. AC/DC, EDI (with a request to upload the minutes on the Zonal website Office)