



**MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION  
COMMITTEE (CCFC) MEETING OF MUMBAI CUSTOMS, ZONE-I HELD ON  
29.04.2024 AT NEW CUSTOMS HOUSE, MUMBAI**

F.No.CCCO/TECH/425/2021 Unit IV A

09-05-2024

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) for the Financial Year 2024-25 of Mumbai Customs Zone-I for the month of April 2024 was held on 29.04.2024 (Monday) 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.

2. The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:

SN.	Name	Designation
1	Shri Sunil Jain	Pr. Commissioner of Customs (G)
2	Shri Ashok Kumar P. Kothari	Commissioner of Customs (Audit)
3	Shri Vivek Pandey	Commissioner of Customs (Import-I)
4	Ms. Priya Goel	Commissioner of Customs (Import-II)
5	Shri. Aslam Hassan	Commissioner of Customs (Export)
6	Ms. Hemlata Rai	Additional Commissioner of Customs, PCCO
7	Shri Neelesh Rautkar	Additional Commissioner of Customs, (Import-II)
8	Shri Rajesh Kothari	Additional Commissioner of Customs, (Audit)
9	Shri Mallinath Jeure	Additional Commissioner of Customs, (Import-I)
10	Shri Arshdeep Singh	Joint Commissioner of Customs (Export)
11	Shri Ajit U. Nair	Assistant Commissioner of Customs, PCCO
12	Shri D.R. Pardeshi	Assistant Commissioner of Customs, Export
13	Shri Dushyant Mulani	President, BCBA
14	Shri Paresh K. Thakkar	BCBA
15	Shri Kiran Rambhia	BCBA
16	Shri Vinayak	BCBA
17	Shri Sanjeev Harale	BCBA
18	Shri Mark S Fernandes	IMC Chamber of Commerce & Industry
19	Shri Manohar Patnaye	BCBA

20	Shri Omprakash Agrawal	Sr.VP, BCBA
21	Shri Ashish Pednekar	Chairman, USIIC
22	Shri Karunakar Shetty	VP, MACCIA
23	Shri Harsh Lapsia	AILBIEA
24	Shri. Naresh Nasta	M/s Motulmal & Co
25	Ms. Suchita Ambetkar	CDSCO
26	Shri P N Wasnik	Assistant Director (Labs), Textiles Committee
27	Shri Venkata Reddy	Plant Protection Officer

3. At the outset, the Chairman extended his greetings and welcomed the members of the PGAs and trade representatives to the meeting of Mumbai Customs Zone-I. The Chair enquired regarding the action taken on the points discussed during the last meeting held on 27.03.2024.

In the meeting dtd.01.03.2024, the Chair directed the Pr. Commissioner (G), Shri Sunil Jain to draw Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), in consultation with BCBA, to ensure that Customs Brokers are well versed regarding their role/obligation. Shri Dushyant Mulani during last meeting dtd.27.03.2024, intimated that BCBA is finalizing the draft proposal and will submit the same by 03.04.2024. However, since no such draft proposal had been received till date, the Chair enquired regarding the same. Shri Dushyant Mulani, President, BCBA intimated that inputs have already been obtained from Members of BCBA and they would be submitting the said draft proposal to the Principal Commissioner of Customs (General) in the next week. Chair directed the Pr. Commissioner (G) to study the proposal and form a committee accordingly.

- i. In the previous meeting dtd.27.03.2024, the Chair had directed Shri Vivek Pandey, the Commissioner of Customs (Import-I) to issue a Public Notice pertaining to the amendment of the Bills of Entry by Import Commissionerate. Shri Vivek Pandey, intimated that there does not seem to be a need to issue such a standard Public Notice since Import-II has already issued Public Notice No. 02/2022 dtd.01.04.2022 pertaining to amendment and advised the Trade to keep a copy of the same handy. The Trade intimated that Mumbai Zone-II has issued a Public notice laying out process of amendment, to shorten the process and doing away with the parallel paper work related to amendment and has made the amendment online from day one. The Chair directed Shri Vivek Pandey, the Commissioner of Customs (Import-I) to discuss with the Trade representatives and to explore the need for issue of a Public Notice similar to the one as issued by Mumbai Zone-II.
- ii. The Chair had directed Commissioners Import-I and Import-II during meeting dtd.27.03.2024 to create a working group to analyse the queries raised of a whole month group wise and in consultation with BCBA in order to rationalise the query percentage and also to check that only necessary queries are raised so as to keep the number of queries under check. It was intimated that Import-II has already shared with Trade such query data, duly color coded as per unwarranted queries and those queries which can be replied within 2 to 3 days of raising the query. Trade

informed that said data will be analysed and report submitted in the coming week. The Principal Chief Commissioner directed Import Commissionerate to share this good practice with Nodal Members of the NAC of which Mumbai Zone-I PAG is a Member, so as to bring down the overall query percentage in FAGs

4. Shri. Naresh Nasta, Partner, M/s Motulmal & Co., pointed out that Liquid bulk consignments are still being given first check at other ports although not in Mumbai Zone-I. BCBA also intimated that the instructions and examination orders as prescribed by NCTC and Board, are not being followed, and that officers are overriding standard examination orders even for Tier 1 and 2 Clients thereby resulting in recall and reassessment. They further intimated that the said points have been raised by them with Member (Customs). The Chair informed that that PAG of Mumbai -I has been pulling up such cases and taking due corrective action which he has also intimated to the Chairman, CBIC during the Chief Commissioners Conference in February 2024. He further requested the Trade to submit data of specific cases, wherein the PAG is of Mumbai Zone-I and that this would be duly forwarded to the concerned NAC Convenor for corrective measures.

5. Shri. Naresh Nasta, Partner, M/s Motulmal & Co., further raised a point regarding CRCL that in the past few months, despite proposed standards of base oils, CRCL has been giving negative reports; that the CRCL officers are going over and beyond their scope and giving additional comments and because of such concluding added comments, it denies the Officer to accept the declared description. Pr. Commissioner (General) informed that he would examine the issue further and requested the Trade to give specific data viz. Bill of Entry number and other relevant details, regarding the said grievances. It was also pointed out by Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO), that the additional comments or conclusion would also depend on the kind of query raised by the Docks officers' w/r/t composition or description of the goods in question. The Chair suggested that a training session for officers of the Docks may be arranged wherein DYCC officers can guide the officers as to what specific query should be raised in case of composition or description for the particular goods.

6. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) then presented the PowerPoint Presentation displaying the average time taken by importers for payment of duty after Assessment of Bills of Entry and time taken by the importers for replying to the queries raised.

- i. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) informed that the average time taken for payment of duty after assessment has improved as compared from March.
- ii. The details of time taken from assessment to payment of duty i.e in how many cases duty payment has been done and within how many days was presented next. It was seen that that although the percentage of same day payment in the month of April has improved as compared to March but as compared to February, performance is not satisfactory. For payments made in 2 days, the average percentage has been maintained the same in April as that of February, although

there is an improvement as compared to March. However, from data of payment in 3 days onwards, Zone is showing a higher number as compared to February as well as March. The Chair noted that overall there is an improvement in the average.

- iii. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) further briefed regarding time taken for reply of query. It was seen that there is a steady improvement in reply to query 'in less than 6 hours' from February to April, however a decline is seen in query replies 'between 6 to 24 hours' and query replies 'between 24 to 72 hours' is nearly maintained. Thus concerted efforts are to be taken for reduction in time taken for reply within 24 hours'.
  - iv. The Chair enquired regarding the average number of Bills of Entry being assessed at Mumbai Zone - I and Commissioner (Import-I) informed that the figure would be approximately 100 Bills of Entry. Chair observed that the average number of query raised is 4% and directed that the Working Group comprising of Commissioner Import-I and Import-II, created for analysis of time taken for reply of query, to once again analyse the data in consultation with BCBA and to prepare lines/means to minimise the time taken for reply to queries because delay in reply to query will ultimately lead to increase in dwell time.
6. As there were no further points for discussion, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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

HEMLATA RAI  
ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER

Copy to:

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

Signed by Hemlata Ashok  
Kumar Rai  
Date: 09-05-2024 12:52:51