

प्रधानमुख्य आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क का कार्यालय,
OFFICE OF THE PR. CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,
 मुंबई जोन -I, दूसरी मंज़िल, नवीन सीमा शुल्क भवन, बेलार्ड इस्टेट,
MUMBAI ZONE-I, 2nd FLOOR, NEW CUSTOM HOUSE,
BALLARD ESTATE, मुंबई/ MUMBAI- 400 001
Phone No. 22620091, Email: ccu-cusmum1@nic.in

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 Unit IVA

26-10-2023

**MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE
 (CCFC) MEETING OF MUMBAI CUSTOMS, ZONE-I HELD ON
 20.10.2023 AT NEW CUSTOMS HOUSE, MUMBAI**

The 7th meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) for the Financial Year 2023-24 of Mumbai Customs Zone-I for the month of October 2023 was held on 20.10.2023 (Friday) at 16:00 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.	Shri Vivek Pandey Commissioner of Customs	Import I Commissionerate
3.	Smt. Priya Goel, Commissioner of Customs	Import II Commissionerate
4.	Shri Aslam Hassan Commissioner of Customs	Export Commissionerate
5.	Shri A. P. Kothari, Commissioner of Customs	Audit Commissionerate
6.	Shri Rajiv Magoo, Addl. Commissioner	Pr. Chief Commissioner's office, Mumbai Customs, Zone-I
7.	Shri Mallinath Juere Addl. Commissioner	Import I Commissionerate
8.	Shri Neelesh Rautkar Addl. Commissioner	Import II Commissionerate
9.	Shri Deepak Sharma Addl. Commissioner	Import II Commissionerate
10.	Smt. Hemlata Rai Addl. Commissioner	Export Commissionerate
11.	Shri Amit Nikalje Addl. Commissioner	Import I Commissionerate
12.	Shri Manish Yadav, Dy. Commissioner	Pr. Chief Commissioner's office, Mumbai Customs, Zone-I
13.	Shri D R Pardeshi	Export Commissionerate

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	Assistant Commissioner	
14.	Shri Suresh Kamble, Assistant Commissioner	Export Commissionerate (Drawback)
15.	Smt. Mukta Srivastava CE I	CRCL
16.	Shri Md. Habibullah CE II	CRCL
17.	Dr. Brajesh Mishra Joint Director	Plant Quarantine
18.	Ms. Karuna Dhale Assistant Director	FSSAI
19.	Shri Mark Fernandes Chairman	IMC
20.	Shri Jayant Kumar DDC(I)	CDSCO
21.	Shri Yogesh Shelar ADC(I)	CDSCO
22.	Shri Kiran Rambhia	BCBA
23.	Shri Manohar Patyane	BCBA
24.	Shri Tej Contractor	BCBA
25.	Shri Harsh Lapsia	BCBA
26.	Shri Jayant Lapsia President	AILBIEA
27.	Shri Pranit Mali	Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry

3. At the outset, the Chairman extended his greetings and welcomed the members of BCBA, IMC, Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry, AILBIEA and various PGAs of Mumbai Customs Zone-I to the CCFC meeting of Mumbai Customs Zone-I.

4. On the various suggestions made by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry vide their email dated 20.10.2023, the Chair expressed that the inputs/suggestions given in the mail are of very generic nature, however considered views would be given by the zone on these suggestions. It was also informed by Chair that the Policy level issues can be directly referred by the Chamber to CBIC, Policy Wing for remedial action, if any. However, if they have any specific grievance, the same can be taken up with respective Commissionerate or can be discussed in the next CCFC meeting.

5. The Chair then took a review of the progress made on the agenda points of last meeting. The Chair informed trade that the agenda points of last CCFC meeting viz. Universal RFID Reader, SCOMET Compliance etc. have been forwarded to NCTF for analysis and inclusion into new National Trade Facilitation Action Plan (NTFAP) for the period of 2023 to 2026. The Chair further informed that meeting with CDSCO officials and department along-with trade bodies, took place immediately after last CCFC meeting with respect to the issue of delay in processing of dual use NOC from CDSCO Office for liquid bulk cargo.

6. The Chair then moved to the new agenda points received for the meeting from BCBA on issues faced for clearance of import and export cargo with PGAs namely Dy. Drug Controller, FSSAI, DYCC/CRCL and Plant quarantine. Shri Vivek Pandey, Commissioner, Import I informed trade to give specific instances with Bill of Entry

no. so that fruitful discussion can happen w.r.t. reasons for delay. The Chair then noted grievances and the suggestions made by trade and took up the issues PGA-wise for discussion as below.

6.1 Dy. Drug Controller:

6.1.1 Shri Harsh Lapsia, AILBIEA raised issue of delays in granting of NOC / permissions and stated that at present, dual use NOC/permission is taking 10 – 20 days instead of approximately 3 working days earlier and further documents required by CDSCO need to be submitted in manual/hard copy. Also trade requested that preference may be given to AEO title holders while granting NOC.

6.1.2 Shri Jayant Kumar – Deputy Drug Controller informed that:

- CDSCO has already published the Guidance documents for requirement of documents and in the condition where dual use NOC are granted by CDSCO and same are readily available in the public domain at www.cdsc.gov.in.
- CDSCO has opted online system for the processing of the NOC application, therefore, the request for acceptance of manual documents either for application or query reply may not be feasible.
- During Covid-19 it was observed by CDSCO that some of the Importers/traders misused the permission granted under Dual use NOC, therefore mandatory reviewing of the documents is necessary with regard to end use for further conversion/purification as a drug.

6.1.3 On the grievances of trade Shri Jayant Kumar, stated that following documents are not submitted by the importers at the time of application:

- Undertaking submitted is not in the proper format or not duly signed by the deponent.
- Multiple Applications submitted for the same product in different quantity instead of single application.
- In case of Food permission/license is required from the FSSAI for both trader and Actual User.
- Flow chart for both process and molecular change is required for the drug used for conversion to another drug.
- Reconciliation data is mandatory for the subsequent applications, which is not submitted.

6.1.4 Shri Jayant Kumar informed that for expeditious processing of dual use NOC, the following steps may be taken by trade while making application -

- Purchase-order based application-especially in case of Dual Use NOC: Importers may apply for NOC on the basis of purchase order and utilize the same across

multiple shipments.

- In case of commodities such as Iso Propyl Alcohol, Phenol, Citric Acid etc. there is option of application-based-NOC, whereby NOC may be granted immediately upon submission of application by sending an email to CDSCO Western Zone office stating the nature of the commodities and requesting for release based on application.
- Proper application with legal undertaking and reconciliation of data will expedite the NOCs.
- Legal undertaking to be henceforth on Rs. 300 or Rs. 500 Stamp paper as against the current practice of submission on Rs. 100 Stamp Paper.

6.1.5 Shri Jayant Kumar further informed that the CDSCO Office shall be holding a webinar in the second week of November 2023 to guide the Trade towards proper declarations and accurate applications, so that the time taken for processing can be expedited and potential to raise queries be reduced. The Chair directed Shri Jayant Kumar to explore the possibility of drawing a SOP/synopsis of guide notes in bullet format w.r.t. liquid bulk and other items mainly being imported through Mumbai Port and Import-I and II Commissionerates would provide such list of items to ADC office.

6.2 FSSAI:

6.2.1 BCBA raised the issue of delay of 10-15 days in availability of test reports after testing by NABL labs and other labs. Further trade stated that there is no timely collection of samples at docks and samples are not collected as per slot given in the system and lack of helpline number for coordination of same. It was further stated that there is no issue of delay at Mumbai Port and this grievance pertains majorly to Mumbai Customs Zone II and III.

6.2.2 Ms Karuna Dhale, Assistant Director, FSSAI, informed that FSSAI has set deadlines for testing of samples as 05 days for normal testing and 10 days in case of microbiological testing. However, she assured that specific cases can be discussed. She further stated that after the filing of application and payment of fees in Food Import Clearance System (FICS), the CHAs are not acknowledging the appointment, due to which applications cannot be processed further and sample cannot be collected as per allotted time. The Chair drew her attention toward grievance raised of considerable time gap between final certification by Lab and NOC given in the system, to which she replied that in a few cases it has happened which was addressed promptly.

6.3 DYCC / CRCL:

6.3.1 BCBA raised issue of delays in testing and issuance of reports from the Joint Director, Chemical Laboratory (DYCC).

6.3.2 Shri Sunil Jain, Principal Commissioner of Customs, General replied that sometimes machines installed at DYCC go out of order, which

causes delay in testing. Also, literature available at DYCC does not cover the whole spectrum of samples which are sent for testing, which some time causes slight delay.

6.3.3 Shri Sunil Jain informed trade that the General Commissionerate is going to reinvent the SOPs for in-house testing and asked for inputs from BCBA. BCBA then suggested that for many commodities, there are new instruments which Leading Manufacturers are using to test the commodities in their factories / laboratories. These tests are comprehensive and produce results in expedited timelines. Shri Sunil Jain informed BCBA to seek inputs from stakeholders and revert with a detailed proposal which can be later taken up in a meeting for further discussion.

6.4 Plant Quarantine(PQ):

6.4.1 Difficulty in obtaining NOC and downtime of online services was reported by BCBA, to which, Shri Brajesh Mishra, Joint Director, PQ assured that the system is completely online, transparent, and connected with EDI Systems in import as well as export and moreover the issue reported did not pertain to Mumbai Customs Zone I, which was confirmed by BCBA and duly noted by the Chair.

7. Shri Mark Fernandes, Chairman, IMC, conveyed his heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to the Mumbai Customs Zone-I, Pr. Chief Commissioner's leadership and Pr. Commissioner (G) for being instrumental in inclusion in agenda points for approval in 52nd GST Council Meeting and decision taken by the Council of conditional and limited duration IGST exemption to foreign flag foreign going vessel when it converts to coastal run. He further stated that this decision would ensure Cruise Tourism in India in a smooth manner without any complication and would also bring a lot of revenue for the Zone as in coming years the traffic of cruise liners would substantially increase. Shri Sunil Jain, then informed that the Board has formed a committee with the Chair being the head of the Committee and other members include the Commissioners of Ports viz. Cochin, New Mangalore, Visakhapatnam, Chennai and Kolkata for finalization of the SOP for handling cruise ships and passenger vessels.

8. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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

Signed by

Rajiv Magoo

Date: 26-10-2023 17:37:20

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)