

**Directorate General of Customs – Argentina**  
**16 April 2020**

**1. Measures aiming to Facilitate the Cross-border Movement of Relief and Essential Supplies**

- Advocate for or support the waiving or suspension of import duties and taxes for relief items.
- Prioritize the clearance of relief consignments on the basis of a list of essential items.

**2. Measures aiming at Supporting the Economy and Sustaining Supply Chain Continuity**

- Set up of crisis teams to ensure the overall performance of customs tasks.
- Take measures to guarantee personnel availability in the long term. Operate a 24/7 Customs clearance system.
- Introduce facilitation measures with regard to the requirements to submit original documents or to stamp certain documents.
- Persons affected by the activities and services declared essential in the emergency, such as foreign trade activities, are exempted from complying with the "social, preventive and compulsory isolation" and the prohibition to move.
- Extension of computation of Customs terms/due dates until 26 April 2020.

**3. Measures aiming at Protecting Customs administrations' Staff**

- Provides Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to staff, such as masks, gloves, sanitizers, etc.
- Apply social distancing measures.
- Minimum necessary personnel is used to process essential operations.
- Ensure strict compliance with sanitary regulations in places/offices designated as primary Customs zones and preserve the health of Customs personnel, trade assistants and the Customs Service, their representatives and dependents, importers, exporters and other persons who interact with the Customs Service.
- Daily control of the body temperature of the people who enter the facilities of the places/offices designated as the primary customs zones as well as the Customs personnel at the beginning and end of their workday in order to ensure extreme measures of prevention. In the presence of fever (38C ° or more) with or without other symptoms (respiratory distress, cough, headache, decreased smell), no service should be taken and Health personnel should be notified.

- Remote work/Home office must be assigned for all those tasks and functions that allow it.
- At each port, airport, border crossing office and other operational points in the country, the Customs service staff must have a COVID-19 contingency plan publicly known.
- Customs official who are included in the "Risk Groups" (pregnant women, people over 60 years old, people with diseases - heart, respiratory, immunosuppressed, diabetes) should not provide face-to-face services.

#### **4. Measures aiming at Protecting Society**

- Ensure appropriate integration for preparedness and response.
- Availability of all COVID-19 related information on official website and social media accounts.
- Prohibition of entry into the country, for a period of up to 26 April 2020 inclusive, of non-resident foreign persons who have transited through "affected areas" within the fourteen (14) days prior to their arrival.
- A network of Customs reference points has been created to provide answers to different types of queries: airway, ex ante control, land, control, rules and procedures, processes, MERCOSUR and international and AFIP institutional matters.
- Intercept the trafficking of counterfeited medical supplies.