Pakistan Customs (Federal Board of Revenue) - Pakistan
2 April 2020

In order to facilitate the Customs procedures and support all stakeholders (including importers, exporters, Customs agents, and freight forwarders, etc.) at the ports/airports/land customs-stations in Pakistan and to mitigate the detrimental economic/industrial effects in the Country because of lock-down owing to spread of Corona Virus (COVID-19), Pakistan Customs (Federal Board of Revenue) has ensured implementation of the following actions.

Provision of the said services is deemed highly desirable not only in view of the current emergency situation but also to duly facilitate the regional and international trade:

1. 24/7 clearance of Cargo at Ports/Airports and land borders stations, while ensuring expeditious clearance of medicines, food items, and equipment pertaining to treatment of Corona Virus (COVID-19).
2. The government has waived off all duties and taxes on the import of essential medicines and equipments necessary for containing and combating the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Dedicated email has been notified for single contact facility to accommodate all trade related queries/grievances for redressal by the Customs Authorities.
4. The Federal and Provincial Government have also notified dedicated helpline for the general public as well as the businessmen.
5. The government has extended date of filling for goods declarations (GDs).
6. The Customs authorities have been provided extra budget to protect the staff against the COVID-19 pandemic by provision of Masks, Sanitizers and other essentials as instructed by the local health authorities.
7. Screening and sanitizing facilities have been made available at all the work places.
8. The customs authorities have been sensitized to the possible import/supply of counterfeit medical supplies and fake medicines in the wake of COVID-19 spread.
9. Actions taken in this regard will be shared using the common platform i.e. CEN.comm.
10. Staff rotation has been introduced in the wake of restricted movement by the Government. However, staff has been allowed to work from home electronically to facilitate trade.

Pakistan Customs assures the World Customs Organization (WCO) and world trade community about further actions, which would be taken in due course, as part of its on-going trade facilitation measures.