

Directorate General of Customs (Dirección Nacional de Aduanas) - Uruguay
2 April 2020

MEASURES ADOPTED IN RESPONSE OF COVID – 19 EMERGENCY

The Uruguayan Government declared the State of National Sanitary Emergency, by Decree N° 93/2020 dated 13 March 2020 and from that moment a series of dynamic measures have been adopted, which would change according to the situation in the country in every moment.

- **Border closure for Travelers:**

By Decree N° 104/20 dated 24 March 2020, only Uruguayans and foreign residents in the country, from abroad are authorized to enter to the country, subject to sanitary measures, provided for in Decree 93/2020.

Crew members of aircraft and ship pilots, drivers affected by the international transport of goods, merchandise, correspondence and supplies, and humanitarian aid, are exempted from the entry ban, as well as Brazilian citizen's residents in the border who enter to the country from border with Brazil.-

- **Measures related with trade:**

The movement of goods in border crossing and border inspection points, in ports and airports is ensured.

- **Measures related with medical supplies, equipment and humanitarian aid.**

In line with the communication of the WCO of 9 March 2020 and the special customs regime for assistance and rescue shipments provided for in article 145 of Law 19.276 (Customs Code of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay), it was established that medical reagents, medical supplies and equipment and other goods imported to face the emergency situation caused by COVID – 19, without prejudice to any controls, will be absolutely prioritize and its movements facilitated.

By Resolution of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, dated 24 March 2020, the temporary or permanent import or export of certain goods was authorized, free of taxes and subject to a simplified customs procedure, under the special customs regime of humanitarian aid. By Resolution N° 20/20, the National Customs Directorate, established the simplified customs procedure for these goods.

- **Measures adopted in relation to Customs officials, guaranteeing the continuity of customs services.**

- Teleworking was established for all those services that do not require physical presence, though Customs officials must remain available from home during normal working hours.
- Customs officials over 65 years old or with health conditions that define them as risk population are exempted from coming to the office.
- All those services who do not require physical presence are provided on line.

(Remote User Support).

- Organization of rotating shifts with up to 50% of the employees, in the affected areas to the customs operation, being able to assign tasks in the remote working modality.
- Sanitary protection measures (covers, gloves, alcohol gel, and respect of the recommended distance) for officials serving at land border crossings, ports and airports.