Germany - Central Customs Authority
19th March 2021

N.B. The information provided by individual EU Member States supplements the information provided by the European Commission.

1. **Which of the measures outlined in the WCO Resolution on the role of Customs in facilitating the cross-border movement of situationally critical medicines and vaccines has your Customs administration implemented in practice? Please provide details of the implementation.**

2. **Was any relevant information concerning the Customs clearance of COVID-19 vaccines and the goods and devices used for their shipment and transportation, made publicly available, for example on the Customs administration's web-site? If yes, please provide a URL. If not made publicly available, was relevant information provided to the supply chain stakeholders – manufacturers, exporters, importers, logistics providers, etc.?**

3. **Was any dedicated guidance made available to the field Customs officers with regard to the Customs clearance of COVID-19 vaccines for export, transit and import, as well as the goods and devices used for the vaccines' shipment and transportation? If yes, please provide details on how the guidance was disseminated.**

4. **Has any training been provided to the staff of your Customs administration in anticipation of the COVID-19 vaccines distribution effort, for example training for handling of time- and temperature-sensitive items, training for handling of dangerous goods (e.g. dry ice), training for identifying the COVID-19 vaccines on import or export documentation?**

Customs officers are made aware that, if the vaccines have to be handled, handling is carried out only after consultation with the declarant or his/her representative. This ensures that the vaccines are handled with due care and that the vaccines are not damaged or rendered unusable during a control.

5. **What mode of transport was used for the exportation/importation of COVID-19 vaccines from/into your country?**

Up to now the vaccines have only been imported by air.
Up to now the vaccines have been exported by road and air.

6. **What are the documents required for the exportation of COVID-19 vaccines from your country? (applies to the Members exporting COVID-19 vaccines)**

7. **Which national authorities are responsible for the checking and clearing the COVID-19 vaccines shipments for exportation? How is the cooperation between these authorities arranged? (applies to the Members exporting COVID-19 vaccines)**

8. **Is there any exchange of information/data between the Customs authorities of the exporting country and the Customs authorities of the importing country? What type of information is exchanged? How is the exchange of information arranged/regulated?**

Any means of international cooperation regarding risk management are used.

9. **Was the Customs transit procedure used for the COVID-19 vaccines imported into your country? If yes, why/what was the rationale?**

No information available.

10. **Does your administration implement risk management techniques related to the cross-border movement of COVID-19 vaccines?**

11. **What are the documents required for the importation of COVID-19 vaccines in your country?**

12. **Which national authorities are responsible for the checking and clearing the COVID-19 vaccines shipments for importation? How is the cooperation between these authorities arranged?**

Pursuant to Section 74 Arzneimittelgesetz (Medicinal Products Act) the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Customs offices specified by it shall participate in the supervision of the introduction of medicinal products and active substances into the purview of this Act and of the export of the same.

The authorities named may:

1. retain for inspection consignments of the type named in sentence 1, as well as their means of conveyance, containers, loading and packing material,
2. notify the competent administrative authorities of suspected violations of prohibitions and restrictions of this Act or of the ordinances issued pursuant to this Act, if this suspicion becomes evident during the execution of their duties,
3. issue instructions to the effect that, in instances defined in number 2, consignments of the type named in sentence 1 shall be presented to a competent medicinal product supervision authority at the cost and at the risk of the person holding the right of disposal of the consignment.

The German customs administration is only authorized to act within these restrictions.

Superior federal authority is the Federal Ministry of Health. Administrative medicinal product supervision authorities are established by the Länder.

13. **If information is available, what was the time required for the release of the COVID-19 vaccines shipments imported into your country?**

Provided all conditions are met, the vaccines are released without delay.

14. **Has your government considered duty and tax waivers for the importation of COVID-19 vaccines?**

15. **Please include any other relevant information you wish to share.**

N/A