Good Practices in Facilitating the Cross Border Movement of COVID-19 Vaccine in Indonesia

- 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.

The following are measures as outlined in the WCO Resolution on the role of Customs in facilitating the cross-border movement of situationally critical medicines and vaccines that have been implemented in practice by the Indonesia Customs in response to the importation of COVID-19 vaccines and vaccine-related items:

1) Carry out the clearance of situationally critical medicines and vaccines for export, transit and import as a matter of priority in appropriate facilities in order to prevent possible detrimental product temperature variations due to delays.

2) Provide mechanisms for identifying such medicine and vaccine shipments during import or export, such as on import or export documentation.

3) Provide for special procedures for authorized/recognized supply chain actors, including producers of COVID-19 vaccines.

4) Apply risk-based control and perform examinations on shipments declared as such medicines and vaccines only in exceptional circumstances, and only at the appropriate moment and place.

5) When an examination is deemed necessary, perform non-intrusive inspections to the extent possible.

6) Ensure that inspections by other government agencies and inspections by Customs are coordinated and, if possible, carried out at the same time.

7) Implement measures such as those contained in the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972, with regard to the Customs treatment of containers (including specialized containers) used for the transportation of situationally critical medicines and vaccines.

8) Implement measures such as those contained in the Recommendation of the Customs Cooperation Council of June 2013 concerning Customs Formalities in Connection with the Temporary Admission of Container Security Devices, with regard to the Customs treatment of devices (data loggers) affixed to containers used for the shipping of vaccines for the purpose of monitoring the status of the vaccines and/or for tracking purposes.

9) Commit to working together to facilitate international trade and coordinate responses in ways that avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade as it relates to COVID-19 medicines. Emergency measures aimed at protecting health should be targeted, proportionate, transparent, and temporary.

10) Cooperate and coordinate with relevant government agencies, in particular health authorities, and supply chain stakeholders, so that facilities, security arrangements and border processes are ready for the large-scale and complex task ahead.

11) Ensure that Customs staffs are prepared to handle specialized temperature-sensitive items, including those involving the use of dangerous goods (dry ice) for their transportation.
12) Take appropriate measures to prevent organized criminal organizations from exploiting the situation, and to address the threat posed by illegal products in the cases of dangerous, sub-standard or counterfeit medicines and vaccines.

☑ 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 website? 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.?

Any relevant technical information concerning the clearance process of COVID-19 vaccines and all related-vaccine items, including the newly implemented single-entry tax and import duty exemption system for vaccine importation to Indonesia have been disseminated in an appropriate manner towards the relevant supply chain stakeholders through limited-access focus group dissemination. Meanwhile, the general information concerning clearance process, facilitation, and recent updates have been made publicly available in the Indonesia Customs official website, social media and electronic media, as well as related government agencies official website and the national media. The links of publications are attached as follows.

https://open.spotify.com/episode/3E6VIBo77YhYouj62ICBJ
https://insw.go.id/index.php/home/berita_detail/282
https://www.instagram.com/p/CKBaceRA0ly/
https://www.instagram.com/p/CIhjOpPAHtT/?igshid=22vs9d7j5bae
https://www.instagram.com/p/CIprVUfhnYh/?igshid=1xjrd3wc7ki58
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https://www.instagram.com/p/CLTeaLtLgGX/?igshid=22vs9d7j5bae
https://www.facebook.com/440124189518619/posts/1512521042278923/
https://nasional.kontan.co.id/news/vaksin-sinovac-tahap-4-datang-bea-cukai-beri-fasilitas-rush-handling
https://www.republika.co.id/berita/qnwimd383/bea-cukai-berikan-fasilitas-rush-handling-vaksin-sinovac
https://indopos.co.id/vaksin-sinovac-tahap-empat-tiba-bea-cukai-berikan-fasilitas-rush-handling-dan-pembebasan/
https://www.instagram.com/p/CKx3alpqEid/
https://twitter.com/beacukaiRI/status/1356924107384881160
https://www.instagram.com/p/CKBaceRA0ly/
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.

Indonesia Customs, Indonesia National Single Window Agency, National Agency on Drugs and Food Control, and Ministry of Health have initiated and implemented Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Procedures for Vaccine Imports for COVID-19 Counter-Measures Purposes with regard to the Minister of Finance (MoF) Regulation No. 188/PMK.04/2020 on Provision of Customs and/or Excise as well as Taxation Facility on Import of Vaccine Procurement in the Context of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic Handling. These newly implemented SOP and regulations have been disseminated in an appropriate manner towards field Customs officer through internal focus discussions as well as field coordination.

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?

There has been no special training provided for COVID-19 vaccines and vaccine-related items and devices handling. Although, Customs inspection officers have been equipped with general goods inspection skills including inspection skills towards goods with certain characteristics and/or goods with special handling needs (i.e. light, time-temperature sensitive items). The training has been provided in cooperation with Indonesia Customs Training Center and Financial Education and Training Agency of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia.

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

The Covid-19 vaccine importation has been carried out via air transportation mode. In the meantime, there has been no vaccine exportation practice in Indonesia;

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

There has been no COVID-19 vaccines exportation practice in Indonesia;

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)

There has been no COVID-19 vaccines exportation practice in Indonesia;
✓ 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?

There is no exchange of information/data between the Indonesia Customs as the importing country and the Customs authorities of the exporting country.

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

As of today, there has been no customs transit procedures that have been implemented for the Covid-19 vaccines importation to Indonesia. The customs clearance has been preceded and completed at Soekarno Hatta International airport, Jakarta.

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

Indonesia Customs administration has been implementing risk management in the importation of vaccines and all vaccine-related items. In anticipating time-consuming clearance process, the vaccines importation to Indonesia has been carried out by implementing Immediate-Release facility. The Immediate-Release facility enables the vaccines and vaccine-related items to be released by only submitting complementary document, accompanied with required import permits and guarantee or submission of the Minister of Finance (MoF) Decree for taxation and import duties exemption purposes.

Physical inspection is carried out aiming merely for identity check and condition check of the sealed container (envirotainer). Meanwhile, the Import Declaration can be submitted later in within 3 (three) working days post goods-release, which further be used for tariff and customs value assessment process.

For time efficiency, prior to the vaccines arrival period, the Indonesia Customs, relevant government agencies and importers actively conduct coordination, consultations and confirmations in order to ensure the import formalities compliance thus unexpected constraint during the clearance process can be avoided.

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

Required documents for COVID-19 Vaccines importation are as follows:
a. Import Permits:
   - Import permit from the National Agency on Drugs and Food Control (Circulation Permit, Import Information Letter); and,
   - Fiscal Recommendations from the Ministry of Health, for business entities to obtain tax and import duties exemption;
   - Minister of Finance (MoF) Decree for taxation and import duty exemption;
   - Guarantee, provided the taxation and import duty exemption doesn’t apply;
   - Customs Complementary Documents: Invoice, Packing List, and Airway Bill/ Bill of Lading;
   - Immediate-Release Facility Application;
   - Import Declaration, in within 3 (three) days post goods-release;
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?

The national authorities responsible for the implementation of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of COVID-19 vaccine importation are Indonesia Customs, Indonesia National Single Window Agency, National Agency on Drugs and Food Control and Ministry of Health that collaborate and cooperate according and with regard to the joint SOP on Procedures of Vaccine Imports for COVID-19 Counter-Measures Purposes No.PW.01.16.3.35.11.20.01; No.FP.03.04/IV/1835/2020; No.KEP-244/BC/2020; and No.1/LNSW/2020.

The inter-agencies cooperation carries out simplification on import permit services and the implementation of risk management during the vaccines clearance process. The simplification is provided in the form of Single Submission in an integrated import permit application through the application system provided by Indonesia National Single Window Agency. However, the documents examination and physical inspection as well as the clearance process are undertaken only by Indonesia Customs agency.

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

Approximately 2 Hours (Immediate-Release facility) for customs clearance (excluding pre-clearance and post-clearance) provided all required documents have been completed.

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

The Indonesia government through the Directorate General of Customs and Excise (Indonesia Customs Agency) has provided taxation and import duty exemption facilities for the importation of Covid-19 vaccines and vaccine-related items by issuing Minister of Finance (MoF) Regulation No.188/PMK.04/2020 on Provision of Customs and/or Excise as well as Taxation Facility on Import of Vaccine Procurement in the Context of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic Handling.

The taxation and import duty exemption according to the MoF Regulation No. 188/PMK.04/2020 includes taxation and import duty exemption for the importation of vaccines, vaccine raw materials, and equipment needed for vaccine production, as well as equipment used for the vaccinations procedure for Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) handling purposes.

Please include any other relevant information you wish to share.

The COVID-19 vaccines importation to Indonesia is under the service and supervision of Soekarno Hatta Customs Office of Indonesia. For business process effectiveness and efficiency, the Soekarno Hatta Customs Office of Indonesia has initiated Task Force for Service Acceleration on the Importation of Goods Used for COVID-19 Handling Purposes, that is responsible for providing assistance to enable the stakeholders to perform importation practice that comply with the applicable regulations and procedures.