

Directorate General of Customs – Guinea

11 April 2020

Measures adopted by Customs to manage the COVID-19 pandemic

1. Measures to facilitate the cross-border movement of relief consignments and essential supplies

1.1. Appointment of Lt. Colonel Peve Toure (Head of the Communications and Public Relations Service) as COVID-19 contact point (e-mail: tourepeve648@gmail.com, tel.: +224 628559109)

1.2. The COVID-19 contact point is a member of the National Strategy Commission for the fight against COVID-19, attends all meetings at the national level and supports the work of Customs offices in implementing the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) developed as part of the WCO C-RED Project.

1.3. Implementation of the Standard Operating Procedure.

1.4. Customs offices at the borders are operational 7 days a week and 24 hours a day, providing a basic service.

1.5. Relief consignments are delivered immediately, subject to a Customs declaration for exemption from duties and taxes.

2. Measures to support the economy and ensure supply chain continuity

2.1. Commercial operations are proceeding as normal, and Customs clearance procedures can now be completed much more quickly and with tax benefits on imports of relief consignments.

2.2. The borders are not closed to commercial transactions; carriers must hold a sanitary authorization, and their movements are monitored by the sanitary and administrative authorities.

2.3. Duty and tax payments for importers are staggered.

3. Measures to ensure protection for Customs Administration personnel

3.1. Customs personnel use gloves and protective masks, hygiene kits and hand sanitizers. Premises are disinfected regularly. A temperature check is compulsory on entering all Customs posts, services and offices.

4. Measures to ensure protection for the public

4.1. Customs requires customers to practise social distancing from each other, comply with the prescribed protective practices, wear masks and gloves, and wash their hands.

4.2. A special team has been set up to ensure that these rules are complied with.

4.3. Customs organizes awareness-raising and information meetings for the public and distributes hygiene kits and sanitary supplies and equipment free of charge to the citizens of the various municipalities.

5. Other measures

5.1. All people who have been in contact with infected patients are confined to their homes for 14 days, while Customs officers who have been infected are immediately taken into the care of the Department of Health via the National Agency for Sanitary Safety (ANSS).