

Department of Customs – Nepal  
15 April 2020

MEASURES ADOPTED IN RESPONSE OF COVID – 19

**1. Measures aiming to Facilitate the Cross-border Movement of Relief and Essential Supplies**

1.1. Formulation of **Quick Response Team (QRT)** in the Deputy Director General (Coordinator) at the customs headquarter, which coordinate all the customs offices, customs clearance any issues and concerned stakeholders to facilitate the movement of Relief and essential supplies.

1.2. Expedited the regular customs clearance process and make the provision of customs clearance of the relief goods and essential medical items within 2 hours' time.

1.3. Customs Duty has exempted in relief and medical items and provision of wavier some of the required documents of customs clearance for the relief, other essential medical items and essential items.

1.4 Conduct regular coordination meeting with counterpart border customs and Headquarter level coordination meeting with major trade partner countries.

1.5 **QRT** is Coordinating with concerned Government agencies and private stakeholder for maintain the regular supplies in the time of crisis.

**2. Measures aiming at Supporting the Economy and Sustaining Supply Chain Continuity**

2.1. All customs offices are in operation regularly with adequate customs staffs.

2.2. During Customs clearance , the copy documents are accepted and make the provision of attaching online , submission of original documents has not mandatory during this period

2.3. Regularly updating the risk management criteria and increased the percentage of green and yellow lane customs clearance than earlier.

2.4 **Quick response team** is coordinating with private sector, concerned agencies, customs officials ( 24\*7

**3. Measures aiming at Protecting Customs administrations' Staff**

- 3.1. Prepared and implemented the Safety guidelines for customs offices (personal safety, social distancing, documents handing, disinfestation, sanitation of drivers, use of health desk, awareness provision of covid-19 transmission )
- 3.2 Provide personal protective equipment like mask, Gloves and sanitizer to customs officials
- 3.3. Applying the social distance measures while working at customs
- 3.4. Safety procedure for disinfect the vehicle, cargo and the measures should be taken by customs officials for clearance cargo

#### **4. Measures aiming at Protecting Society**

- 4.1. **Provide** Safety procedure for disinfect the yard, vehicle, cargo and the measures has taken.
- 4.2. Establish health desk at frontline in customs and drivers health check-up is strictly applied in the border points and sanitization of drivers.
- 4.3. Make the provision of certain time quarantine of the cargos in the customs yard before exit

#### **5. Other Measures.**

- 5.1. Designated place for off-loading and clearance the cargo in customs yard.
- 5.2. Provision of holding and segregation of cargos and vehicle in designated area
- 5.3. Customs offices are practising regular disinfecting the office and customs yards.