

Colombia

ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT

Considering the content of Article 10 of the TFA and in summary, the National Tax and Customs Directorate (DIAN)´s Customs Directorate, together with its trade facilitation and Customs operation sub-directorates, and with the support of the sectional directorates of the different regions, constantly check that the import, export and transit procedures are adopted and/or applied correctly, and in the shortest time possible.

The foreign trade facilitation sub-directorate has the task of checking that there are no wasteful or useless procedures carried out. This is regulated in Articles 21, 22 and 27 of Decree 1742 of 2020.

Decree 1742 of 2020:

<https://www.suin-juriscal.gov.co/viewDocument.asp?id=30040261>

Relevant government agencies:

- Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales -DIAN. (National Tax and Customs Directorate). Customs Authorities. Link.

<https://www.dian.gov.co/aduanas/Paginas/Inicio.aspx>

- Ministerio de Comercio Industria y Turismo. (Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism) Link.

<https://www.mincit.gov.co/>

- INVIMA Instituto Nacional de Vigilancia de Medicamentos y Alimentos. (“National Institute for the Surveillance of Medicines and Food”) Link.

<https://www.invima.gov.co/>

- ICA Instituto Nacional Agropecuario. (National Agricultural Institute). Link.

<https://www.ica.gov.co/>

- SIC Superintendency of Industry and Commerce – Technical regulations - certificates of compliance with technical standards . Link

<https://www.sic.gov.co/reglamentos-tecnicos>

- Ministry of Defense (importation of war material). Link

<https://www.mindefensa.gov.co/irj/portal/Mindefensa>

- Ministry of foreign relations. Link

<https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/>

- Ministry of Justice. Single Normative Information System (“Juriscol”). Link

<https://www.suin-juriscal.gov.co/>

- Andean Community. Link

<https://www.comunidadandina.org/>

- World Customs Organization. Link

<http://www.wcoomd.org/>

- World Trade Organization. Link

<https://www.wto.org/>

- ALADI Asociación Latinoamericana de Integración. Link

<https://www.aladi.org/sitioaladi/>

- Ministry of Health and Social Protection / National Narcotics Fund (“Fondo Nacional de Estupefacientes”). Link

<https://www.minsalud.gov.co/salud/MT/Paginas/fondo-nacional-de-estupefacientes-fne.aspx>

Relevant private agencies and industry groups:

- National Association of Industrials (Spanish abbrev. “ANDI”). Link

<https://www.andi.com.co/>

- The National Association of Shipowners and Maritime Agents (Spanish abbrev. “ASONAV”). Link

<https://www.asonav.org>

- National Trade Council ((Spanish abbrev. “CGN”). Link

<https://cgn.org.co/>

- Colombian Federation of Logistics Agents in International Trade (Spanish abbrev. “FITAC”). Link

<https://fitac.net/>

- Latin American Conference of Express Transport Companies (Spanish abbrev. “CLADEC”). Link

<https://cladec.org.co/>

- Colombian Association of Flower Exporters (Spanish abbrev. “ASOCOLFLORES”). Link

<https://asocolflores.org/es/>

- Association of the Automotive Sector and Its Parts (Spanish abbrev. "ASOPARTES").
Link <https://asopartes.com/>
- Colombian Federation of Road Freight Transporters (Spanish abbrev. "COLFECAR").
Link <https://www.colfecar.org.co/>

CASE STUDY

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The import declarants are obliged to obtain before the presentation and acceptance of the import declaration and keep for five years, counted from said date, originals of the supporting documents, and make them available to the customs authority.

Among the formalities of the import declarations are the documents required for those goods that demand a requirement, permit or authorization by the competent entities, which are linked to the Single Window for Foreign Trade (Spanish abbreviation: VUCE), where licenses and import registrations are processed. This procedure is carried out on the internet via the Ministry of Foreign Trade's VUCE page with a digital signature.

In any import process, it is worth clarifying that the approval procedures must be carried out before the merchandise arrives in Colombia. Merchandise that does not comply with the approval procedures can be seized by DIAN.

The approvals needed for import may be from:

- Colombian Institute of Agriculture (ICA): Vegetables, Animals, by-products of animal origin, by-products of plant origin and requirements for wooden packaging.
- Ministry of the Environment, Housing and Territorial Development: Products pertaining to the International Convention on Endangered Specimens of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).
- National Institute for Food and Drug Surveillance (INVIMA): Medicines, alcoholic beverages, food, electro-medical products, cosmetics and natural products.
- INGEOMINAS: Emeralds, precious stones, payment of royalties, payment of parafiscal taxes, products such as radioactive isotopes, heavy water and, in general, controls that are required for being radioactive.
- Ministry of Culture: Paintings, oils and sculptures.
- INDUMIL: military insignia, weapons, ammunition and some chemical products for the manufacture of gunpowder.
- National Narcotics Fund: some controlled chemicals and controlled raw material for the manufacture of medicines.
- Superintendency of Surveillance and Private Security: Personal defense articles, armored vehicles and closed circuit television.
- Superintendency of Industry: Fabrics, footwear, tires, toys, etc.
- Ministry of Transport: vehicles for cargo use, vehicles such as trailers or semi-trailers and vehicles for the transport of people.