

Myanmar

Basic Information on Humanitarian Aid Import Requirements
v.1.0 – May 2008

Access: Public



Myanmar

Customs Information: D&T Exemption and Customs Clearance

This dossier contains general customs information on the duties and taxes exemption system and customs clearance in **Myanmar**. It is expected that more information will be made available in the coming days.

For any more specific information please contact:

Lt.Col Kyaw Win
Director (Import/Export)
Custom Dept; 132, Strand Rd, Kyauktadar Tsp, Yangon
Tel: + 95 253046/51, +95 1 24 81 73 (Director General)
Fax: + 95-1-281847/296744
Email: mcd.ygn@mptmail.net.mm

or

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief & Resettlement (Responsible for Emergency Relief and Disaster Management)
Bldg. (23), Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: +95 067-40 -404021 ~22, 404337

Date: 07/04/2008

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For more information check www.unjlc.org or send an email to customs@unjlc.org

About the UNJLC: The United Nations Joint Logistic Centre (UNJLC) is an inter-agency Humanitarian Common Service. Its mandate is to provide Logistics Information Management support and services. This involves providing an information platform for the gathering, collating, analysis and dissemination of logistics information as well as Commodity Tracking and Prioritization services. UNJLC operates under the custodianship of WFP which is responsible for the administrative and financial oversight of the Centre. UNJLC is funded from voluntary contributions channeled through WFP.

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Customs Info - Humanitarian Aid - Duties & Taxes Exemption and Customs Clearance

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

International Conventions

Myanmar is a member state of the World Customs Organization (WCO), having ratified the Convention establishing a Customs Co-operation Council on 25-March-1991. This Convention entered into force on 4-Nov-1952.

The only international body of Customs law that contains a specific chapter binding states to facilitate the work of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance is the revised Kyoto Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (with its Annex J-5 on the Special Procedure for Relief Material). Myanmar has not signed/ratified this Convention. They also have not signed/ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations or the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency.

Myanmar is a signatory to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations since 25-January-1955. Article II, Section 7 states that the United Nations will be exempt of all customs duties on imports for official use. However, they are not a signatory of the United Nations Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies.

Regional/National Agreements and Memberships

ASEAN

The purpose of the ASEAN is to accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership, in order to strengthen the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful community of South-East Asian Nations; and to promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries of the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter. Among other things, they are working towards a comprehensive ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA). More information can be found at www.aseansec.org.

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WTO

The WTO helps trade flow smoothly, freely, fairly and predictably". Its roles are:

- Acting as a forum for trade negotiations
- Administering trade agreements
- Settling trade disputes
- Reviewing national trade policies
- Assisting developing countries in trade policy issues, through technical assistance and training programmes
- Cooperating with other international organizations

More information can be found at www.wto.org.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION (Humanitarian Aid and Customs)

For specific information please contact the focal point listed below or the Ministry of Revenue and Finance.

Duty Exemption

In the interest of the state, the **Minister of Revenue and Finance** may, by notification, exempt partially or wholly from levy of customs duties in respect of any of the following cases:

- a. Nature and type of goods exported from Myanmar or imported into Myanmar
- b. Nature and type of goods exported from Myanmar or imported into Myanmar by any government department or any organization.

DUTIES & TAXES EXEMPTION APPLICATION PROCEDURE (Generalities)

The Government's approval for importation needs to be obtained prior to arrival of cargo. Tax is exempted for humanitarian food assistance and a Tax Exemption Certificate needs to be obtained prior to the cargo clearance. Please contact the Ministry of Revenue and Finance for more information.

Please see the Document Information section of the Customs Clearance category (below) for additional import information.

CUSTOMS CLEARANCE – GENERAL INFORMATION

Document Information

Under the existing rules and regulations all incoming consignments of the goods must be cleared through the Customs Department under Import Declaration Form (CUSDEC – 1). The Import Declaration Form is to be accompanied by the following documents:

1. Import licence / permit
2. Invoice
3. Bill of Lading or Air Consignment Note
4. Packing List
5. Other Certificates and Permits issued by the relevant Government Departments as a condition for Import.

Involved in the import process, the Food and Drug Administration Department of the Ministry of Health must inspect food commodities and issue a Health Certificate. The Trade Council of the Ministry of Trade also must issue a certificate for other commodities.

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Prohibited Items

Common types of goods prohibited from importation into Myanmar are as follows:

counterfeit coins and currencies, pornographic articles, piece goods without stamped measurement, goods having counterfeit trade mark, all kinds of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, playing cards, goods bearing the imprint or reproduction of the flag of the Union of Myanmar, goods bearing the emblem of Buddha and pagodas of Myanmar

General Restrictions

The following items require government approval from the relevant agencies (in brackets):

- (a) Live animals/birds (Lives Stock Breeding and Veterinary Department)
- (b) Arms (Myanmar Police Force)
- (c) Medicines/drugs (Myanmar Food & Drugs Authority)
- (d) Live plants/seeds/soil (Myanmar Agricultural Service)
- (e) Telecommunication equipment, including mobile phones (Telecommunication Department)

Comments

The Government's approval for importation needs to be obtained prior to arrival of cargo and customs clearance.

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CUSTOMS AUTHORITY FOCAL POINT

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Web	http://www.myanmar.com/Ministry/finance/custom_page.htm
Language of correspondence	English