

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, MUMBAI ZONE II
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MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (CCFC)
MEETING HELD ON 14.01.2020 AT JNCH

The meeting of Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) was held on 14.01.2020 at 11.00 A.M. in the Conference Room, at the 6th floor of the Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House, under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek Johri, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II.

2. Following personnel and representatives from regulatory agencies and various stakeholders attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name of the Organization	Name of the Representative & Designation
1.	TEXTILES COMMITTEE	Sh. Prasenjit Khandere, quality asst. Officer
2.	FSSAI, WR, MUMBAI	Dr. Krishna Methekar, Deputy Director
3.	Drug Controller Office	Sh. Ravindra R. Shripad, Drugs Inspector
4.	RPQS, Mumbai	Dr. Nilesh S. , Sr. Technical Officer
5.	RPQS, Mumbai	Sh. A.K. Meena, Plants Protection officer
6.	JNPT	Sh. Avinash Buge
7.	JNPT	Sh. P.G. Rao
8.	BMCT	Sh. Faiz Sayyed, Senior Manager
9.	BMCT	Sh. K Arul Raj
10.	DP WORLD-NSICT/NSIGT	Shri Sanjeev Kabbur
11.	DP WORLD-NSICT/NSIGT	Sh. Ajay Moghe, Head Ops
12.	APMT-GTI	Sh. Prashant Mhatre
13.	APMT-GTI	Sh. Dinesh Prasad
14.	MSWA	Sh. Omprakash Agarwal, President
15.	Maharashtra Chamber Commerce & Agriculture	Sh. Ashish Pednekar, Trustee
16.	Mirc Elec. Ltd. Onida	Ms. Archana Ghosh Roy
17.	Mirc Elec. Ltd. Onida	Sh. VK Agarwal, GM-EXIM
18.	CONCOR	Sh. Anil Sonwane, GGM
19.	CONCOR	Sh. Hemant , Asst. Officer
20.	Supreme Industries Ltd. (Importer)	Sh. R. Padman
21.	Reliance Industries Ltd. (Importer)	Sh. Dayanand Kotian, Gen. Mgr
22.	Balkrishna Industries Ltd. (Importer)	Sh. KK Johnson, Sr. DGM
23.	BASF India	Sh. Mayur Kapasi
24.	Bennett & Coleman Ltd.	Sh. Ramesh
25.	AIWCBA	Ms. Sheetal
26.	BCBA	Sh. Paresh Thakkar
27.	BCBA	Sh. S. Shetty

28.	BCBA	Shri Hiren Ruparel, Member MGM. Committee
29.	CSLA	Capt. Savio, Interasia shipping line
30.	CSLA	Sh. ShaileshKoli
31.	CSLA	Sh. V M Thomas
32.	AMTOI	Sh. R.K. Rubin
33.	CFSAI	Shri Umesh Grover, Secretary General, CFSAI
34.	CFSAI	Shri LakshaTadadikar, MC Member & CEO EFC CFS
35.	CFSAI	Sh. Salim, Ameya Logistics Pvt. Ltd.
36.	MANSA	Shri Manish Kumar, Sr. Manager
37.	MANSA	Shri Bakshi Md. Hanif, Sr. Manager
38.	Maersk Line	Sh. VM Thomas, Sr. Manager

The department was represented by the following officers:

Sr. No.	Name of the officer & designation
1.	Shri S. Vimalnathan, Commissioner of Customs, NS- III
2.	Shri Sunil Kumar Mall, Commissioner of Customs, NS-I & Audit
3.	Shri Sanjay Mahendru, Commissioner of Customs, NS-Gen& NS-II
4.	Shri R.K. Mishra, Commissioner of Customs, NS-V
5.	Shri Dipin Singla, Joint Commissioner of Customs, CCO
6.	Shri Vishal D. Jaronde, Addl. Commissioner of Customs
7.	Shri Vijay Manvatkar, Addl. Commissioner of Customs, Disposal
8.	Shri Rajiv Ranjan, Addl. Commissioner of Customs
9.	Ms. Pallavi Gupta, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, CCO

3. The Chair welcomed all members and wished all a very happy new year. He informed that the Time Release Study was on from 1st Jan to 7th Jan for which the data is still being worked on. He thanked everyone for cooperation particularly Brokers. Chair informed that it is expected that the average release time may come down to 80 hours in comparison to 104 hours of the last year. Initial leads in case of Export shows significant improvement.

Chair also touched upon the revenue position of this Customs House and informed that the low growth in revenue collections is a cause of concern. He urged the trade to expedite duty payments including settlement of arrears.

4. Ms. Pallavi Gupta, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, CCO made a power point presentation in respect of Dwell Time, highlighting the time taken in clearance of cargo by trade represented through Customs Broker, Customs and PGAs in the month of November, 2019.

Chair expressed concern over the time taken by FSSAI in granting of NOC. He asked representatives of FSSAI to work to improve this time taken in granting of NOC.

5. Pending issues from earlier CCFCs and Agenda Points were taken up for discussion by DC, CCO.

5.1 Publishing of CB EODB Scorecard:

During the last meeting, publishing of CB EODB Scorecard on JNCH website was discussed and BCBA was asked to give its comments on the issue.

In this regard, it is informed that a meeting was convened by the Commissioner of Customs (NS-III) with representatives of BCBA and was requested by BCBA to maintain the confidentiality of the scorecard and status quo to be maintained for the time being. Chair decided that the current practice of keeping the EODB scorecard confidential may continue. The point was closed.

(Point Closed)

5.2 Difficulty in execution of Dual-use Bond with ADC

During the last meeting over the issue of submission of application for NOC electronically, Chair directed ADC to take up the matter with their Ministry to make the process online. Chair also asked BCBA to submit suggestions on reducing steps while issuing ADC NOC after studying the process of execution of Dual Use Bond.

DC, CCO informed Chair that there are 2 issues in relation to this point. First one is online NOC is not granted and the other one is the high time taken to grant NOC which is as high as 10-11 days.

On being asked, representative from ADC informed that the matter regarding electronicsystem for issuance of dual use NOC has been taken up with the higher authorities. He informed that a meeting had been held with higher authorities and they will soon start online NOC. Chair asked them to issue a NOC and upload the same on eSANCHIT for reference to all.

Chair informed the committee that CDSCO, Mumbai had already put in place a system of issuance of NOC for one year at a time for manufacturers-importers. He requested the representative to send written communication of the same so that a public notice can be issued. He also asked representatives of Drug Controller to issue a public notice citing the detailed procedure and requirements for issuance of one time NOC for Dual use items for the manufacturers and importers. He asked them to provide the list of dual-use items and also to upload the list on their website. They were also requested to update the list as and when required.

[Action: ADC]

Chair enquired from all the PGAs about their status of uploading LPCOs on eSANCHIT. On deliberation, Chair directed EDI Section to organise a training session for officers of the Textile Committee and PQ since they have already been able to successfully register with ICEGATE for the purpose. The training session should be organised within the next two weeks. The other PGAs were requested to obtain registration without further delay.

[Action: All PGAs, EDI]

5.3 Procurement/ Installation of container scanner at Port:

During last meeting, the Chair had asked Traffic Manager JNPT to ensure installation of Mobile Scanner by August and inform before the next CCFC accordingly.

In this regard, representative from JNPT informed Chair that EDI connectivity for the scanners is expected to be completed by last week of January. He further updated that SITE Acceptance Test for one scanner is to be completed by second week of February, operationalising the first machine by end of February. It was also informed that rest two Scanners are expected to get operationalised by end of March.

[Action: JNPT]

5.4 Time Taken for evacuation of DPD containers (Port to declare):

During the last meeting, Chair directed the terminals to share data with DPD Cell on average evacuation/release time on monthly basis.

In this regard, data had been provided by each terminal to the DPD Cell. Chair observed the data provided by the terminals and enquired about the delay in evacuation of DPD-DPD containers which is having an average of beyond 48 hours. Chair expressed his concern over this delay in evacuation of DPD-DPD containers and directed all the terminals to monitor the issue closely so as to bring down this evacuation time within the targeted time limit.

[Action: Terminals]

5.5 Longstanding containers put on hold in CFSs, by investigating agencies:

Issue regarding long-standing containers that are put on hold by various agencies such as SIIB, DRI etc. was deliberated in the last meeting. Chair had asked Commr Gen to convene meeting with CFS and other related agencies and submit the progress report.

In this regard, Commr. Gen informed that two meetings were convened with representatives of CFSAI and separate meetings with parties having long standing containers and writ petition filed in High Court were also held. He informed that a lot of progress has been made with regard to longstanding containers and the progress report shall be presented before the Chair before next CCFC meeting.

[Action: Commissioner NS-GEN]

5.6 Continuity Bond with Container Cell:

During the last meeting, MANSA had informed that in case of change in Agency, there should be a provision to transfer Bond from old Agency to New, on the basis of required documents submitted by both the Agents.

During the deliberation on the issue, Commr. Gen informed that a public notice would be issued within 2 weeks time which would resolve the issue.

(Action: Commissioner (NS-G))

5.7 Recovery of Terminal charges:

During the last meeting, the representatives of M/s Benett Coleman, Supreme Industries and Reliance, present in the meeting informed Chairman that Shipping Lines are collecting high amount for Terminal Handling Charges, which is a service given by Port Terminal. They further informed that the THC charged by Terminals as per TAMP is much less than that collected by Shipping Lines on behalf of Terminals from Importers. They requested the Chair that such malpractice by Shipping Lines should be stopped and alternatively, they being DPD client of JNCH and having PD account at all Terminals, be allowed to pay THC directly to the Port Terminals. Chair asked for the comments of CSLA/MANSA on the issue.

During the detailed deliberation on this issue, Chair directed Shipping lines to provide importers a details and segregation of Terminal Handling Charges. He also directed to enclose copies to importers, of the Terminal Handling invoices issued to the Shipping lines by Terminals. CSLA requested for one month time to discuss the issue at their end.

It has been decided that the importers having AEO status and those who are availing DPD facility for containerized cargo may be allowed the facility of paying Terminal Handling Charges (THC) directly to the Terminal Operators instead of paying through Shipping Lines. Therefore, all such eligible importers who have already opened P.D. Account with the Terminal Operators may pay terminal handling charges directly to the respective Terminals. The eligible importers who do not have P.D. Accounts may open P.D. Accounts with the concerned Ports/Terminals and pay terminal handling charges directly to the concerned Ports/Terminals. Ports/Terminals are also requested to explore the possibility to raise invoices for THC directly to the eligible and willing importers and allow them to pay directly to Terminals.

(Action: Terminals, DPD Cell)

5.8 Delay in transmission of vessel data from PCS to ICEGATE system & no provision to view vessel details on ICEGATE:

During the last meeting, CSLA has informed that Vessel details (New vessel / change of vessel name/change of call sign etc.) are updated in the PCS system by the vessel operator, which is approved by the Port Harbor Master after verifying all the documents. After the approval of the Harbor Master, the vessel details are then transmitted from the PCS system to the ICEGATE system which gets delayed on several occasions. There is no visibility to the shipping lines if the ICEGATE has received the vessel details from the PCS system or not. The ICEGATE has provision to generate rotation numbers electronically, but in this rotation application, there is no provision to view the vessel name. Hence at times, the rotation number gets processed with the old / wrong vessel name. ICEGATE should be requested to auto populate the vessel name whenever IMO/CALL sign of a vessel is given by the user in the electronic rotation application. PCS should also be requested to share the vessel data with the ICEGATE on a real time basis.

Chair directed MANSA to share the screenshot that appears on their screen so that the matter may be taken up with DG Systems.

(Action: MANSA)

5.9 PGAs to give list of Out of Scope Items on weekly basis:

All the PGAs had been requested to provide the list of Out of Scope items on regular basis. It was informed that ADC is in a process of preparing the list and rest other PGAs were requested to share the link with Customs so as to upload the same on JNCH website for reference.

(Action: PGAs)

5.10 SOP required from PGAs for samples sent for testing-

BCBA informed that samples are drawn for purpose of testing by all PGAs. In this regard they have requested for SOP regarding what quantity is required for testing purpose in grams/litres/No. of bobbins: Metres/ food grains in kgs etc. to make speedy clearance. There are many instances where PGAs have raised query because the Sample size was found to be inadequate.

In this regard, representative from FSSAI and PQ informed that SOPs have already been notified on their website. It was further informed that sampling in case of FSSAI & PQ is done by their officers only and not by Customs. Commr. (NS-I) informed Chair that a Standing Order no. 02/2020 dated 13.01.2020 had been issued providing SOP in regards to sampling in case of Textile.

[Action: Point Closed]

6. Following New Points were taken up in CCFC by DC CCO.

6.1 Reforms from PGA for AEO Clients

BCBA informed Chair in reference to CBIC Circular no. 33/2016 with regards to facilitation programme for (AEO) and requested PGAs or other stakeholders to announce any reforms which may further help in promoting AEO Programme to save cost and make clearance easier.

In this regard, Chair directed to take up the matter with DG Systems to enable the message that gets exchanged between ICES and PGAs to bear a flag indicating the status of AEO Clients. During the deliberation on the issue, an idea of making some arrangements for issuing NOC at local area instead of visiting the offices of PGAs outside of Mumbai. He directed to share the idea with International Customs Division for further proposal in coming NCTF Meeting.

[Action: JC/AEO]

6.2 Option of EDIT or AMEND while filing application through SIMS

BCBA informed Chair in regards to Steel Import Monitoring System which has been implemented since 01/11/2019. Members have been generating SIMS number through DGFT site after payment. Since there is no option of EDIT or amendment option available, members have no option but to file fresh application and again repay the charges.

In this regard, Chair directed to write a letter to DGFT on the issue.

[Action: Commissioner NS-III]

6.3 CCR to specify "Hazardous Goods" imported at JNCH.

BCBA informed that hazardous goods which are imported at JNCH, CCR doesn't specify about hazardous in nature due to which Group has to give Examination order to open and examine which increases the dwell time for clearance as well the transaction cost.

In this regard, BCBA has given an exhaustive list of hazardous goods. Chair directed Commissioner (NS-I) to write a letter to RMD on the issue.

[Action: Commissioner NS-I]

6.4 Implementation of Board Circular No. 35/2018

This is in reference to uploading of Licenses/Certificates/permits etc. As per Board's Circular, IRN to be granted after uploading necessary licenses. BCBA has requested to the implement the circular.

The matter has already been discussed above. Chair reiterated to organise a training session for PQ and TC and for others, matter to be taken up with DG Systems for completion of registration process.

[Action: ADC, EDI]

6.5 Testing of Samples

BCBA requested in order to reduce dwell time, to review their mechanism and issue circular like the way, FSSAI has issued circular in regards to goods tested by ISO 17025 accredited labs for testing of imported proprietary foods done at exporting country.

During the deliberation on issue, Chair directed to float the idea with the PGAs.

[Action: BCBA]

6.6 Disparity in the collection of DPD related charges by the Terminals

According to CSLA, in case of DPD-CFS containers, the CFS is moving the containers on behalf of the consignees. Hence any dwell time or related charges, the Terminals must collect it either from Consignee or CFS and not charge S/Line. But Still, there is a disparity in the collection of DPD related charges by the Terminals. Whilst GTI collects the charges from Consignees in the DPD-CFS, other Terminals are still charging to the S/Lines. Although it was discussed and decided in the CCFC dated 08.03.2019 for collection from Consignees.

After the detailed deliberation on the issue, He was not convinced with the reasons of CSLA on the issue and directed DC/CCO to revisit the minutes of the earlier meeting to which CSLA and MANSa have referred to.

[Action: DC/CCO]

6.7 Clarification in case of DPD-CFS containers

CSLA sought clarification in case of DPD-CFS containers referring to the terminals statement in the last PTFC meeting wherein it was told that they do not check if the OOC is done or not prior to the movement of the container from the Port. Whereas as we know, these containers are very much considered as DPD and must be moved only after OOC.

Chair directed Commissioner (Gen.) to study the process and submit a report on the issue.

[Action: Commr. (Gen)]

6.8 Delay in getting an email confirming Inward Entry

CSLA/MANSa informed that there is a delay in getting an email confirming Inward entry, the Terminal insists for Hard copy Inward entry report, to start the operation. This is waste of time and against the EODB. This needs to be streamlined to ensure the Inward Entry Report is emailed terminal before the arrival of the vessel. The Terminal should be allowed to start operations, in case there is a delay to update Inward Entry due to whatever reasons if any.

On the issue, Commr. (Gen) informed that there are regular email being sent to the terminals confirming Inward Entry. It was also informed during the deliberation that only one terminal i.e. GTI had not been receiving the email and only for a few cases. Chair directed Commr. (Gen) to ensure that emails are sent to the terminals without any delay.

[Action: Commr. (Gen)]

6.9 Empty unit not returned by BCBA registered CHA.

In this regard, Chair informed the members that there should not be specific cases being taken up in the platforms like CCFC. These kind of matters should be dealt separately.

[Action: Point closed]

6.10 Pending dues for long-stay from CFS to Shipping lines for 3rd party movement where auction is still not completed.

After detailed deliberations on the issue, Chair directed CFSAI to adhere to the laws clearly mentioned in the Customs Act. He was informed of the particular case to which he clearly directed to consider only generic issues and not specific cases during the CCFC meeting. He directed CSLA to share the list of such cases with ADC Sh. Vijay Manvatkar for required action.

[Action: Point closed]

6.11 CDSCO not honouring their own Circular dated 22.10.2019 in regards to granting of one time NOC to Actual User importing items of dual use for non medicinal purposes for one year based on assessment of atleast one year data and written undertaking from manufacturer.

The matter has been already discussed above.

[Action: Point closed]

6.12 Movement of Domestic Containers by Rail/Road through terminals of JN Port:

CONCOR informed Chair that they have been granted the facility of "Movement of Domestic Containers by Rail/Road through Terminals of JN Port" vide PN 114/2018 dated 01.08.2018 & Addendum to PN 114/2018 dated 22.10.2018. The other stakeholders have objected to this facility given to CONCOR by expressing various concerns. CONCOR requested to extend the facility for further one year.

Chair informed the members that this matter should be dealt with separately. He directed Commr. (Gen) to examine the issue.

[Action: Commr. (Gen)]

6.13 Poor condition of toilets in Parking Plaza

BCBA informed Chair of the pathetic conditions of the toilets available in the parking plazas. Representative of BCBA shared some photographs for perusal of Chair which had been clicked very recently. He informed that CHA fraternity has been shouting on the condition of toilets and canteen in parking plaza and has become difficult to work in such poor condition.

Chair showed his concern after looking at the photographs and made a remark that in the age of 'swachta abhiyaan', such condition is not acceptable. He enquired representatives of terminals on the issue. He even told that he had been speaking and requesting for the basic infrastructure in the plazas. He requested all the terminals to maintain the facility in the plazas within 15 days and also directed Commissioner (Gen) to take a follow up.

[Action: Terminals, Commissioner (Gen)]

7. During the deliberation on various issues, Chair directed DC/CCO to ensure higher-level participation from PGAs or other stakeholders so that officers who are competent to take decisions attend the meeting.
8. After discussion over all the agenda points of CCFC, the Chair concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks.
9. This issues with the approval of the Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Customs Zone-II.

Sd/- 21.02.2020

(Nand Kishore Prasad)
Assistant Commissioner of Customs
Chief Commissioner's Office
Mumbai Customs Zone-II

Copy to:

1. Member (Customs), Member (Zone), CBEC, New Delhi
2. All Commissioner of Customs, JNCH, Mumbai Zone-II
3. DC/EDI, JNCH (with a request to upload the minutes on website)
4. All members of CCFC Meeting (via e-mail)
5. Office Copy