Nepal

Source: IMPACCT/UN OCHA

18.08.2020

Bulletin n° 6 - CIQP : 18 August 2020 (Bulletin on Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

19.08.2020

Bulletin n° 2 - CIQP : 19 August 2020 (Bulletin on Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

02.07.2020

- Domestic flights and public transport have also been suspended while the lockdown remains in effect.
- All border crossing points remain closed except for food commodities, fuel, medical and essential supplies.
- The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has a hub in the Nepalese capital, Kathmandu.

- More information in the attached bulletin on CIQPs

Source: WCO/Department of Customs – Nepal

15.04.2020

MEASURES ADOPTED IN RESPONSE OF COVID – 19

Remarks from the International Road Transport Union

23.06.2020

As from 15 June, the Government of Nepal has decided to ease the lockdown, allowing shops to open and vehicles to operate under the odd-even rule within a district. Vehicles cannot undertake intercity trips and public transport vehicles are not allowed to operate. Borders remain closed. Such provisions will apply for three weeks starting from 15 June.

Source: Nepal Automobiles' Association (NASA)

06.05.2020

On 27 April, the Government of Nepal extended the national lockdown until 18 May.

Source: Nepal Automobiles' Association (NASA)

30.03.2020

The government of Nepal has extended the lockdown until 7 April, 2020. All border crossing points will remain closed and restrictions remain in place for the movement of people and vehicles within the country. Emergency movements only will be permitted, with prior permission from the District Administration Office.

Source: Nepal Automobiles' Association (NASA)

26.03.2020

On Sunday 22 March, Nepal's Cabinet took the decision to shut down all customs points with China and India to prevent the movement of people from both countries. This measure will remain in place for a period of at least one week. However, import and export of goods from both sides will continue.

The Government has already decided to shut down all international flights.

From Tuesday 24 March, transport of goods and people is also restricted within Nepal. Only essential goods can be transported, and the emergency movement of people is permitted.

Source: NASA

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.

Source:

25.03.2020

1. **Resume import and export of goods from Rasuwagadhi and Tatopani border crossing points with China by following the health protocol of the Ministry of Health and Population and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development. Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Finance shall make necessary coordination regarding this matter.**

2. Continue operation of essential banking services in coordination of Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Finance.

3. Continue operation of the vehicles that deliver medicines, food items, water, milk, fruits, vegetables, livestock and fishery feeds, baby chicks, and return back. Such vehicles shall not be allowed to carry passengers.

4. Concerned companies shall arrange means of transportation for the workers involved in the production of medicine or bottling of gas to commute to and from the work. Ministry of Home Affairs shall issue necessary permits for such means of transportation.

5. Big food stores and shops shall arrange home delivery of necessary food items. For this, Ministry of Home Affairs shall issue permits to the limited number of vehicles.

6. Local levels shall facilitate the operation of shops at ward level that sell milk, vegetables, fruits and other food items ensuring that there is no crowd, people use masks and sanitizer and maintain physical distance between costumers.

7. In case there is an urgent need to transport food grains, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies in coordination shall make arrangements for air shipment of such items.

8. In order to encourage the use of induction stove, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies in coordination shall arrange rebate in electricity and customs tariffs.

9. Facilitate the return of foreign nationals that are in Nepal with the approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and are stuck at various places to their respective countries via Tribhuvan International Airport after airlifting them to Kathmandu. If the flight time of these foreign nationals is yet to be fixed, they shall be put in quarantine at hotels near the airport at their own cost during the waiting period.

10. Local levels shall update daily within each ward under their jurisdiction the records, including health details, of the persons coming from third countries and India. The Local Health Coordinator shall submit daily the details of persons with symptoms of COVID-19 to the Chief District Officer. The Chief District Officer shall send such details to National Emergency Operation Center and the Center shall send daily to National Emergency Health Operation Center by 6 p.m. in the evening.

11. Provinces and Local Levels shall arrange quarantines and operate them.

12. Ministry of Communication and Information Technology shall arrange to install four-digit toll free telephone services at the Office of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Health and Population

Source: https://lk.nepalembassy.gov.np/unofficial-translation-of-the-decision-of-hlcc-on-covid-19-25-march-2020/