

VANUATU GOVERNMENT – Corporate Services

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V A N U A T U
CUSTOMS & INLAND REVENUE
SERVICE DE LA DOUANE ET DES
CONTRIBUTIONS INDIRECTES

Public Notice No. 001 of 2015.

To: All Licensed Customs brokers, freight forwarders, Importers and Exporters.

Pursuant to the amendments made on the Import Duties Act, Excise Act and VAT Act since November 2014 and officially gazetted on the 23rd of December 2014, the adoption of the Harmonized System (HS2012) and changes to the exemption procedures and formalities has entered into force on the 1st of January 2015.

However, there have been some minor changes identified in the HS 2012 legal texts such that need some corrections. These are corrected and awaiting ministerial endorsement. Once this is done, Corrected HS 2012 Version will be circulated accordingly

It is to advise that in the Updated HS2012 version, there are a number of significant changes affected; this includes amendments reflecting a number of sectoral policy issues. Additionally there are also changes made with regards to certain tariff rates, excise as well tariff structures in addressing revenue means as well as addressing matters relating to security affecting environment and industry related issues

With regards to changes on the exemption procedures and formalities, the rational is to simplify all procedures in order to avoid possible cumbersome considered an impediment to trade facilitation. In this regard Vanuatu Customs will no longer be issuing exemption approval letters, however you are expected to directly liaise with your licensed customs brokers for their assistance in facilitating the formalities of your application through the relevant authorities for approval. For other exemption privileges where the recipient will neither require an approval nor certificate, you need to consult with your customs brokers for all relevant information required to complete the formalities.

Licensed Customs brokers and other relevant stakeholders will be notified soon to attend a brief session on these changes prior to the implementation

In the interim, if you wish to seek further information on these changes, do not hesitate to contact the Customs Revenue Section of the department of Customs & Inland Revenue on telephone (678)22168 or email gpakoa@vanuatu.gov.vu or htarosa@vanuatu.gov.vu .


Benjamin Malas

Director of Customs and Inland Revenue.

