



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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DENR Administrative Order

No. 2023 - _____

SUBJECT : **REVISED REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE EXPORTATION OF WOOD PRODUCTS**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 705, as amended dated June 11, 1975, otherwise known as the "Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines", Republic Act (R.A.) No. 1239, series of 1955, or "An Act Requiring the Registration of Agents, Contractors, and Dealers in Logs, Lumber and Commercial Piles", Executive Order (E.O.) No. 192, series of 1987, R.A. No. 10863, otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, series of 2016, and DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2017-11 or the "Updated National List of Threatened Philippine Plants and their Categories", the following regulations and guidelines are hereby promulgated for the guidance of all concerned.

SECTION 1. Basic Policy. It is the policy of the State to protect and advance a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

SECTION 2. Objectives. The objectives of this Order are the following:

- Contribute to the increase of revenue, jobs, and foreign currency reserves for the country; and
- Promote trade facilitation by streamlining the current systems and procedures for regulated wood commodities for export consistent with international best practices.

SECTION 3. Scope and Coverage. This guideline shall cover wood export products sourced from registered private tree plantations (planted trees), forestry-related tenure instruments issued by the Department, particularly those engaged in commercial roundwood production, such as Integrated Forest Management Agreement (IFMA), Socialized Industrial Forest Management Agreement (SIFMA), and Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA), and processed wood products from Wood Processing Plant (WPP) Permit, except government-funded reforestation areas.

Specifically, this guideline shall only cover the following wood export products, produced in commercial quantity, with corresponding tariff codes:

AHTN Heading No.	Regulated Wood Products for Export
44.01	Fuelwood, in logs, in billets, in twigs, in faggots or in similar forms; wood in chips or particles; sawdust and wood waste and scrap, whether or not agglomerated in logs, briquettes, pellets or similar forms.
44.02	Wood charcoal (including shell or nut charcoal), whether or not agglomerated, excluding bamboo, shell or nut, coconut shell
44.03	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared except for coniferous and other coniferous species

AHTN Heading No.	Regulated Wood Products for Export
44.04	Hoopwood; split poles; piles, pickets, and stakes of wood, pointed but not sawn lengthwise; wooden sticks, roughly trimmed but not turned, bent or otherwise worked, suitable for the manufacture of walking-sticks, umbrellas, tool handles or the like; chipwood and the like.
44.05	Wood wool; wood flour
44.06	Railway or tramway sleepers (cross-ties) of wood
44.07	Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness exceeding 6mm
44.08	Sheets for veneering (including those obtained by slicing laminated wood), for plywood or for similar laminated wood and other wood, sawn lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded, spliced or end-jointed, of a thickness not exceeding 6mm
44.09	Wood (including strips and friezes for parquet flooring, not assembled) continuously shaped (tongued, grooved, rebated, chamfered, V-jointed, beaded, moulded, rounded or the like) along any of its edges, ends or faces, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed
44.10	Particle board, oriented strand board (OSB), and similar board (e.g., waferboard) of wood or other ligneous materials, whether or not agglomerated with resins or other organic binding substances.
44.11	Fiberboard of wood or other ligneous materials, whether or not bonded with resins or other organic substances. - Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF)
44.12	Plywood, veneered panels, and similar laminated wood, blockboard, laminboard and battenboard
44.13	Densified wood, in blocks, plates, strips or profile shapes
44.18	Builders' joinery and carpentry of wood, including cellular wood panels, assembled flooring panels, shingles, and shakes

Logs, lumber, and other wood products, *except those produced from naturally grown trees and premium hardwood, derived from natural and residual forests per E.O. No. 23, and those listed under CITES Appendix I*, shall be allowed for exportation.

Species of wood included in the CITES Appendices II and III per DAO No. 2017-11 shall secure a permit or equivalent clearance from the Biodiversity Management Bureau prior to the application for Wood Export Clearance.

SECTION 4. Definition of Terms. For purposes of this Order, the following terms shall be construed to mean as defined hereunder:

- a. **ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN)** – refers to the 8-digit nomenclature, consisting of the latest version of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System of the World Customs Organization and the amendments thereto, with the addition of the seventh and eighth digits (referred as the ASEAN subheadings) and commodity description for tariff purposes. It is a tariff code that classifies commodities being imported and exported.
- b. **Bill of Lading** – refers to a transport document issued by shipping lines, carriers, and international freight forwarders or non-vessel operating common carriers for water-

borne freight. The holder or consignee of the bill has the right to claim delivery of the goods at the port of destination. It is a contract of carriage that includes carrier conditions, such as limits of liability and claims procedure. In addition, it contains transport instructions to shipping lines and carriers, a description of the goods, and applicable transportation charges.

- c. **CITES** – refers to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, a treaty regulating international trade of fauna and flora listed in its Appendices.
- d. **Commercial Quantity** – shall refer to the quantity for a given kind or class or articles, which are in excess of what is compatible with and commensurate to the person's normal requirements for personal use.
- e. **CPRS** – refers to the Client Profile Registration System, a module of the Bureau of Customs (BOC) electronic to mobile (e2m) project that facilitates an automated registration and renewal process of all BOC stakeholders including exporters by appropriate BOC accrediting offices.
- f. **Department** – shall refer to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- g. **Exportation** – shall refer to the act, documentation, and process of bringing goods out of the Philippine territory.
- h. **Non-Commercial Goods** – shall refer to wood products, not otherwise falling under the definition of personal and household effects that are not intended to be used for any commercial purposes, including the sale, lease, hire, or barter.
- i. **Port of Loading** – a port where cargo is loaded aboard the vessel, lashed, and stowed.
- j. **Proforma Invoice** – an important sales document that the Philippine exporter creates that is used before the goods have been produced or delivered and no payment is required.
- k. **Regulated Exports** – goods that are subject to export regulations and may be exported only after securing the necessary permit/s, clearance/s, license/s, or any other requirements, prior to exportation, as the case may be, from the concerned government regulatory agency.
- l. **Tree Plantation** – stand of trees established by planting and/or deliberate seeding, and intensively managed which meet all the following criteria at planting and stand maturity: one or two species, even age class, and regular spacing.
- m. **Wood Export Clearance** – a document issued by the DENR Regional Executive Director certifying that the entity indicated thereof is authorized to sell and ship regulated wood products to a foreign entity. This clearance shall replace the old terms “Export Authority or Certificate of Registration to Export”, for uniformity.

SECTION 5. Wood Export Clearance. The Wood Export Clearance (WEC) (*See Annex B*) shall cover the authority to transport the subject wood products from its manufacturing plant/warehouse/storage facility/log pond to the final loading point, such as pier or sea/airport, and shall remain valid for a maximum of sixty (60) calendar days from the date of issuance, or upon the completion of the export shipment, whichever comes first. Moreover, no extension of WEC shall be granted, hence, any additional wood products for export that were not inspected prior to the issuance of WEC shall be applied with another WEC.

Non-commercial goods with an FOB value of less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000) shall undergo an informal clearance process with the BOC per Customs Administrative Order (CAO) No. 02-2021 and are exempted from the issuance of Wood Export Clearance.

SECTION 6. Authorized Ports of Exit. Until such time that the Secretary of the Department, the Commissioner of the BOC, and the General Manager of the Philippine Ports Authority have designated additional ports of exit, the following shall be the authorized exit points of exportable wood products:

6.1 For Luzon, the sea/airports of:

- Batangas City
- Lucena City
- Manila International Container Terminal
- North Harbor, Manila
- Subic Bay Port
- South Harbor, Manila

6.2 For the Visayas, the sea/airports of:

- Cebu City
- Iloilo City

6.3 For Mindanao, the sea/airports of:

- Cagayan De Oro City
- Davao City
- General Santos City
- Zamboanga City

SECTION 7. Eligible Applicants for Issuance of WEC. Any person/entity authorized by the BOC to export under existing laws, rules, and regulations shall be eligible applicants for WEC issuance by the DENR, including holders of valid Certificate of Registration as Dealer of Logs/Lumber, WPP Permit, DENR tenure holders, and DENR-registered tree plantation owners, subject to the submission of the following documentary requirements.

- a) Duly filled-out application form (*See Annex A*)
- b) Copy of Pro-forma Bill of Lading or Air Waybill with authorized name and signature
- c) Copy of the Pro-forma Invoice indicating the funding/payment option/channel with the authorized name and signature of the parties
- d) Third-party plantation certification per DAO No. 2020-18 or any equivalent transport document issued by the DENR attesting that the wood products originated from legal sources
- e) List of specific species of wood products and their scientific names to be exported for all wood commodities under Section 3 of this Order
- f) Copy of the Quarantine Certificate, if applicable

SECTION 8. Application Procedures. In exporting regulated wood products, the following procedures shall be strictly observed:

8.1. Eligible exporters shall file their application, including the submission of requirements stated under Section 7 of this Order to the CENRO/Implementing PENRO/DENR National Capital Region (NCR) where the wood products to be exported are located, not less than twenty (20) working days before the date of loading.

8.2. Within ten (10) working days after the review and evaluation of the completeness and veracity of the documents submitted by the applicant, the CENRO/Implementing PENRO/DENR-NCR shall dispatch qualified technical personnel to inspect the wood

products subject to export. The inspection and verification of wood products to be exported shall be done at the manufacturing/processing plant/packaging facility/log pond where the wood products are being packed or prepared, using the prescribed inspection and verification report (*See Annex C for the template*).

8.3. If the CENRO/Implementing PENRO/DENR-NCR –designated inspection officer finds everything in order, he/she shall forward the application together with the original copy of the inspection and verification report with all the submitted documentary requirements per Section 7 to the Office of the RED thru the PENRO, except for DENR-NCR within five (5) working days immediately after the inspection has been conducted. Otherwise, the CENRO/Implementing PENRO/DENR-NCR shall reject the application without prejudice to refileing.

8.4. If the RED concerned finds that all submitted documents are in order after a thorough evaluation, he/she shall issue a Wood Export Clearance within five (5) working days, copy furnished the concerned CENR Office/Implementing PENR Office, Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations, and the Director of the Forest Management Bureau (FMB), for monitoring and records purposes. If, however, the application is denied upon further evaluation of the RED, the application and the supporting documents shall be returned to the applicant.

8.5. In cases where the manufacturing plants and the port of loading are under different CENROs/Implementing PENROs, the CENRO/Implementing PENRO which has jurisdiction over the port of loading shall be furnished copies of the export documents by the CENRO/Implementing PENRO which has jurisdiction over the location of the manufacturing plant.

8.6. The BOC's Inspection Officer and Philippine Port Authority's Port Integrated Clearance Office (PICO) shall ensure that the particulars reflected in the approved Wood Export Clearance correspond to the inspected and verified quantity during the actual and final loading at the sea/airport/pier. A Certificate of Shipment or Non-Shipment shall be provided by the BOC's Export Division/Unit to the DENR-designated personnel in PICO after the carrier has departed to ascertain the veracity of the shipment's declaration per CAO No. 08-2020.

SECTION 9. Fee. For every application for a Wood Export Clearance, an application fee amounting to Three Thousand Pesos (PHP 3,000.00) shall be collected which is non-refundable and payable upon every application of WEC.

SECTION 10. Inspection and Grading. Wood products belonging to AHTN Code No. 44.03 (Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared except for coniferous and other coniferous species) shall be inspected at 100% intensity in accordance with existing procedures. In the case of AHTN Code No. 44.07 (Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness exceeding 6mm), same shall be inspected/graded, following existing lumber grading rules at 20% random sampling. All other wood products not specifically mentioned in this Order but under Section 3 hereof shall be inspected at 100% intensity.

SECTION 11. Storage, Transport, and Disposition of Wood Products to be Exported. The exporter who is qualified under Section 7 hereof shall store the packed wood products to be

exported in a secured site/warehouse/container yards or any storage areas; provided, that the transport of these wood products to the port of loading or pier or port shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- a) Original copy of the Wood Export Clearance
- b) Summary of Packing List
- c) Commercial Invoice, if applicable
- d) Export Declaration

SECTION 12. Monitoring and Report Submission. The Certificate of Shipment or Non-Shipment provided by the PICO to the CENRO/Implementing PENRO/DENR NCR shall be submitted to the DENR Regional Office, within fifteen (15) working days after the end of each month. The consolidated copies of the Certificate of Shipment or Non-Shipment, along with the copies of the issued WEC shall be properly analyzed and forwarded by the DENR Regional Office to the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations, copy furnished the FMB on or before the end of the month after the reference quarter. Whenever a deadline falls on a weekend or on a public holiday, report submission shall be due immediately following the next working day.

SECTION 13. Penalty Clause. Any misdeclaration and falsification of any information as stated in all the documents pertinent to exportation and should there be any person found to have in his possession wood products without valid authority to be exported, during transport, or at the port of loading, shall be penalized in the amount equivalent to the estimated value of wood products seized as indicated in the commercial invoice and the immediate seizure of the unauthorized wood products in favor of the government, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate charges subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations, including the filing of administrative charges against the DENR personnel involved in the inspection and verification of wood products to be exported. Furthermore, if after investigation, the exporter is found to be engaged or in connivance in committing unlawful acts, such exporter will be banned from engaging in any form of business with the DENR.

SECTION. 14. Periodic Review. Unless otherwise provided, this Order shall be reviewed every three (3) years and be amended or revised, if necessary, accordingly.

SECTION 15. Separability Clause. Should any provision or part of this Order be declared void and/ or unconstitutional, those provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 16. Repealing Clause. All provisions of DAO No. 1988-33, DAO No. 1989-19, DAO No. 1991-54, DAO No. 1993-10, DAO No. 1998-19, DAO No. 1998-11, and all memorandum circulars, orders, memoranda, and issuances inconsistent herewith are amended or expressly implied and repealed accordingly.

SECTION. 17. Effectivity Clause. This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon submission to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the UP Law Center.

MARIA ANTONIO YULO-LOYZAGA
Secretary

Annex A. Application Form

Name of Applicant/ Company (if applicable): _____ Date: _____

Principal/Business Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Complete Address of the Manufacturing/Processing Plant or Packaging Facility: _____

Tariff Classification and Description of the Wood Products to be Exported: _____

Origin of Wood Products to be Exported (where was sourced out prior to processing and packaging): _____

Exporter's Contact Details

Mobile: _____

Landline: _____

Email address: _____

Company website (if applicable): _____

CHECKLIST OF GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. Please check the appropriate box.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Pro-forma Bill of Lading or Air Waybill with authorized name and signature
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Pro-forma Invoice with authorized name and signature indicating the funding/payment option/channel with authorized name and signature of the parties
<input type="checkbox"/>	Third-party plantation certification per DAO No. 2020-18 or any equivalent transport document issued by the DENR attesting that the wood products originated from legal sources
<input type="checkbox"/>	List of specific species of wood products and their scientific names to be exported for all wood commodities under Section 3 of this Order
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Quarantine Certificate, if applicable

Signature over Printed Name of the Applicant

Received by: _____

(DENR Field Office Representative)

Annex B. Wood Export Clearance

	<p>Republic of the Philippines</p> <p>Department of Environment and Natural Resources</p> <p>NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION</p> <p>National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City</p>	<p>WOOD EXPORT CLEARANCE</p> <p>No. _____</p> <p>This is to certify that,</p> <p>_____</p> <p>represented by Mr./Mrs. _____, with complete address at _____, is/are officially registered (Proprietor/Corporation/Cooperative) (Business/Principal/Mailing Address)</p> <p>_____ in this Office as _____</p>
<p>EXPORTER OF WOOD PRODUCTS</p> <p>(indicate AHTN Code, and the complete description of wood products)</p>		
<p>Pursuant to the pertinent provisions of PD No. 705, as amended, Executive Order (E.O) No. 192, E.O No. 1016, Republic Act No. 10863, and in accordance with DAO No. _____ and the regulations promulgated thereto, and subject to the Terms and Conditions enumerated at the back of this clearance, and such other additional regulation which may hereinafter be prescribed.</p> <p>The registrant shall supply and deliver the following wood products following the details below:</p>		
<p>FOREIGN BUYER</p> <p>(indicate the complete name of the buyer and destination)</p>	<p>INSPECTED AND VERIFIED QUANTITY</p> <p>(ex. cum. for AHTN Code No. 44.03 and by piece/pack/box for others)</p>	<p>SOURCE (check all that applies)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Private plantations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DENR Tenure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> WPP/Leg Lumber Dealer</p>
<p>This Clearance is consistent with the findings from the inspection and verification conducted on _____, and is non-negotiable and non-transferable, unless sooner terminated, which will expire on _____, or as soon as the assigned carrier/vessel has departed.</p>		
<p>Issued on _____ at _____, Philippines.</p>		
<p>Application Fee: _____</p> <p>O.R. No.: _____</p> <p>Date Paid: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regional Executive Director</p>		

Annex C. Inspection and Verification Report Template

(Heading) Inspection and Verification Report

It is certified that this inspection and verification has been conducted with the utmost diligence, care, and accuracy as regards the declaration made by the applicant in his/her application form for Wood Export Clearance; and that the documents in support of this application have been thoroughly assessed and evaluated.

Applicant's/Representative's/Company's Name:

Complete Address:

☐

Commercial Quantity

☐

Non-Commercial Good/s

Product Description

Manufacturing Plant/Warehouse Location

Date of Loading

AHTN Code No:

Assigned Port of Exit

Species (Scientific and Common Name)

Conveyance/s to be used

Declared Value (PHP)

Country of Destination

Inventory List (Use only when there are two or more kinds of wood products to be exported)

Product Description	Species	AHTN Code No.	Quantity/ Volume	Declared Value (PhP)	Source

Recommendation/s:

Date and Time Inspected: _____

Inspected by: _____

(Name and Designation)