

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (EXPORT)
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, NHAVA SHEVA,
TAL- URAN, DIST- RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRA – 400707**

F. No. S/12-Gen-15/2010 AM(X)

Dated: 22nd February, 2010

STANDING ORDER No.12/2010

Attention of all the Officers in the jurisdiction of the Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House (JNCH) is invited to Board's Circular No.14/2009-Customs dated 06.05.2009.

2. In the international trade, every consignment accompanied with solid wood packaging materials (SWPM) needs to be treated and marked in accordance with the provisions of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No.15. In case of non-compliance of the ISPM-15, the importing countries issue notices to the National Plant Protection Organisation of the exporting country for non-compliance, and initiate necessary action against the exporter. Exports to most countries including Canada, USA, Australia, Japan etc. require that all wood packaging materials used in packaging of export consignments are required to be rendered free from all pests either by heat treatment or by fumigation with Methyl Bromide by the treatment providers recognized by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQ&S) under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC). The list of such accredited fumigation agencies for Methyl Bromide Fumigation and certified Heat Treatment Facilities for wood packaging material as per ISPM-15, can be accessed at the DAC's website i.e. <http://agricoop.nic.in/>. Detailed information on plant quarantine activities may also be accessed from the official website of DPPQ&S at www.plantquarantineindia.org.

3. The members of EU-FVO Mission visited Mumbai during 8th to 10th February, 2010 in connection with the evaluation of system of official controls and certification of plants/plant materials and sanitary and phytosanitary requirements as well as compliance of ISPM-15 for wood packaging material (wooden pallets, etc.) for export to the member countries of European Union.

4. The visiting EU officials informed that they have come across number of cases of non-compliance regarding violation of ISPM-15 standards, in respect of goods exported from India. Most of these cases relate to non-treatment of wood packaging material or no treatment mark on wood packaging material used in packaging of goods exported from India. They further informed that henceforth strict action would be taken against non-compliance of ISPM-15 standard by exporters from India.

5. Board vide Circular No.14/2009-Customs dated 06.05.2009 has directed that all the Customs field formations should verify whether the export goods packed with raw or solid wood packaging material comply with the ISPM No. 15 or are accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate with the treatment endorsed issued by the agencies which are accredited / certified by DAC. In case of non-compliance, the matter may be referred to the Plant Quarantine authorities for proper treatment of export goods before their release.

6. The above directions of the Board are reiterated with a view to ensure compliance by the concerned officers and staff.

(B.K. SINHA)
COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (EXPORTS)
JNCH, NHAVA SHEVA

To,
All the Officers Concerned

Copy for information to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai-II Zone.
2. The Commissioner of Customs (Import).