Customs Notice No. (01 /2013)
Concerning Unloading & Transhipment of Cargo

Pursuant to the provisions of Article (32) of the Common Customs Law of the GCC States specifying the conditions for unloading and transhipment of cargo(containers) by sea, and; for the purposes of simplifying and facilitating the clearing procedures for such shipments (containers), the following have been decided:

1. Cargo of ships and all other marine means of transportation may be unloaded only within the customs zone at the port. Any shipment may be unloaded or transhipped only under supervision of the customs office.

2. The Manifest shall be submitted by the shipmaster or the shipping agent (electronically including) the transhipped shipments (containers) within (36) hours from the time the ship enters the seaport, excluding the official holidays.

3. Subject to the provisions of the Common Customs Law and Articles 33, 34 and 54 thereof concerning shortage, increase and justification thereby including determination of responsibility, and for the purposes of this Notice, any amendment/cancellation/addition to the manifest submitted after the above period will be against a service charge of AED 5 for each bill of lading.

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4. For the purposes of reconciling the manifests of transshipped cargo, the Electronic Clearing System shall automatically complete reconciliation process for each bill of lading contained in the submitted manifest in comparison to the contents of the shipments (containers) loading list which must be submitted by the shipping agents within five business days from the date of submitting the Manifest referred to in Article (2) hereof, provided that no single consignment of the shipments (containers) shall be splitted.

5. The Cargo Reconciliation Programme shall enter into force as from 3/3/2013 whereby Seaports Automation System will be suspended in respect of clearing transhipped consignments (containers) with effect from that date.

6. All shipping agents and respective agencies must regulate their operations in such a way that will fit with Cargo Reconciliation Programme and the provisions of this Notice within a period not later than 3/3/2013.

7. This Notice shall come into force as from the date of its issuance and the provisions of the Common Customs Law and the Rules of implementation thereof shall be applicable to every violation to whatsoever contained therein.

Ahmed Butti Ahmed
Executive Chairman
Director General of Dubai Customs

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