

GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, PLANNING, AND SOCIAL SECURITY CHICKOMO & EXCLUSION DEPARTMENTS

CUSTOMS & EXCISE DEPARTMENT

NOTICE NO. 22 OF 2014

Rescinding the use of some Customs Forms

In the interest of trade facilitation and the simplification and reduction in the number of forms required by Customs I have decided to rescind the following forms.

1. Form A

The Form A is used for the payment of container fees.

Effective 1st January 2015 the payment of container fees will be made by the importer or Broker providing the registration number of the SAD to the cashier. The cashier will input the number of the containers in the receipt information and issue two copies of the payment receipt to the importer/broker. One copy of the receipt will be given to the container officer as proof of payment of container fees.

2. Container Examination Request

This form as it is named facilitated the provision of information for the examination of containerized cargo at private premises. In order to rescind its use I am directing that importers and brokers simply schedule an examination appointment with the relevant container officer. This appointment can be made via email or by calling in the information. The container officer will then confirm or together with the importer or Broker reschedule the examination time.

3. Container Release

This form was introduced in 1982. It is prepared and submitted to Customs by the agents of container vessels. The information provided is simply a request from the agents to Customs for the release of containers to the various importers and a commitment to return the boxes to the port.

The **Delivery order** (formerly Out of Charge Note) signed by the agents already provides that release. More so, some agents are submitting this authorization to SLASPA electronically. Unlike in the past, Customs is no longer interested in this release as the entity to ensure goods are not delivered to the importer if there is outstanding charges to agents is SLASPA (Section 47(1) of Saint Lucia Air and Seaports Authority Act Cap. 8.13).

With the advent of computerization in the clearance process there is therefore no need for a **Container release** form. The use of this form is therefore rescinded immediately.

Please be guided accordingly.

C. Andy Fernelon
Comptroller of Customs

17th December, 2014