

# **Outline of Revisions of Customs and Tariff Policy in FY2007**

## **1. Improvement of Customs clearance system for the enhancement of competitiveness and convenience, etc**

(1) Expanding preferential treatment for importers/exporters with respectable compliance records as follow;

- As for simplified examination system for importers/exporters with respectable compliance records, with tightening approval requirement;
  - Eliminating the requirement of designation as “continuously imported goods” when importers carry out a simplified declaration [Enforcement on Apr. 1, 2007]
  - Introducing pre-arrival import declaration [Enforcement on Oct. 1, 2007]
  - Introducing post-entry collective tax declaration [Enforcement on Oct. 1, 2007]
- As for specific export declaration system, allowing approved exporters to declare the Customs which supervises ports or airports where approved exporters will ship their cargo, while they can only declare the Customs which supervises the area where their cargo is put in the current system, with tightening approval requirements [Enforcement on Apr. 1, 2007]
- As for authorized users for the Customs warehouse with respectable compliance record;
  - Enabling authorized users to establish a new Customs warehouse, with the notification of the Director-General of Customs, while it requires the permission from the Director-General of Customs in the current system [Enforcement on Oct. 1, 2007]
  - Inspecting the cargo based on user’s compliance records [Enforcement on Oct. 1, 2007]
  - Reducing permission fee for the Customs area [Enforcement on Oct. 1, 2007]

(2) Reviewing Customs clearance system for international postal items as follows;

- Applying self-assessment system to international postal items more than ¥200,000, while applying official assessment system in the current system [Enforcement on the day separately set within two years]
- Applying overtime services for Customs clearance [Enforcement on the day separately set within two years]
- Introducing deterred payment system for Customs duty [Enforcement on Oct. 1, 2007]

(3) Integrating each provision for EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement) into general provisions [Enforcement on the day of effective date of Japan-Philippine EPA]

## **2. Strengthening border enforcement for goods infringing on intellectual property rights**

- (1) Adding goods infringing on copyrights and neighboring rights to export banned goods [Enforcement on July 1, 2007]
- (2) Simplifying the verification procedures on suspicious goods infringing on trademark rights, etc [Enforcement day undecided]

## **3. Strengthening border enforcement at Customs**

- (1) Reviewing the standard of criminal penalties for Customs offences [Enforcement on June 1, 2007]
- (2) Requiring reshipment declaration to the Director-General of Customs for temporary discharge of cargo related to weapon of mass destruction [Enforcement on June 1, 2007]

## **4. Extending the period of application of temporary tariff rates**

- (1) Extending the period of application of temporary tariff rates and special safeguard measures for specific agricultural products by the end of FY2007 [Enforcement on Apr. 1, 2007]
- (2) Extending the period of application of the Okinawa-type special duty free shop system by the end of FY2011 [Enforcement on Apr. 1, 2007]

## **5. Revision of preferential tariff rates**

Expanding the quota-free treatment (adding the list of products subject to the preferential treatment) for LDCs (Least Developed Countries) based on WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration [Enforcement on Apr. 1, 2007]