

Message from Japan Customs to Embassy of India, Tokyo

- (i) Given the current situation, Japan Customs decided to accept post importation submission of Certificate of Origin (CO), if it is difficult for the importer to submit its CO at the time of importation due to unavoidable reasons caused by the spread of the novel coronavirus infection, such as the case in which the authority has suspended the issuance of CO.
- (ii) In addition, Japan Customs can also accept submission of CO (PDF files, etc.) electronically if it fulfills all of the following conditions.
 - Color image (Not monochrome)
 - With resolution of 200dpi or more
 - Clear and easily identifiable
- (iii) As a matter of course, as is provided for in IJCEPA, CO which is issued retrospectively after the shipment is acceptable.
- (iv) Overall, when the issuing authority issues a CO at a later point in time, Japan Customs will accept that an importer submits it in paper or electronically, regardless of whether it is submitted at the time of importation, on the understanding that such issuance will be implemented in accordance with relevant provisions of IJCEPA. (However, this does not mean that a waiver of the CO. It is required to be submitted as soon as it is obtained.
- (v) Japan is on the same page with India about that the recent negative influence of the CO-VID 19 on CO issuance by the issuing body.
- (vi) Finally, recognizing the importance of trade facilitation between India and Japan, Japan would like to continue discussion to remove obstacles to utilization of the IJCEPA, including your proposal on electronic CO presented in the Sub-Committee on Rules of Origin last year.

MoFA has also mentioned that traders may be informed to contact Japan Customs through the importer/exporter in Japan, if they have any questions in this regard.

Regards

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