



THE COTTON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Sponsored By Government of India)

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**E-Serve No.: 127 of 2020 | Date: May 27, 2020**

To: Members of the Council

**Sub : Acceptance of electronic Certificate of Origin (eCOO) for exports to Vietnam under the ASEAN - India FTA during CoViD 19 pandemic**

**Dear Member,**

This is with reference to the various representations received from our members regarding difficulties faced by them at the Vietnamese ports as the Customs authorities were not accepting electronic Certificate of Origin and were insisting upon the Originals.

The Council took up the matter with the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India and the Indian Missions in Vietnam (Embassy of India in Hanoi and Consulate General of India in Ho Chi Minh City) requesting them to persuade the authorities in Vietnam to accept the electronic Certificate of Origin. We had in the meantime also requested the Government to advise all designated bodies to issue Certificate of Origin manually till the matter gets resolved.

We are glad to inform you that after persuasive efforts by the Government of India and the Indian Missions in Vietnam (Embassy of India in Hanoi and Consulate General of India in Ho Chi Minh City), the Government of Vietnam has issued a Circular No 47/2020/TT-BTC dated 27/5/2020 regarding acceptance of eCOO during the CoViD 19 pandemic.

A copy of the above Circular is enclosed ([click here](#)) for your information.

The important points of the Circular No.47/2020/TT-BTC shared by our Mission are as

under:

- Customs declarants shall declare at the Most Favored Nation(MFN) import tax rates or ordinary tax rate may submit the Certificates of Origin (C/o) within the validity period of the Certificates of Origin for preferential import tax rate later. Customs Authorities shall refund the difference in the tax amount already paid.
- Where special preferential tariff treatment for imported goods is applied, Customs Authorities accept the Certificates of Origin with electronic signature and stamp on the condition that competent authorities of exporting countries notify the issuance of Certificates of Origin using electronic signatures and stamps and furnish the electronic platform for Certificate of Origin verification.
- Customs authorities accept C/o copies/scans on condition that competent authorities of the exporting country notify about the use of copies/scans of the original C/o and provide the copies/scans of C/o or electronic platform for customs offices to determine the authenticity of C/o.
- Customs declarant is responsible for submission of one original copy of C/o within 180 days.
- The Circular comes into effect from 23 January 2020 and shall be terminated by Minister of Finance of Vietnam based on the global situation of COVID-19 pandemic.

Regards,

**Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal**

**Executive Director**

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