



UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU
OF STANDARDS
Quality Everywhere

PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL IMPORTERS

WAIVER OF PVOC SURCHARGE FEES ON NEWLY TAGGED COMMODITIES FOR THE PERIOD

13TH DECEMBER 2021 TO 13TH MARCH, 2022

Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) has an obligation to protect public health & safety and to ensure that consumers get quality products that match value for money. The Bureau also has the mandate to promote fair trade and contribute to national development. This is achieved through formulation, implementation and enforcement of standards for both locally manufactured and imported products for the Ugandan market as well as ensuring that national industrial policies are streamlined into available regulations and procedures.

Due to the formulation and development of a number of standards, the Bureau has expanded the scope of commodities it regulates. This has increase the number of import commodities tagged for its intervention on the Uganda Electronic Single Window (eSW). This development has affected a number of importers who were unaware that their import commodities are regulated by UNBS. These importers have engaged UNBS concerning their consignments, which are currently stuck in the Bonds and those already in transit, which did not undergo the UNBS inspection in the countries of export and are hence liable to PVoC surcharge fees, which they can hardly meet due to financial constraints.

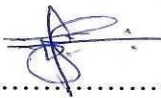
In consideration of the above challenge, UNBS is providing an exemption period of **three (3)** months against PVoC requirements basing on the following terms.

- **The commodities must be newly targeted for UNBS inspection and hence covered by the attached list of HS codes.**
- **Importers with affected consignments shall be required to personally approach the UNBS head office at Bweyogerere with an official request addressed to the Manager, Imports Inspection Department.**
- **The above request must be accompanied with; the commodity customs declaration, the importer's official identification document (for imports declared in personal names), certificate of incorporation, form 20 and one director's official identification document (for imports declared in company names).**

- To qualify for this exemption, the importer shall have to sign a commitment with the Bureau that all his/her future consignments covered by compulsory Uganda standards shall comply to all UNBS requirements on expiry of the waiver period of 13th March, 2022.
- The importer shall have to pre-declare all affected consignments including those in transit. The pre-declaration must be accompanied by the bill of lading/airway bill and the commercial invoice.
- The affected commodities shall be subjected to destination inspection and testing (where applicable) to ensure they meet quality and safety standards requirements before release.
- The condition above is subject to payment of destination inspection and testing fees (where applicable) as per the Import Inspection & Clearance Regulations 2018.
- Important to note is that **these exemptions are free** so no importer shall be expected to pay any money in exchange of a PVoC waiver. All UNBS service fees are officially paid in commercial banks using a UNBS generated BAPF.
- Lastly, to note that consignments undeclared to the Bureau during this grace period will qualify for PVoC exemption.

For any other inquiries, contact UNBS on the following telephone numbers to the attention of Mr. Abubaker Bakulumpagi: Tel. 0703659073 Email: abubaker.bakulumpagi@unbs.go.ug or Mr. Samuel Tumwesigye: 0704585351 Email: samuel.tumwesigye@unbs.go.ug or Mr. Kasim Kata: 0772675203 Email: kasim.kata@unbs.go.ug

Dated: 22nd December, 2021



Eng. John Paul Musimami
AG. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

