PROCEDURE ON HANDLING OF IMPORTS ARRIVING WITHOUT CERTIFICATES OF CONFORMITY (CoCs)

1.0 SCOPE: All goods arriving at the port of entry without Certificates of Conformity (CoCs) and don’t qualify for exemption as outlined in Annex 1 of the PVoC manual.

2.0 PURPOSE: To provide a framework for handling goods arriving at the port of entry without CoCs to ensure that only goods that meet the requirements of relevant Kenya Standards or approved specifications are authorized for customs declaration and clearance into the country.

3.0 REFERENCES:
- Standards Act Cap 496 Laws of Kenya
- Legal Notice No. 78 of 15th July 2005
- PVoC Manual

4.0 PROCEDURE DETAILS:
   i. All importers/clearing agents are required to present lodged customs declarations (i.e. declarations awaiting Customs approval) to KEBS at the relevant port of entry.
   ii. The concerned importer/ clearing agent shall pay destination inspection fee equivalent to 15% of the declared customs value to KEBS and execute a bond of the same amount in favour of KEBS.
   iii. KEBS inspectors shall undertake 100% verification at the port of entry and generate an inspection report. Samples for analysis and reference shall be drawn as may be appropriate. The samples shall be submitted to KEBS laboratories for analysis against the relevant Kenya standards or approved specifications.
   iv. KEBS OICs shall forward inspection report and/or laboratory test report to KEBS Head of Inspection for determination of conformity to requirements of relevant Kenya Standards or approved specification.
   v. KEBS Head of Inspection in consultation with the Director- QA&I and the MDs office will communicate the final decision based on the reports referred in (iv) above to KRA and the importer.
   vi. If consignment showed compliance, a Certificate of Compliance (CoC) will be issued to KRA (Customs Authority) for them to process and approve the declaration.
   vii. Importers/ Clearing agents of compliant goods shall present customs approved entries to KEBS Officers at the port of entry for final release provided the declared values and customs approved value are same. If there is any value uplift by Customs, then the importer/ clearing agent shall make additional payment of 15% destination inspection fee on the difference between the approved value and the initially declared value.
   viii. For compliant goods, the bond executed by the importer shall be cancelled.
   ix. If the consignment showed non-compliance, a certificate of rejection will be issued to importer and copied to KRA.
   x. Importers of rejected goods shall be expected to re-ship the goods back to the country of origin at their own cost.
   xi. All rejected goods not re-shiped within 30 days from the date of rejection shall be destroyed by KEBS at the expense of the importer.
   xii. Importers of goods destroyed by KEBS shall forfeit their bonds.
NOTE: Goods arriving in Kenya without CoCs shall be detained at the port of entry pending quality determination.