



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MERCHANT SHIPPING SECRETARIAT
MINISTRY OF PORTS AND SHIPPING

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12th November 2021

Guideline No 05

Notice to :

All licensed Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders & NVOCC Operators
Ceylon Association of Shipping Agents (CASA)
Sri Lanka Logistics & Freight Forwarders Association (SLFFA)
Ceylon Freight Forwarders Association (CEYFFA)
Sri Lanka Association of Non- Vessel Operating Common Carriers (SLANA)
Sri Lanka Association of Vessel Operators (SLAVO)
Sri Lanka Shippers Council (SLSC)
Joint Apparel Association Forum (JAAF)

Guidelines issued under the Section 7 of the Licensing of Shipping Agents Act No. 10 of 1972 as amended read with Regulation 12 of the Extra Ordinary Gazette 1877/26 dated 28.08.2014 and the Regulations 8 and 9 of the Extraordinary Gazette 2041/10 dated 17.10.2017

By virtue of powers vested in me under Section 7 of the Licensing of Shipping Agents Act No. 10 of 1972, as amended and the Regulations published under the provisions of the said Act, following guidelines are issued for compliance by the licensed service providers referred herein.

Local chargers on Imports to Sri Lanka

As per the “Structure of Charges” Regulations 2017 published in the Gazette No 2041/10 dated 17th Oct. 2017, no service provider shall charge from an importer in Sri Lanka any charge other than the all- inclusive freight and a Delivery Order fee. The following decisions were taken after having discussions with the stakeholders of the Shipping and freight industry.

1. Maximum Delivery Order Fee for import shipments

1.1. For FCL import shipments

Maximum DO Fee that should be paid by an ultimate consignee/ importer (except Freight Forwarder/Consolidator) is Rs 11,000/=.

Accordingly,

- From Shipping Lines to freight forwarders – The maximum Liner DO Fee should be Rs. 9,000/=.
- From Shipping Lines to Consolidator – The maximum Liner DO Fee should be Rs. 9,000/=.

1.2. For LCL import shipments

Maximum DO Fee that should be paid by an ultimate consignee/ importer is Rs 15,000/=.

Accordingly,

- From Consolidators to freight forwarders - The maximum DO Fee should be Rs.12, 500/=.

2. Import Container Deposit.

A shipping line/ NVOCC agent/ consolidator/ Freight Forwarder who would charge a container deposit (for the purpose of recovering costs on loss or damage) at the time of releasing a FCL container to an importer should refund the deposit to the importer **within maximum 30 days** after the container has been returned to depot and fulfilled relevant documentary requirements.

No other charges can be recovered when containers are returned in good order. In case charges are to be recovered due to damage or cleaning of the container, a survey should be conducted at the time of returning the container and a consensus should be reached by depot and importer on types of charges to be recovered.

3. The guideline No 04 issued on 17th June 2021 on Local Charges on imports to Sri Lanka is hereby rescinded.

4. Complaints, Disputes and Noncompliance Handling.

All complaints of noncompliance of this Guideline should be forwarded to dmsmos@slt.net.lk and disputes will be handled by the Recommendation Committee (RC).

Issued on 12th November 2021

Director General of Merchant Shipping

Ministry of Ports & Shipping

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