



# *ASEAN CUSTOMS*

## **ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN** **VOLUME VIII**



# From the *Country Coordinator's Desk*

**Mr. Mohammad Mu'inuddin Chin bin Abdur Rahman**  
**Acting Controller of Royal Customs and Excise**  
**Brunei Darussalam**



One of the most important tasks for ASEAN Customs is to expose the illegal smuggling activities of organized criminals, as well as their structures, and to punish them effectively. The aim of this bulletin is to disseminate information on the various trends and issues faced by ASEAN Customs in the investigation of smuggling crimes, particularly in the expansion of investigative techniques in the areas of electronic surveillance, controlled delivery, undercover operations and tracing crimes. This bulletin is the result of an intensive effort to develop regional capacity for information generation and sharing and highlights the importance of addressing smuggling activities and related crimes in the ASEAN region.

On a personal note, I truly believe that much goodness can be achieve from building partnership to combat smuggling crimes. I believe that with a strong law enforcement partnership, will encourage all of us in formulating a common interest in eradicating smuggling activities. It helps tremendously in identifying what is intended to be achieved and how to go about achieving it.

Lastly, I owe my gratitude to all individuals who unselfish efforts behind the scenes contributed significantly to the successful realization of this ASEAN Customs Enforcement Bulletin, 8th Volume.



# From the

## *Chairman's of ASEAN Customs Director General*

**Dr Kun Nhem**

**Director-General**

**General Department of Customs and Excise of  
Cambodia**



Having established its community in 2015, ASEAN is now working on its integration into global community, which would open up new opportunities and challenges for our peoples and Member States.

In this new context, ASEAN Customs administrations are expected to exercise their critical roles to protect the legitimate benefits of our economic operators, contribute to the economic growth of our Member States and the region, ensure the safety of our people and fight against customs related offenses and organized crimes.

It is believed the sharing of practices and experiences among our ASEAN Customs Administrations would allow each Customs Administration to learn from one another the experiences and practices that would allow all our ASEAN Customs Administrations to improve the effectiveness of their enforcements at the national levels and to strengthen our cooperation against any sorts of customs related offense and organized crimes.

Taking this opportunity, as the Chair of the 25th ASEAN Directors-General of Customs Meeting, I would like to commend the good work made by the Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group (CECWG) for the publishing the Eight Volume of Enforcement Bulletin. This achievement would not have been realized without the Malaysia able chairmanship of the CECWG and the good leadership of the Country Coordinator, Brunei Darussalam and the contribution of all ASEAN Member States, in sharing the cases encountered at their respective Administration to be included in the Eight Volume of the enforcement Bulletin.

Thank you.





# From the *Chairman's Desk*

**Dato' Syed Mohri bin Syed Abu Bakar**  
**Chairman**  
**ASEAN Customs Enforcement and Compliance**  
**Working Group**



It is with great pleasure to bring you the 8th volume of the Enforcement Bulletin published by the Royal Customs and Excise, Brunei Darussalam in its capacity as Country Coordinator of Strategic Plan of Customs Development (SPCD) on Customs Enforcement and Mutual Assistance of the CECWG.

Customs enforcement has developed drastically over the last decades to keep pace with the tremendous increase in international trade and transport and growing threat of trans-border organized crime. This has led to an increased awareness in Customs administrations that national and international co-operation is essential to address Customs enforcement issues. Co-operation with other Customs administrations, legitimate business circles and other national law enforcement authorities is a prerequisite for proper law enforcement in the field of Customs.

A major part of this co-operation is sharing of information. For many years, Customs Administrations have been the key source of information to make this cooperation possible. However, more recently the value of sharing information with business circles and other law enforcement agencies has been recognized. Thus, measures have to be taken to enhance the sharing of information between Customs Administrations and these entities.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Editorial Team and those who have supported and contributed to this edition in terms of cases and constructive comments. Particularly, let me thank Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam who have contributed to this publication. Keep up the good work!

I do hope that the ASEAN Member States will continuously giving strong support to the Editorial Team by providing cases to be published in the next volume of the Enforcement Bulletin.

With warm regards.

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### Bulletin Committee Brunei Darussalam

#### **Advisor:**

Mr. Mohammad Mu'inuddin Chin bin Abdur Rahman

#### **Head Editor:**

Mr Haji Amran Bin Haji Ibrahim

#### **Editor:**

Mr. Mohammad Wafi bin Haji Nairul Anawar  
Ms. HjH Rusidah binti Hj Hidup  
Ms. Khairul Bariah binti Ahmad  
Ms. Nurul Hayyadatul Amra binti Abu Bakar

#### **Resource Person:**

Mr. Hj Arfian bin Hj Abd Kadir

#### **Member:**

Mr. Mohammad Najib bin Haji Ali





# **The 20TH Meeting of the ASEAN Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group AT BALI, INDONESIA.**

***20-22 SEPTEMBER 2016***





# **The 21TH Meeting of the ASEAN Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group AT BANGKOK, THAILAND.**

***7-9 FEBRUARY 2017***





## **CASE 1**

### **SEIZURE OF 21,000 TURTLE EGGS CONSIST OF GREEN TURTLE EGGS, OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE EGGS AND HAWKSBILL TURTLE EGGS**

#### **Case Facts:**

On 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016, RCED Enforcement Officers in collaboration with the Department of Halal Food Control Division (BKMH) had seized 21,000 turtle eggs consisted of Green turtle eggs, Olive Ridley turtle eggs and Hawksbill turtle eggs during a raid at one of a vicinity in Brunei Muara District.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

The raid was conducted upon tip-off from the public informing that the offenders were selling the turtle eggs to the public. After thorough inspections, 21 boxes of turtle eggs in Styrofoam boxes were found inside the car and also some boxes were kept at the garage of the house.

#### **Decision:**

The case had been forwarded to the Attorney General Chamber (AGC) and will be charged under Section 8 (1) and Section 8 (2) Wildlife Protection Act 1984 and Section 46, 47 and 48 Wild Order of Flora and Fauna Act 2007.







## **CASE 2**

### **01 GALLON CONTAINING DIESEL FUEL AND 02 GALLONS CONTAINING UNLEADED FUEL SEIZED**

#### **Case Facts:**

On 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016, RCED Enforcement Officers in collaboration with the Department of Halal Food Control Division (BKMH), The Department of Land Transport (JPD) and Narcotic Control Bureau (BKN) had conducted a routine vehicle inspection at the Labu Control Post in Temburong district.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

During a routine inspection two local men were detained upon arrival at Customs control post for trying to smuggle subsidized fuel out of the country. Both men were later pleaded guilty in possession of 01 gallon Diesel Fuel containing 20.8 liters and 02 gallons containing 11.32 liters of Unleaded Fuel.

#### **Decision:**

The total amount of fuel smuggled is a compoundable offences, both men were issued compounds of \$500.00 and \$550.00 respectively. In Brunei Darussalam, fuel is categorized as one of the controlled goods under the Customs Order (Prohibition & Restriction on Imports and Exports), which carries a minimum fine of BND\$10,000.00 and up to a maximum fine of BND\$500,000.00.





## **CASE 3**

### **SEIZURE OF 480 CARTONS OF CONTRABAND CIGARETTES**

#### **Case Facts:**

On 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016, upon public tip-off, RCED Enforcement had seized 480 cartons of contraband cigarettes during a raid at one of vicinity in water village housing scheme in Brunei Muara District.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

The offender smuggled through Brunei River via Limbang, Malaysia and temporarily stored the contraband under the bridge that connected every houses in water village before sell them to the buyer.

#### **Decision:**

All the cigarettes were confiscated and to be destroyed.





## **Introduction**

The traditional roles and responsibilities of Customs in the world are constantly changing from time to time due to global economic integration, security and trade facilitation. The changes can be clearly seen in the areas of revenue collection and enforcement. In the enforcement area, Customs not solely focus on high number of smuggling and commercial fraud but other transnational crimes is also in order to make society secured and safe.

In this regards, the General Department of Customs and Excise of Cambodia (CCE) committed and devoted herself to improve revenue collection, effectively fight against commercial fraud, smuggling and other customs related offences and crimes – illicit drug trafficking, illicit trade in wild fauna and flora, firearm smuggling, IPR infringement, and effectively facilitate international trade by using risk management program. Applying modern technique consisted of risk assessment and analysis, risk based targeting, intelligence based operation, customs expertise and experience, customs think-tank and flexibility, staff's skill and devotement toward revenue collection, fair environment for business competition, social safety and security, and protection of border, CCE has achieved some significant results in term of suppression of goods smuggling, seizure of illicit drug trafficking, seizure of illicit trade in fauna and flora, and so on. Learning from one case experience, then based on intelligent think tank and the staff's clairvoyance has proven even with limited supply of the detection tools, chasing materials, and other searching equipment, CCE is able to achieve some milestones in its suppression operation.







## **CASE 1**

### **THE SEIZURE OF DRUG—FIRST EXPERIENCE OF SWALLOWING CONCEALMENT**

#### **Case Facts:**

The Prevention and Suppression Department received information from neighbor Customs administration on 09<sup>th</sup> May 2016 regarding a suspicious drug trafficking to Cambodia. The information was assessed to evaluate the reliability and accuracy. Then the Prevention and Suppression Department sent alert to Customs at Phnom Penh International Airport about the case with requiring the double assessment.

At 15h40, Customs at Phnom Penh International Airport, based on the re-assessment information gathered from intelligence, decided to target two suspects of flight QR970 from Doha via Ho Chi Minh's Tan Son Nhat International Airport.

#### **Finding:**

Based on the targeting, Customs at Phnom Penh International airport decided to stop the two suspects and searched their luggage, their personal effects, and their bodies. Preliminarily Customs found a bag containing yellow powder. However, result that is conducted through a primary drug test for the powder yields a negative result.

Based on the behavior of the two suspects, Customs made cooperation, with Anti-drug Police, Prosecutor, medical doctor, and other relevant competent authorities, to conduct detailed check on the suspects by determining X ray scanning at a hospital.

X ray scanning on body of the first suspect produced negative result. Then, a further the scanning was made on the second suspect. The latter produced a positive result, showing that the second suspect swallowed some capsules. The 70 capsules were extracted from the second suspect, and were tested. Final laboratory result was that the powder inside the capsules was cocaine of 1,039.1 grams.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

Swallowing

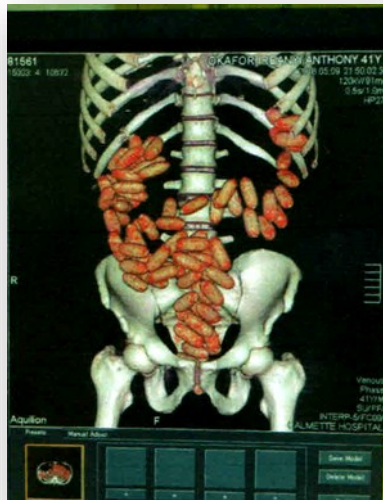




## *General Department of Customs and Excise*



► X ray scanning of first suspect



► X ray scanning of second suspect



► Cocaine swallowed by drug trafficker

### **Decision:**

Both traffickers and drug were detained and confiscated. As for the case it was later handed over to Anti-drug Police for further investigation in order to apprehend the masterminded network and to take further legal action at the court.





## **CASE 2**

### **THE SEIZURE OF CITES—IVORY TUSK**

#### **Case Facts:**

Controlling and managing the unclaimed cargo is a responsibility of customs. Two containers in Sihanoukville port were treated as unclaimed goods, and were suspicious of some things were unusual. Referring from the previous case in 2014, seizure of more than 3,000 kgs, concealed in a container covered by bean crop, Customs at Sihanoukville port was suspicious of the same. Thus, Customs at Sihanoukville port co-operated with prosecutor, checkpoint police, Sihanoukville port operator, and other relevant competent authorities to conduct detailed inspection of the 2 containers. The containers were imported by one importer /company.

#### **Finding:**

Before opening the containers, X-ray scanning was used to scan both containers as a means to support physical inspection. The image of a container indicated some irregular loads. Thus physical inspection was made by opening both containers. Customs had to unload all bags of goods, and Customs found that one container was loaded with corn of 875 bags or 43.75 tons and ivory tusk of 128 pieces or 613.30 kgs.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

Ivory tusk was hidden in a container (40F) by using bags of corn to cover the ivory tusk.



► Corn bags used to cover ivory tusk in a container



► Ivory tusk found concealed in a container







► Customs Officers open the bags of ivory tusk



► Ivory tusk found concealed in a container

### **Decision:**

By laws, Ivory tusk is prohibited to import in and export out of Cambodia. The final decision was to temporarily confiscate the ivory tusk. The ivory was re-load into the same container and container itself was sealed and kept in secured location under the joint custody of Customs and Sihanoukville port operator. It was used as an evidence for investigation and legal action including for court procedure and proceeding. The case was filed to the Court of Sihanoukville province for further action.





## **CASE 3**

### **SEIZURE OF COMMERCIAL GOODS**

#### **Case Facts:**

Receiving information from a Customs informant that there was a case relating to a commercial fraud declared under Carabao and Green Mate, both of which were imported from Thailand. The officers in Department of Prevention and Suppression of the General Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise, assessed the information (intelligence driven) of the case. Final decision was that department needed to send a customs team to patrol the area as it felt there was a possibility. On 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016, the team were highly suspicious of a truck (lorry) and decided to mark the truck as a target. According to laws and regulations, the team able to stop the lorry and park in an office for inspection.

#### **Finding:**

By verifying the related documents – declaration, invoice, packing list, transportation permit, and customs receipt, and the physical check, Customs managed to found a mismatch between some goods that were fully paid while some goods were not. According to details, there were 3000 cases related to Carabao soft drinks whereas 310 cases for Juice of Green Mate that were not paid of duty and taxes.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

This cases is considered as commercial fraud whereby it is either under declared or wrongly declared quantity. The concealment was loaded mixed with legitimate goods in a lorry.



Customs inspected the goods loaded in lorry  
Inspection in process



**Decision:**

Department of Prevention and Suppression filed the case and submitted to the Dispute Settlement Office of Department of Legal Affairs, PCA and Public Relation in order to taking action and prosecution. Due to the fact that the goods were not prohibited and/or restricted, the solution and settlement conclude that the company has to pay duty, taxes, and penalty amount, based on undeclared quantity, tariff rate and penalty level, of approximately 106 million Cambodian riels (USD 26,500).







### **CASE 1**

#### **ENFORCEMENT ON BABY LOBSTERS EXPORTATION**

##### **Case Facts:**

The enforcement operations against the syndicates of smuggling baby lobsters took place in 13 crime scenes, namely Batam, Soekarno Hatta Airport, Kamal Fish Auction Market, Tangerang, and West Jakarta.

##### **Finding:**

The success of the effort to thwart the smuggling of baby lobsters was the result of joint operations involving the Criminal Investigation Division of Indonesian National Police; Fish Quarantine, Quality Control, and Safety of Fishery Products Agency of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries; 115 Task Force, Prime Customs and Excise Office Type C of Soekarno Hatta Airport; Fish Quarantine, Quality Control, and Safety of Fishery Products Unit of Jakarta; Fish Quarantine, Quality Control, and Safety of Fishery Products Station of Batam; and Soekarno Hatta Airport Police. Seventeen people involved in the shipping, transporting, and trading of the smuggled baby lobster were arrested, eight of them had been declared as suspects. From those operations, 521.095 baby lobsters amounting to Rp17,528,250,000,- were seized.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Smuggling restricted/prohibited goods in consignment and passenger goods.

##### **Decisions:**

The suspects and evidences were handed over to Indonesian National Police for further investigation.





## *Indonesian Customs And Excises*







### **CASE 2**

#### **ENFORCEMENT ON BEVERAGES CONTAINING ETHYL ALCOHOL**

##### **Case Facts:**

On Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, the Enforcement Unit of DGCE conducted pursuit and enforcement toward a minibus coming out from warehousing area in Kayu Besar, West Jakarta which transported alcoholic beverages (wine and spirits) without excise stamps and excise documents.

##### **Finding:**

Following up the result of the pursuit, the team forcibly opened a warehouse witnessed by local security, police, and military officers. After conducting an intensive search in the warehouse, the team found a door hidden under beverage pallets toward a bunker which was intended to conceal hundreds of cartons of alcoholic beverages (wine and spirits) without excise stamps. This finding was followed up by the Enforcement Team by conducting examination, seizure, and sealing of 850 cartons of alcoholic beverages which amounted up to Rp 1.700.000.000,-.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Storing alcoholic beverages (wine and spirits) included in the excisable goods without excise stamps attached.

##### **Decisions:**

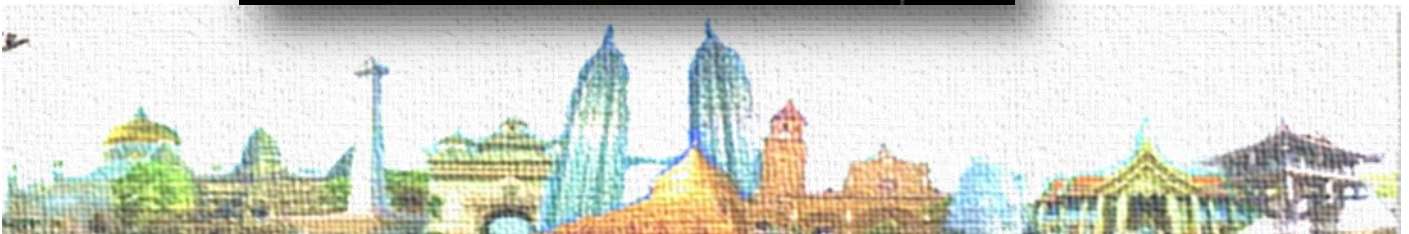
Further investigations were conducted by Directorate Enforcement and Investigation, Customs Head Quarter







## *Indonesian Customs And Excises*





### **CASE 3**

#### **ENFORCEMENT ON AMMONIUM NITRATE**

##### **Case Facts:**

Several seizure of ammonium nitrate carried by traditional boat within Indonesia Maritime Territory by Indonesian Customs and Indonesian National Police (INP) since 2009 – 2016.

##### **Finding:**

1. In the first case, on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2016, the Enforcement Unit had successfully arrested six suspects acting as captain and crews of Harapan Kita Vessel and seized 51,250 kilograms of ammonium nitrate which were transported by the said vessel from Malaysia to Sulawesi, precisely in Pulau Berakit waters – Indonesia.
2. In the second case, on July 29<sup>th</sup> 2016, captain of Ridho Ilahi Vessel sailing from Sadeli, Malaysia to Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara was arrested for transporting 57,725 kilograms of ammonium nitrate.
3. In the third case, on August 29<sup>th</sup> 2016, the Enforcement Unit had seized 57,500 kilogram of ammonium nitrate transported by Hikmah Jaya Vessel originating from Pasir Gudang, Malaysia on its way to Pulau Raja, Indonesia. Five people, including the captain and the crew of the vessel, were arrested.
4. And the last, the officers also stopped Alam Indah Vessels in Bali waters for smuggling 1,153 sacks ammonium nitrate which equals to 28,285 kilograms ammonium nitrate.
5. Totally, there were 116,475 kilograms of ammonium nitrate seized by the DGCE which amounted to Rp 24,97 billion.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Smuggling ammonium nitrate, commodity which is often misused as explosive (fish bomb), without any legal document.

##### **Decisions:**

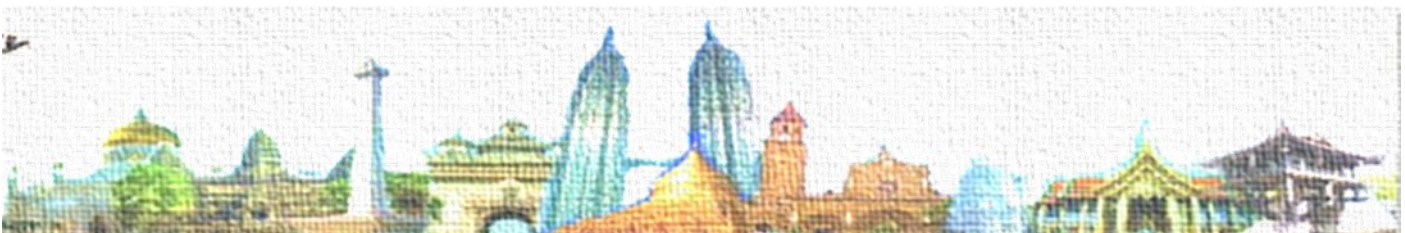
The suspects and evidences were handed over to Indonesian National Police for further investigation







## *Indonesian Customs And Excises*







### **CASE 4**

#### **ENFORCEMENT ON NARCOTICS**

##### **Case Facts:**

Seizure of huge amount narcotis in several location including main airports, main ports, land borders, postal services in 2016.

##### **Finding:**

On Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> 2016, the DGCE in collaboration with National Narcotics Agency seized generators in the warehouse of CV Jepara Raya Internasional located in Sorogenen Village, Batealit, Jepara in which the officers found 100 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine. The disclosure of this case was based on preliminary information sent by Drug Enforcement Agency in the United States of America. Beside crystal methamphetamine, the officers also seized digital scale, two units of pick up box, 294 units of generator and filter, money in foreign currency and in rupiah amounting to Rp700 millions, hand phone, and saving book. The actors were members of Pakistan syndicate.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Concealing narcotics inside the generators.

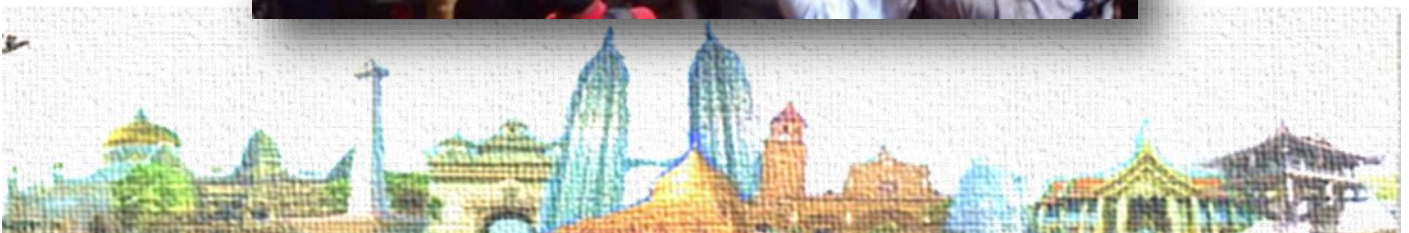
##### **Decisions:**

The suspects and evidences were handed over to National Narcotics Agencies for further investigation





## *Indonesian Customs And Excises*







### **CASE 5**

#### **ENFORCEMENT ON SHALLOTS**

##### **Case Facts:**

Seizure of shallots in east coast of Sumatera in 2016

##### **Finding:**

On December 17<sup>th</sup> 2016, Specific Regional Customs and Excise Office of Riau Islands conducted two enforcement activities on Shallots importation:

- At 1800pm, DGCE's patrol boat BC-20002 seized Mitra Baru Vessel transporting Shallots without any legal document from Port Klang, Malaysia on its way to Tanjung Balai Asahan, precisely in Tanjung Siapi-api waters which is located at coordinate 02-58-30 N / 100-07-20 E.
- At 2300pm, again, DGCE's patrol boat BC-30004 stopped the other vessel, namely Rezky Nelayan, in Tanjung Siapi-api waters having the same route with the previously seized vessel, which also tried to smuggle Shallots without any legal document.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Importing restricted / prohibited goods without any legal document.

##### **Decisions:**

Further investigations conducted by Specific Regional Customs and Excise Office of Riau Islands.







## *Indonesian Customs And Excises*





## CASE 1

### SEIZURE OF COCAINE AT KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (KLIA)

#### Case Facts:

On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2016, acting on information received, Royal Malaysia Customs (RMC) officers have arrested a South African female passenger suspected carrying drugs at KLIA. The suspected passenger had boarded a flight from Dubai to Kuala Lumpur. She was arrested at domestic departure gate before proceeding her journey from Kuala Lumpur to Kota Bharu, Kelantan.

#### Modus Operandi:

The passenger was carrying two parcels labelled "Dubai Duty Free" contained several small boxes of chocolates. Upon inspection of the boxes, the RMC officers found 166 pieces of white lumps. After tested, it was confirmed as cocaine. The white lumps as being told by the passenger were swallowed by a man before handed to her.

#### Decision:

The passenger is being investigated under Section 39B(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952. If found guilty she will be facing the mandatory death sentence by hanging.











### **CASE 2**

### **SEIZURE OF COCAINE AT PENANG PORT, MALAYSIA**

#### **Case Facts:**

On 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016, acting on information received, Royal Malaysian Customs (RMC) officers inspected a container suspected to have contained drugs. The container which is bound for Malaysia had arrived from Balboa, Panama via Nansha New Port, China.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

Upon inspection of the container, 51 bulks of aluminium scraps were found. A close examination discovered four suspicious boxes hidden which contained 250 packets of white powder. The RMC officers from Narcotics Unit then tested the white powder and confirmed it as cocaine.

After further investigation, the RMC officers conducted a raid on a premise and arrested two people suspected of being involved in the case. Some of documents, records and four CPUs also confiscated for further analysis.

#### **Decision:**

Both of arrested people are being investigated under Section 39B(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952. If found guilty they will be facing the mandatory death sentence by hanging.







## CASE 1

### ARRESTED STIMULUS NARCOTIC TABLETS AT YANGON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

#### Case Facts:

One Stop Inspection Team of Yangon International Airport (including Bureau of Special Investigation (BSI), Anti- Narcotic Police Force of Central Committee for Drugs Abuse Control Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Aviation Police Force, Department of Civil Aviation, Immigration Department and Customs Department) nabbed stimulus narcotic drugs, with an approximate value of 119.00 million Kyats (or equivalent to \$88,123.07 USD), total number of 34,000 tablets, at Yangon International Airport.

#### Finding:

An X-Ray Scanning image took attention of the team once they found an ambiguous image of a baggage, suspected to contain Stimulus narcotic drugs that were packed within black plastic bags, wrapped together with a piece of clothing, by a passenger who was going to depart from Yangon to Kuala Lumpur by Malaysia Airline Flight No.MH- 741 at Yangon International Airport.

#### Modus Operandi:

The team examined the baggage and detained the drugs.

#### Decision:

After Anti- Narcotic Police Force scanned and confirmed the medicine was a stimulus narcotic medicine, Customs Department transferred the detained matter to Anti- Narcotic Task Force in order to take proper action according to the laws of Ministry of Home Affairs.





## CASE 2

### NABBED HEROIN AND NARCOTIC TABLETS

#### Case Facts:

Authorized Inspection Team led by Lieutenant Police Officer, Myint Thaung, accompanied by Customs Inspector, Zin Bo Htet seized 20 packs of heroin, total weight of 280g, 3 packs of stimulant narcotic tablets (200 tablets each), and 19 packs of heroin (weighing 266g), total estimated valued 60.8 Million Kyats, were seized on the High-Way Road from Muse to Yangon.

#### Finding:

In July 14, 2016, the Team investigate an express bus, numbered 8H/7935 which coincidentally took two passengers whom are suspected carrying backpacks containing 20 packs of heroin, a total weight of 280g, concealed inside a colorful soap cups and each covered by Clear plastic bags. Outside of the cuos were wrapped with Myanmar Traditional Men Longyi and 3 packs of stimulant narcotic tablets (200 tablets each), all of which were written with symbols of '88' and '1'. The estimated value of the apprehended total narcotic drugs to be 60.8 million Kyats.



#### Modus Operandi:

The team detained the drugs after taking the statements of the offenders .

#### Decision:

Seizure of the narcotic drugs was improvised by the team after Anti- Narcotic Police Force finalized they were indeed stimulus narcotic drugs and thus, Customs Department transferred the detained case to Anti- Narcotic Task Force in order to give proper action according to the laws of Ministry of Home Affairs .



## CASE 3

### SEIZURE OF JADE STONE

#### Case Facts:

Myanmar Customs Examination Team seized a jade stone, weighing 2,800 kg, estimated value of 56 million Kyats at 16 miles Kyauk-Chaw Checking Gate in Northern Shan State.

#### Finding:

Myanmar Customs Examination Team inspected a Nissan Truck, numbered 2A/347 that carried a large stone, concealed along with pebbles, driven from Mandalay to Pyin-Oo-Lwin and the team found the stone which might be assumed as Jade in July 28th , 2016. Any Declarations or legal documents were not submitted for the case.

#### Modus Operandi:

The team detained the stone before confirmation made by Myanmar Gems Enterprise .

#### Decision:

Customs Department transferred the detained case to Myanmar Gems Enterprise whilst proper action will also be dealt with according to their own laws.







## **CASE 1**

### **SEIZED GUNS AND GUN PARTS**

#### **Case Facts:**

Authorized Inspection Team led by Lieutenant Police Officer, Myint Thaung, accompanied by Customs Inspector, Zin Bo Htet seized 20 packs of heroin, total weight of 280g, 3 packs of stimulant narcotic tablets (200 tablets each), and 19 packs of heroin (weighing 266g), total estimated valued 60.8 Million Kyats, were seized on the High-Way Road from Muse to Yangon On July 29, 2016, the Bureau of Customs (BOC), Enforcement Group, Customs Anti-Illegal Drugs Task Force (CAIDTF) received an intelligence report regarding firearms smuggling in shipments (in boxes) from U.S.A. and stored in Atlas Shippers International Inc., a Manila Warehouse. After validating the veracity of the information, the Customs coordinated with the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) for a controlled delivery from Manila warehouse to its final destination in Atlas Shippers International, Bacolod warehouse, Bacolod City. On August 4, 2016 BOC Police underguarded the suspected shipment from the Manila Warehouse to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) to be transported by PAL to Bacolod City.

On August 6, 2016, the CIDG arrested Wilford Z. Palma, clerk of Ta-ala Farm, Bacolod City and Brian C. Ta-ala, businessman and owner of Ta-ala Farm for illegal possession of firearms and arms smuggling, for having been found in possession and bringing into the country firearms and firearms parts described in the title, hereof without authority.







## Bureau Of Customs Philippines

### Modus Operandi:

The shipment in "Balikbayan" boxes usually sent as gifts by Filipino living abroad to relatives/friends in the Philippines declare as "Personal Effects and Household Goods" to escape the close scrutiny by Customs.



### Decision:

A case is now filed in court against the suspects for violation of Republic Act 10591, otherwise known as "An Act Providing for a Comprehensive Law on Firearms and Ammunition and Providing Penalties for Violation, thereof", while the seized items are in the custody of the CIDG.







### **CASE 2**

#### **SEIZED ONE TIME PASSWORD (OTP) ACCESS DEVICES, BANK CARDS BELONGING TO DIFFERENT OWNERS, SIM CARDS, WINING CONNECTORS, LAPTOP AND ACCESSORIES AND THE ARREST AND INQUEST OF A CHINESE NATIONAL**

##### **Case Facts:**

On August 31, 2016, the Operatives of the Bureau of Customs, Enforcement Group while on duty apprehended an arriving passenger named Mr. Hong Sheng Wu, a holder of Passport No. G28378234 and a male Chinese National, at Terminal 2 of Flight PR 383 from Guangzhou, China after finding that his baggage contained One Time Password (OTP) Access Devices, Bank Cards, Wiring connectors, Laptops and Accessories and other articles in commercial quantity, in violation of Section 1113 (f), 1401, 118 (g) of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, and R.A. 8484 (Access Device Act of 1998).

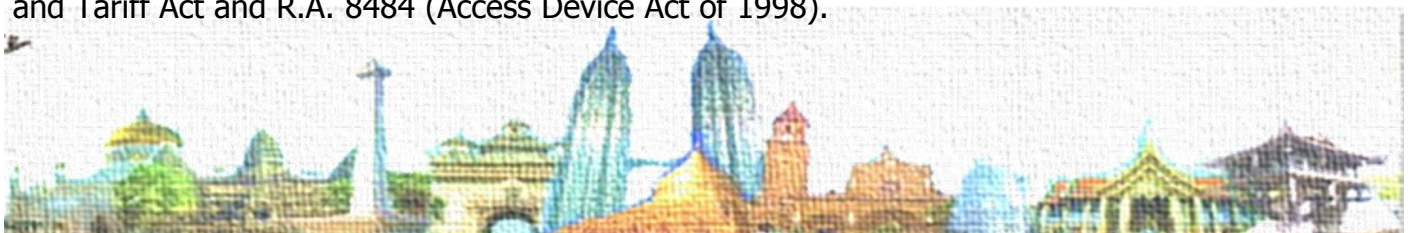


##### **Modus Operandi:**

The passenger did not declare the contents of his baggage.

##### **Decision:**

The confiscated imported items are in the custody of the BOC, NAIA, while Mr. Wu has already been inquested by the Customs Police, NAIA, in the Prosecutor's Office, Department of Justice, Manila, Philippines, for violation of Section 1113 (f), 1401, 118 (g) of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act and R.A. 8484 (Access Device Act of 1998).







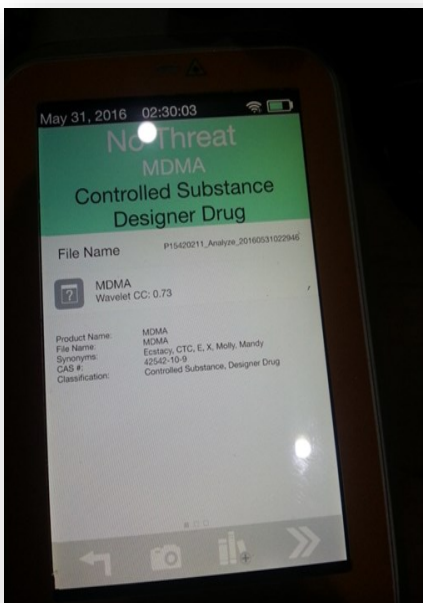
### **CASE 3**

#### **INTERCEPTION AND SEIZURE OF PARCELS CONTAINING 4,514 OF ECSTASY AND 2,573.90/XX OF AMPHETAMINE**

##### **Case Facts:**

In response to a derogatory information about suspected illegal importations in parcels sometime on September 2016 the Customs Anti-Illegal Drugs Task Force (CAIDTF), Enforcement Group, Bureau of Customs together with Port of Manila Collection District representatives, and the elements of Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), conducted an operation on suspected parcels at the Manila Central Post Office. During operation, three (3) parcels consigned to a certain Mr. Don Arnold were found to contain 4,514 pieces of Ecstasy, and the two (2) parcels consigned to one Mr. Martin Domingo were found to contain 2,573.90/xx of Amphetamine, contrary to the declarations as consisting of Lego Toys and Puzzles, respectively.

All parcels were found to have originated from Netherlands and that the intended consignee's who never claimed their shipments within the reglementary period were found to be spurious based on the CAIDTF and the PDEA investigation. Qualitative examination on the tablets and orange substances conducted by the PDEA Chemist gave positive result for the presence of 3, 4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) or Ecstasy and Amphetamine, respectively, both dangerous drugs under R.A. 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002".





## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*

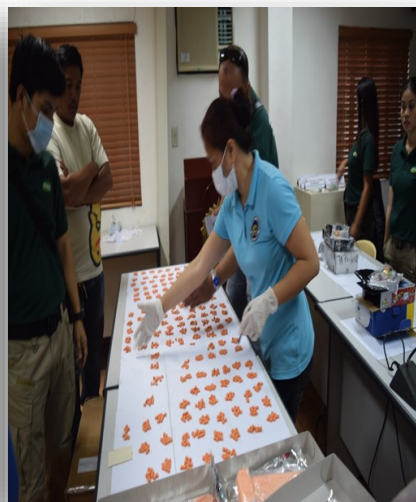
### **Modus Operandi:**

The parcels (3 pcs.) were declared as containing LEGO TOYS but actually found to contain Ecstasy tablets, while the two (2 pcs.) of parcels were declared as PUZZLES but actually were Amphetamine (yellow substances).



### **Decision:**

The parcels are now turned-over to PDEA as the final custodian of all seized illegal drugs.







## **CASE 4**

### **SEIZED MORE OR LESS THOUSAND PIECES (2,000 PCS) OF ECSTASY AT CENTRAL MAIL EXCHANGE CENTRE (CMEC)**

#### **Case Facts:**

On August 23, 2016, the CAIDTF, the NAIA-Assessment Division, ESS-CPD, NAIA and NAIA-Inter Agency Drug Interdiction Task Group, after receiving a derogatory information monitored the movement of a parcel declared as vitamins but contain more or less two thousand pieces of Ecstasy at Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC), Pasay City, Philippines, consigned to one Darwin Bernardino, and subsequently apprehended the same and to be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of R.A. 9165. Before the interception of said illegal drugs nobody of the two consignees claimed their shipments.



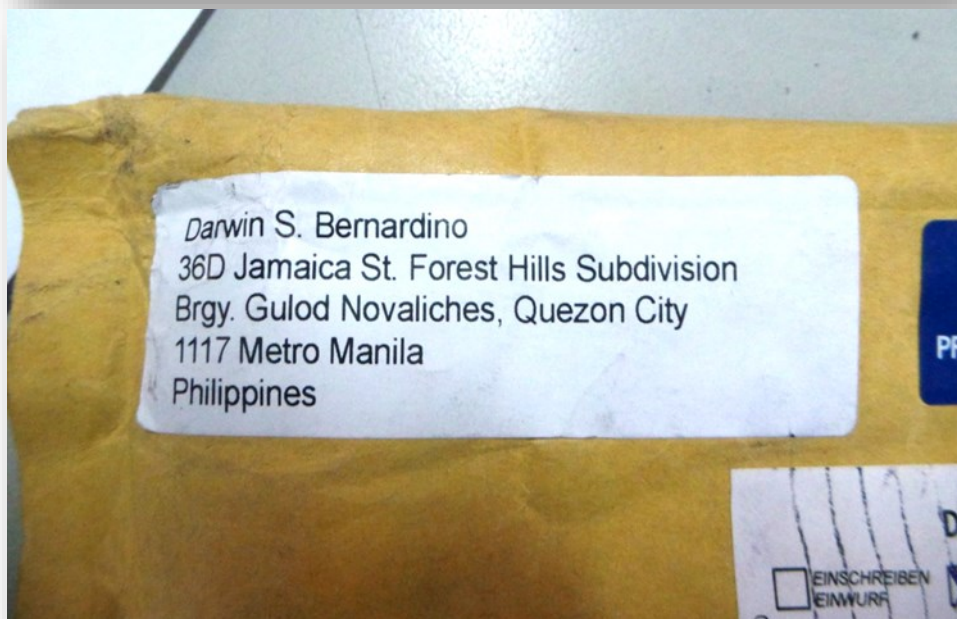




## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*

### **Modus Operandi:**

The parcel was declared as containing Vitamins but actually found to be ECSTASY



### **Decision:**

The parcels are now turned-over to PDEA as the final custodian of all seized illegal drugs.







### **PHILIPPINES CUSTOMS DRUG SEIZURE CASES (INBOUND PASSENGER)**

#### **Case Facts:**

The following inbound passengers were all apprehended at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) and Clark International Airport, in Manila and Pampanga, Philippines, respectively. The passengers had travelled via commercial flights from Rio De Janeiro (Brazil), with common stop-over in Dubai. Arrivals were made in close succession, occurring almost every week from August to November 2016. Investigation conducted showed that subject passengers were recruited by the West African Drug Syndicate in order to smuggle drugs into the Philippines.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

Concealment methods include : 1] aluminum foil wrappings and carbon-reinforced plastics in order to avoid x-ray detection, placed inside a suitcase's false bottom; 2] drug sachets were concealed inside biscuit cans; and 3] concealment inside packaging of food supplements.

#### **Decision:**

Passengers were all apprehended and are now facing criminal charges for drug-trafficking before Philippine Courts. Once convicted, all will serve years of imprisonment and deportation after service of sentence.





## Bureau Of Customs Philippines

### CASE 1

Passenger : **ALAN SOOHOO** (*American National*)  
Origin : USA  
Flight Details : EK 338 (Dubai to Clark International Airport, PH)  
Date Intercepted : August 30, 2016 at Clark International Airport  
Findings : 2.4 kgs. of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php12,000,000.00 (US\$ 240,000.00)



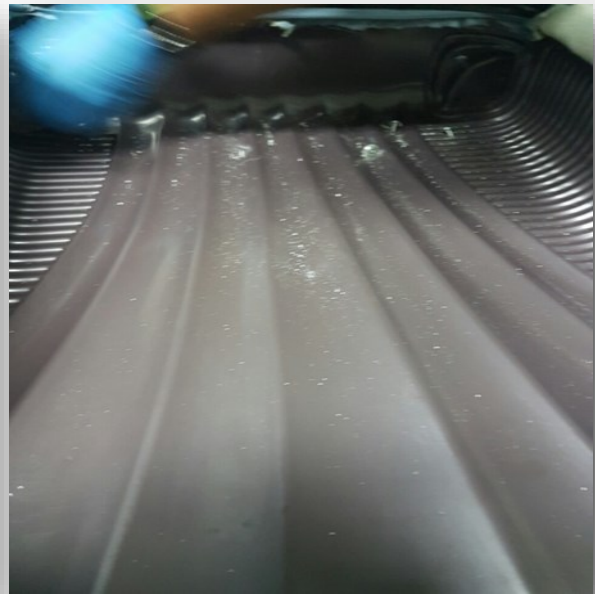




## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*

### **CASE 2**

Passenger : **MR. JON JON VILLAMIN** (Filipino)  
Origin : Rio De Janeiro, Brazil  
Flight Details : EK 332 (Dubai to Manila)  
Date Intercepted : October 3, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 4,445.60 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 22,228,000.00 (US\$ 444,560.00)

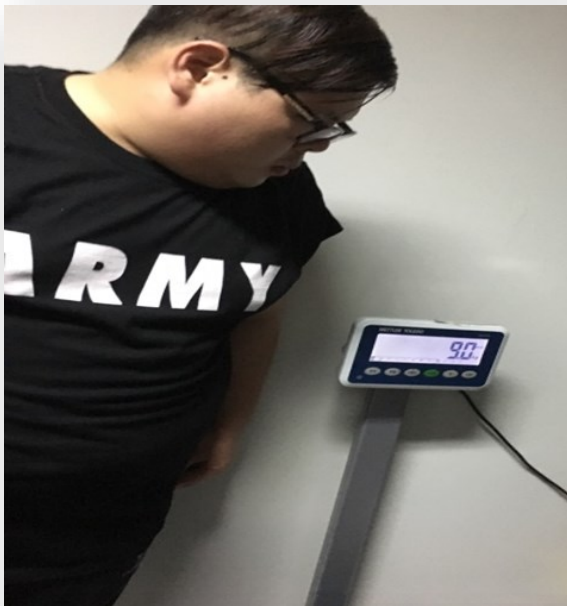




## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*

### **CASE 3**

Passenger : **MR. CHAN KA WAI** (Hongkong National)  
Origin : Rio De Janeiro, Brazil  
Flight : EK 332 (Dubai to Manila)  
Date Intercepted : October 6, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 9,010 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 45,050,000.00







## **CASE 4**

Passenger : **MR. HOMAN EVAN PAU** (Chinese)  
Origin : Rio De Janeiro, Brazil  
Flight : EK 332 (Dubai to Manila)  
Date Intercepted : October 6, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 8,990 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 44,950,000.00 (US\$ 899,000.00)





## Bureau Of Customs Philippines

### CASE 5

Passenger : **MR.YURY KIRDYUSKIN** (Russian)  
Origin : Rio De Janeiro, Brazil  
Flight : EK 332 (Dubai to Manila)  
Date Intercepted : October 6, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 6,366.0041 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 31,830,020.50







## CASE 6

Passenger : **YASMIN SILVA Y FERNANDEZ** (Brazilian)  
Origin : Rio De Janeiro, Brazil  
Flight : EK 332 (Dubai to Manila)  
Date Intercepted : October 17, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 5,826.4 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 29,132,000.00 (US\$ 582,640.00)





## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*

### **CASE 7**

Passenger : **GENESIS LORENA SALAZAR Y PINEDA** (Venezuelan)  
Origin : Rio De Janeiro, Brazil  
Flight : EK 332 (Dubai to Manila)  
Date Intercepted : October 18, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 3,907.4328 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 19,537,164.00 (US\$ 390,743.28)







## CASE 8

Passenger : **NASSIRUDDIN BIN MOHD HASNAN** (Malaysian)  
Origin : Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Date Intercepted : November 21, 2016 at NAIA T3, Philippines  
Findings : 4,608.2013 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 23,041,006.50 (US\$ 460,820.13)







## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*

### **CASE 9**

Passenger : ANASTASIIA NOVOPASHINA (Russian)  
Address : Iguassu, Brazil  
Origin : Dubai  
Date Intercepted : November 29, 2016 at NAIA T3, Arrival Area  
Findings : 12,781.9 grams of Cocaine  
Estimated Value : Php 63,909,500.00 (US\$ 1,278,190.00)







## **INBOUND PARCELS**

### **CASE 1**

#### **BERNARDINO CASES**

##### **Case Facts:**

On August 23, 2016, a parcel which originated from Germany was intercepted by Philippine authorities at the NAIA Central Mail Exchange Center, after receiving derogatory information. Found inside the parcel were more or less 2,000 pieces of ecstasy tablets with an estimated value of Php 3,000,000.00 (US\$ 60,000.00). Subject parcel was consigned to a certain Darwin Bernardino, a Filipino citizen.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Parcel was declared to contain "vitamins". Contraband was wrapped in black lead plastic and inserted inside two brown envelopes.

##### **Decision:**

Investigation still on going, after consignee did not claim the parcel despite due notice.





## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*







### **CASE 2**

#### **REVERA / CORTES CASE**

##### **Case Facts:**

On November 15, 2016, a parcel from Congo was intercepted at FED-Ex (PAL-PSI) at NAIA, Manila, Philippines. The parcel was to contain a backpack with 1,206.8 grams of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride ("shabu"), with a street value of Php 8,000,000.00 (US \$ 161,134.00). Subject parcel was consigned to a certain Ronald P. Revera and Bryan L. Cortez.

##### **Modus Operandi:**

Parcel was declared to contain "clothes and wigs". Perpetrators used fake IDs and fake address, which alerted local intelligence authorities.

##### **Decision:**

Authorities arrested the consignees after they attempted to claim the parcel at FEDEX Cargo Warehouse, NAIA. Suspects are now detained and are facing criminal charges before a Philippine Court.





## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*







## **CASE 3**

### **DOMINGO / ARNOLD CASE**

#### **Case Facts:**

On September 14, 2016, five (5) parcels from The Netherlands were intercepted at the Manila Post Office. Subject parcels were found to contain 5,000 pieces of Ecstasy, and an undetermined amount of Amphetamine- three (3) parcels were consigned to a certain Don Arnold, and two (2) parcels were consigned to a certain Martin Domingo, both with Philippine addresses.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

The illegal drugs were found hidden separately in five parcels declared to contain "toys". They were embedded inside the toy parts. Drug syndicates usually order illegal drugs online, using fake identity and use bitcoins as payment instead of credit cards.

#### **Decision:**

Investigation is on-going after the named consignees failed to claim the parcels despite due notice.





## *Bureau Of Customs Philippines*







### **OUTBOUND PARCELS**

#### **Case Facts:**

The following outbound parcels were intercepted at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) in Manila, Philippines, thus prevented from being shipped abroad.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

Drug packets were concealed in books, laptop casings, and hard plastic containers which were all packed in DHL boxes

#### **Decision:**

Drugs were confiscated by the government, while investigation is on-going for case build-up against the sender of the outbound parcels.





## **CASE No. 1**

Consignee : **KIM KIL SHIN** (Korean)  
Sender : Chi Pui Wong  
Address/Origin : 810 Unit 1 Rockwell, Makati City, Philippines  
Date Intercepted : August 25, 2016 at NAIA, DHL  
Findings : 71.2 grams of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride  
("Shabu")  
Estimated Value : Php 356,000.00 (US\$ 7,120.00)







## CASE No. 2

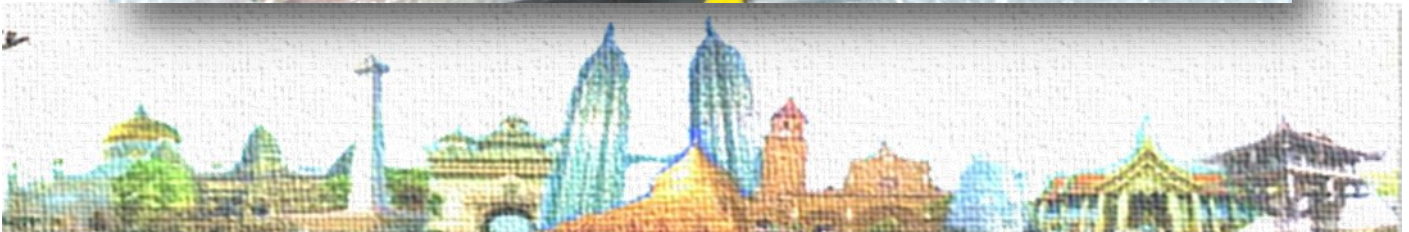
Consignee : **INGEBORG RUFFIN** (*US National*)  
Origin : Baguio City, Philippines  
Date Intercepted : October 27, 2016 at NAIA, DHL  
Findings : 8.8 grams of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride ("*Shabu*")  
Estimated Value : Php44,000.00 (US\$ 880.00)





## CASE No. 3

Consignee : **MHARMOUNY EST. CO/JANMARK EBANIZ**  
Address : Jeddah, Saudi Arabia  
Origin : Novaliches, Quezon City  
Date Intercepted : October 27, 2016 at NAIA, DHL  
Findings : 20 grams of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride ("Shabu")  
Estimated Value : Php100,000.00 (US\$ 2,000.00)







### CASE 1

#### ICA AND SINGAPORE CUSTOMS FOIL ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE 10,000 CARTONS OF CONTRABAND CIGARETTES THROUGH TUAS CHECKPOINT

##### Case Facts:

On 9 April 2016, a prime mover with a cement bowser on its trailer, driven by a 38-year-old male, arrived at the Tuas Checkpoint. The prime mover had been declared to be carrying cement, and was targeted by Singapore Customs for inspection.

Noticing anomalies in the scanned images of the consignment in the cement bowser, Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) officers directed it for further inspection.

On opening the latch of the bowser, the ICA officers saw boxes instead of the declared consignment of cement. A total of 10,000 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes were recovered from the bowser.

The case was handed over to Singapore Customs for investigation. The duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) evaded amounted to about S\$776,000 and S\$78,000 respectively.

##### Modus Operandi:

The 10,000 cartons of duty unpaid cigarettes was hidden within the cement bowser.

##### Decision:

Investigations are on-going.



- The cement bowser used to smuggle the contraband cigarettes





- ▶ Contraband cigarettes used to conceal the contraband cigarettes



- ▶ A total of 10,000 cartons of contraband cigarettes were seized





## CASE 1

### IVORY SEIZURE FROM MOZAMBIQUE

#### Case Facts:

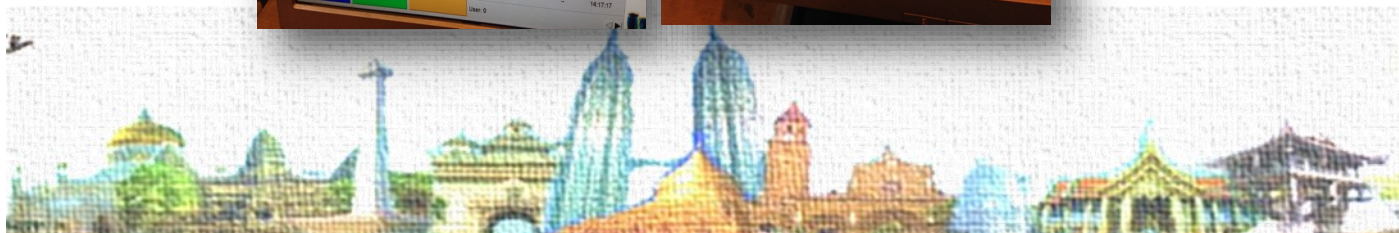
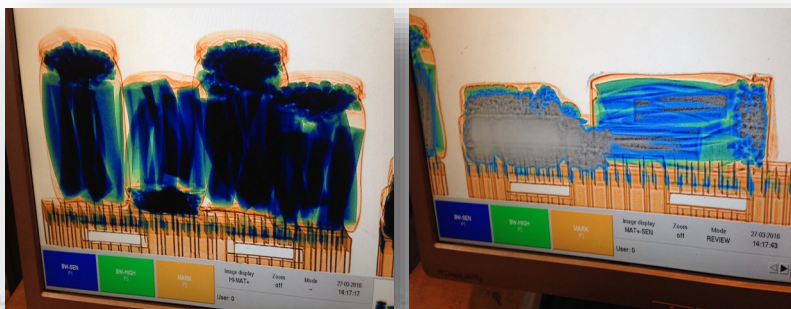
Thai Customs officers of Investigation and Suppression Bureau, Cargo Unit had seized 87 pieces of ivory with weight 315.20 kilograms at Suvarnabhumi International Airport. The shipment was originated from Mozambique.



#### Finding:

On 27th March 2016, Customs officers found a suspicious shipment by Kenya Airways flight 886 from Nampula, Mozambique en route to Bangkok, Thailand. The consignee is Guinean.

According to the manifest, the shipment was declared as Rough stone of 22 cartons weighing more than 1,000 kilograms. However, 10 cartons were left at Jomo Kenyatta International airport, Nairobi Kenya due to the security reason of the airline. Thai Customs alerted Kenya Customs to inspect the leftover, where it was found containing 18 pieces of ivory.





- ▶ Meanwhile, the official at Suvarnabhumi airport has found 87 pieces of ivory weight 315 kilograms, covered by rough stone and plastic bags.





### **Modus Operandi:**

African Ivory is one of the product listed on CITES Appendix I. The ivory is originated from African countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Mozambique. Through the Risk Management, Thai Customs has seized many similar cases of false declaration. As stipulated in the National Ivory Action Plan of Thailand, every shipment from high risk countries will be inspected by X-ray machine.

### **Decision:**

The offender will be charged with the Customs Act B.E.2469 (1926), Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act, B.E.2535 (1992) and Fisheries Act B.E.2558 (2015) for bringing the prohibited or restricted goods (CITES appendix I) through the Kingdom of Thailand which shall be fined of four times the amount of price of the goods including duty or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years or both. The case was sent to the Natural Resource Police for further investigation.





## **CASE 1**

### **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON SEIZURES OF DRUGS**

#### **Case Facts:**

Intelligence information on a vehicle suspected to carry drugs concealed in container lead to a seizure of approximately 30 kg of Methamphetamine Ice. The vehicle was from China, and suspected to transit through Vietnam via land border (Lang Son area) before reaching to Cambodia.

#### **Finding:**

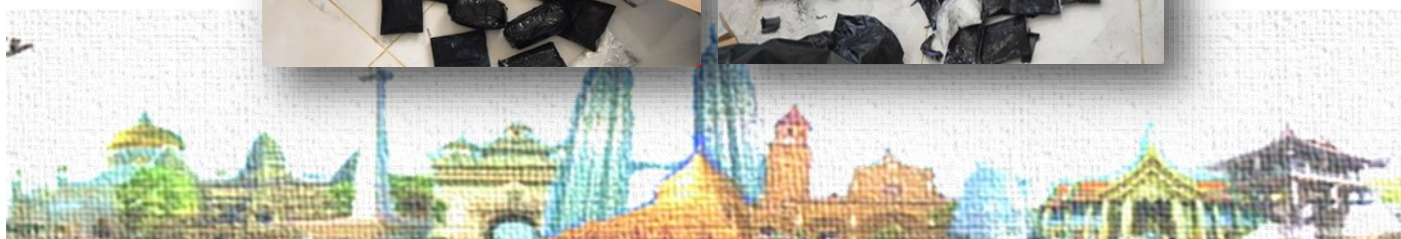
On 4th April 2016, a massive joint operations among drug enforcement authority of China, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam were conducted in correspond to the intelligence information. Throughout the operations, Vietnam Customs had seized 15.8 kg of Methamphetamine Ice in Sa Mat border gate (near to Cambodia), while China Customs had seized 4.87 kg of Methamphetamine Ice and detained 3 suspects. The Thai Drug Enforcement Office also seized 8.5 kg of Methamphetamine Ice and detained 2 suspects ; with the detaining of one suspect by Cambodia Police.

#### **Modus Operandi:**

The drugs were concealed inside the printer ink cartridges and camera. A total of five cartons of boxes containing ink cartridges and cameras were found inside the container.

#### **Decision:**

The case was handed over to Vietnam Police as domestic regulations. China, Thai Lan, Cambodia and Vietnam related authorities kept cooperation and had meetings to discuss more further investigation into the syndicates.







## CASE 2

### EXAMPLES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN DRUG SEIZURES

#### Case Facts:

Seizure of cocaine at the Phnom Penh International Airport from the Intelligence findings shared by Vietnam Customs.

#### Finding:

On the 14th August 2016, Vietnam Customs had informed the Cambodia Customs on the intelligence information shared by the Hong Kong and Qatar Drug Enforcement Agency. It was suspected that one Romanian passenger on flight number QR970 from Doha will be carrying cocaine. He was on transit in Vietnam and will be going to Cambodia as the final destination.

Cambodia Customs had informed that a total of 4.961,69 grams of cocaine was seized from the suspect. The seizure was made by the Cambodia Customs in cooperation with Cambodia Drug Enforcement Police.





## CASE 3

### SEIZURE OF 310 KG OF ELEPHANT TUSK IN THE AIRPORT

#### Case Facts:

On 1st October 2016, the Anti-Smuggling and Investigation Department and Noi Bai International Airport Customs had seized 310 kg of elephant tusk. According to customs declaration, the cargo was transported on an Etihad Airway flight EY 9952 from Lagos, Nigeria to Vietnam.

#### Modus Operandi:

The cargo was declared as glass, which was sent from the US to Vietnam. The consignee also used fake address.

#### Decision:

The case is considered to be prosecuted for smuggling of CITES products (as Criminal Laws – Art 153)







## CASE 4

### MAJOR SEIZURE OF 4 TONNES OF CITES PRODUCTS

#### Case Facts:

In October 2016, Vietnam Customs in cooperation with other authorities managed to intercept 3 major cases on smuggling of CITES Products, with total seizure of approximately 4 tonnes. The products were believed to be originated from Africa, and transited through Malaysia before reaching Cai Lai Seaport of Vietnam. The details of seizure made in each cases are 2.052kg of ivory for case 1; 594,7kg of ivory and 277kg of pangolin scale for case 2; and 970 kg of ivory for case 3.

#### Modus Operandi:

All CITES products were mainly covered in wax, plaster, and clay and concealed among the different types of wood inside the containers.

#### Decision:

The cases are considered to be prosecuted for smuggling of CITES products (as Criminal Laws – Art 153)



