

**Instructions of the Director General of the Customs Authority
No.(54) for the year 2021**

Given the near mandatory operation date of the Advance Cargo Information system “ACI” at seaports and for the sake of swift completion of the procedures related to the said system.

In light of what the periodical follow-ups have revealed during the trial implementation of the ACI system which commenced since April 2021 and what has been agreed upon with the company implementing the project on 26/9/2021, **the following shall be adhered to:**

1- With regards to dealing with the shipments that has been shipped to Egyptian Sea Ports starting as of 1/10/2021 which is subject to the ACI system, the importers or their agents shall make sure that the requirements stipulated by the system are available, most important of which is:

- The Egyptian importer shall have activated account(s) over the electronic portal (Nafeza) and an electronic signature(s) (e-token).
- The foreign exporter shall have activated account(s) over Cargo X platform.
- The foreign exporter shall send the documents and data of the shipment electronically according to the regulations of operation of the ACI system including the data of the digital invoice (Structured data).

2- With regards to the shipments of spare parts and personal luggage that arrives at the Egyptian Sea Ports:

- One (or more) Customs item shall be enrolled where the Customs Officers shall determine the articles of the actual Customs Tariffs upon carrying out the inspection operation.

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- **With regards to bulk cargoes that arrives from abroad to Egyptian Sea Ports for storage at the warehouses established inside the Customs Circuits until release:**
- Admission shall be allowed temporarily upon the request of the warehouse to obtain an ACID for inbound shipments – provided that each bill of lading shall be granted an ACID – upon the condition that the application for storage shall be submitted for each bill together with the acknowledgment of the warehouse of bearing full responsibility for all shipment data until the warehouse adapts in order to comply according to the stipulated procedures in the ACI system and provided that the warehousing companies established inside the customs circuits shall take all necessary procedures for registration over Nafeza platform and obtain electronic signature(s) (e-token) for the employees of the company dealing with the system.

3- With regards to shipments of strategic commodities that arrives to Egyptian Sea ports via (tramp vessels):

- The importer or his agent shall request the issuance of an ACID for each shipment (for each bill of lading) within a duration not less than (3) hours before submitting the manifest.

4- With regards to strategic commodities and other shipments of a single type over a single means of transport in favor of a single importer with a To-order bill of lading:

- An ACID shall be obtained for each (bill of lading) separately and not a single number for all bills of lading.

5- With regards to the shipments of (Sovereign Bodies – inbound gifts and giveaways from foreign governments and international bodies to the Egyptian government – exported cargoes temporarily, the time of their import and the returned export – Embassies and Organizations – Combined bills system – personal luggage – transshipment vessels – BACK TO BACK):

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- MTS has made available the automated processing for these cases over the ACI system in line with the data of these shipments and the parties of the import operation that leads to the facilitation of the procedures of obtaining an ACID.

6- With regards to the shipments stuck in transshipment ports before the mandatory date of implementation on 1/10/2021 which have not been shipped to their final destination in Egypt because of the coronavirus circumstances or the shutdown of some of the ports or some other reason:

- These shipments shall be granted an exceptional grace period of two weeks for the mandatory application of the system provided the documents indicating that the shipment have been shipped / loaded from its first port of loading prior to the date of 1/10/2021 are submitted (shipping document and an official declaration by the intermediary port or the maritime agent of arrival of the shipment to the port where it could not be re-shipped before 1/10/2021 for whatever reason.

7- In case the data of the exporting company to Egypt could not be registered (companies located in warzones or areas of catastrophes) on (Cargo X) platform and that data could not be checked. The following shall be adhered to:

- The Egyptian importer shall obtain copies of the documents for each exporting company he is dealing with (commercial register – tax card – bank statement of the company ratified by the Bank) and submit an undertaking from the importer of the validity of the documents and the data submitted notarized and certified by the authenticity of the signature of the bank. All of the aforementioned documents shall be notarized by the embassy of the import country or the commercial representative office of same inside Egypt which shall then be presented to MTS to take the necessary action towards registering the data of the company on Cargo X platform and activating same.

8- With regards to Sea ports that do not currently operate under Nafeza system:

- MTS shall coordinate with the Technology Sector at the Customs Authority to make the system available on a screen at each port so that the Customs officer can ascertain that an ACID is issued to the shipment upon the commencement of the mandatory implementation of the ACI system on 1/10/2021.

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9- Inbound vehicles under triptik system which enters the Country driven by their owners from abroad shall be exceptionally excluded until it is processed properly over the ACI system.

10- Direct Transit consignments and empty containers coming from abroad to be used for stuffing shall not be subject to the Advance Cargo Information System.

These instructions shall be minutely implemented.

Director General of the Customs Authority

(Elshahat Ghatwary)

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