

INTERIM MEASURES TO FACILITATE THE IMPORTATION OF CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL SCIENTIFIC AND THERAPEUTIC PURPOSES

PART A – PRELIMINARIES

1. Legislative Role of the Cannabis Licensing Authority

- (a) The **Cannabis Licensing Authority** (“the Authority”) is the regulatory body in Jamaica empowered to issue authorizations for the importation of cannabis¹.
- (b) These authorizations are issued in keeping with sections 7D and 9A of the Dangerous Drugs Act (“the Act”) as well as in accordance with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol.
- (c) The Authority is responsible for regulating the handling of hemp and ganja for medical, therapeutic and scientific purposes within the meaning of section 7D of the Act.
- (d) Handling as defined by section 7D of the Act includes use, cultivation, processing, importation, exportation, transit, manufacture, sale, possession and distribution.

2. Information to be Provided by Importer/Consignee *(NB. All Importers/Consignees should be a licensee or the holder of an authorisation issued by the Authority)*

- (a) Importer/Consignee:
 - i. Name:
 - ii. Address:
 - iii. Licence No.:
 - iv. Licence Issue Date:
 - v. Expiry Date:
- (b) Exporter/Consignor:
 - i. Name:
 - ii. Address:
 - iii. Permit No.:
 - iv. Permit Issue Date:
 - v. Expiry Date:
- (c) Description of Product(s)/Item(s) to be Imported from [Country] and the Intended Purpose:
 - i. Substance: cannabis
 - ii. Product(s)/ Item(s): e.g. inflorescence/flowers

¹ Cannabis includes all parts of the plant cannabis sativa/indica such as the flowers/inflorescence, resins and its extracts as well as seeds and clones.

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- iii. Intended Purpose: medical/research
- iv. Quantity:
- v. Means of Transport: air cargo/sea cargo
- vi. Port of Entry:
- vii. Country of Final Destination:

PART B – OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS

3. Government Entities: -

- (a) The Jamaica Customs Agency (JCA)
- (b) The Plant Quarantine Produce Inspection Branch (PQPIB), Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA)
- (c) The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), if required.
- (d) Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO) (for commercial purposes/quantities only)

4. Non-Government Entities, as applicable: -

- (a) Carrier (i.e. airline or shipper)
- (b) Broker/Courier, as permitted by the legal and regulatory framework.
- (c) Private Security Regulatory Authority (PSRA) approved private security companies.

PART C: PROCESS FLOW TO FACILITATE THE IMPORTATION OF CANNABIS

5. Role of the Importer/Consignee

- (a) Submission of documents to the Authority verifying information provided at Item 2(c), above, including invoice from the Exporter/Consignor.
- (b) Confirmation from the PQPIB as to whether a Phytosanitary Certificate is needed and if so, submit a copy of same to the Authority.
- (c) Provide the relevant regulatory body of the exporting country with the Import Authorization when same is granted.
- (d) Submit the airway bill/bill of lading to the Authority.
- (e) Inform the Authority in writing, at least two (2) weeks prior to the stipulated date of importation, of the proposed plan and procedures for the cannabis to be transported from the port of entry to the Importer's/Consignee's authorized secured site, which must be inclusive of, but not limited to the following:
 - i. transportation time and the approved route (which shall be entered in a log kept in a form approved by the Authority).

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- ii. the name(s) of individual(s) accessing the transport vehicle and a record of the access log of said individual(s) in a form approved by the Authority.
- iii. a plan of the detailed security arrangements for conveyance to the authorized secured site.

6. Role of the Cannabis Licensing Authority

- (a) Conduct the requisite risk assessment to include the verification of the contents of the Export Authorization with the relevant authority of the exporting country, among other things.
- (b) Issue No Objection Letter to Importer/Consignee, where applicable.
- (c) Confirm receipt of Phytosanitary Certificate, if applicable.
- (d) Issue the Import Authorization to the Importer/Consignee for the importation of the cannabis upon satisfaction of all the relevant requirements stated above and specify whether the Import Authorization will allow the importation in more than one consignment.
- (e) Submit to the Jamaica Customs Agency, a certified copy of the original Import Authorization issued to the Importer/Consignee by the Authority as well as a copy of the Export Certificate or Permit issued by the exporting country.
- (f) Approve the transportation route and security arrangements.
- (g) Supervise the transportation and delivery of the said cannabis to the authorized secured site.

Should you require any additional information, please contact the Licensing and Applications Division at (876) 654-7582 or applicants@cla.org.jm.