

INTERIM MEASURES TO FACILITATE THE EXPORT 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 Exporter/Consignor *(NB. All Exporters/Consignors should be a licensee or the holder of an authorisation issued by the Authority)*

(a) Exporter/Consignor:

- i. Name:
- ii. Address:
- iii. Licence No.:
- iv. Licence Issue Date:
- v. Expiry Date:

(b) Importer/Consignee:

- i. Name:
- ii. Address:
- iii. Import Certificate No./Permit No.:
- iv. Permit Issue Date:
- v. Expiry Date:

(c) Description of Product(s)/Item(s) to be Exported to [Country], the Intended Purpose and Final Destination:

- i. Substance: cannabis
- ii. Product(s)/Item(s): e.g. inflorescence/flowers
- iii. Intended Purpose: medicinal/research
- iv. Quantity:

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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- 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) — (in the case where seeds are being exported)
- (c) The Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO) (for commercial quantities/purposes only)
- (d) The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), if required

4. Non-Government Entities, as applicable:

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

PART C: THE STEP BY STEP PROCESS FLOW TO FACILITATE THE EXPORT OF CANNABIS

5. Role of the Exporter/Consignor

- (a) Submit the original Import Certificate or Permit from the importing country to the Authority for verification.
- (b) (i) Inform the Authority of the agreed plan and procedures between the Exporter/Consignor and the carrier that will be transporting the cannabis to the importing country.
- (ii) Submit a detailed logistics plan five (5) days prior to the proposed transport date which must be inclusive of, but not limited to the following:
 - date, time and description of activities with the responsible parties² at each stage leading up to the delivery of package(s) to the representative of the Jamaica Customs Agency or the relevant third-party carrier.
 - transportation time and route shall be submitted for approval by the Authority and the approved route shall be entered in a log kept in a form approved by the Authority.

² Responsible parties include – approved employee of licensee, armed escort (PSRA approved security company, JDF or JCF personnel or Customs Officer etc.), Courier/Broker and Carrier.

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- submission of the name(s) of individual(s) accessing the transport vehicle and a recorded access log of said individual(s) must be kept in a form approved by the Authority.
- detailed security arrangements for conveyance to the point of delivery.
- (c) Secure from the Authority, the original Export Authorization for the export of the cannabis.
- (d) Send a copy of the Import Certificate or Permit and the Export Authorisation issued to the Exporter/Consignor to the Regulatory Authority of the importing country.
- (e) (i) Prior to the packaging, labelling and sealing of the cannabis for export, request the presence of the Authority to supervise the aforementioned activities.
- (ii) The Exporter/Consignor shall be required to take note of the following: -
 - The labelling, packaging and sealing of products for export must adhere to the directives issued by the Authority.
 - Packages for export must be labelled.
 - Labels must include the requisite information relating to the strain(s) and corresponding net weight(s), country of origin, CBD/THC content and the date of packaging.
- (f) Be present at the port, at the time of export or prior to the shipment, to oversee the handover of the cannabis to the Jamaica Customs Agency.
- (g) Inform the Authority of the safe landing and delivery of the package to the destination, within two (2) working days of its arrival.
- (h) Advise the head of the JCF stationed at the port of the export activity.

6.Role of the Cannabis Licensing Authority

- (a) Conduct the requisite risk assessment to include the verification of the contents of the Import Certificate or Permit with the relevant authority of that importing country, among other things.
- (b) Confirm with importing country the need for a Phytosanitary Certificate from Jamaica.
- (c) Issue the Export Authorization to the Exporter/Consignor for the export of the cannabis, upon satisfying all the relevant requirements stated above.
- (d) Submit to the Jamaica Customs Agency, a certified copy of the original Export Authorization issued to the Exporter/Consignor by the Authority as well as a copy of the Import Certificate or Permit issued by the importing country.
- (e) Supervise the preparation of the cannabis, including packaging, labelling and sealing, not exceeding the quantity indicated on the Import Certificate or Permit.

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- (f) Escort/monitor the transportation and delivery of the said cannabis to the representative of the Jamaica Customs Agency and to the third-party carrier.
- (g) Liaise with the Exporter/Consignor to confirm safe landing and delivery of the package to the final destination.

7. Other Critical Steps when Exporting Cannabis:

- (a) Complete the requisite customs documents and submit relevant invoice(s).
- (b) These documents are to be completed before the date of shipment.
- (c) Contact the Jamaica Customs Contraband Enforcement Unit, 24 hours before delivering goods to the carrier. Contact number: 876-757-3912.
- (d) Present documents in relation to the cannabis being exported to Export Officer stationed at the Port of Export for screening, signing and numbering of said documents. The cannabis will also be screened during this exercise.
- (e) Delivery of cargo: -
 - i. The package is taken to the cargo area and screened to confirm the description of the product.
 - ii. The package is placed in an isolated and secured area of the warehouse due to the nature of the product being of high value and high risk where a security officer will be assigned to secure the package.
 - iii. Once screened, the product will be escorted to the carrier.

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