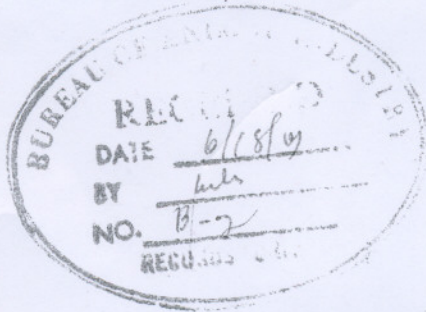




June 10, 2009



pergo/fo
is arrange a
meeting to public
this with BPI
BAI, XMS,
BTM

MEMORANDUM

TO : UNDERSECRETARY SEGFREDO S. SERRANO

FROM : *Bernie G. Fondevilla*
 ATTY. BERNIE G. FONDEVILLA
 Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

SUBJECT : **Strict Implementation of Quarantine and Inspection by Bio-security Agencies before Assessment of Duties and Charges of Imported Commodities**

We would like to inform you that during the 29th Cabinet Meeting held at Phela Grande Convention Center, Barangay Dadiangas North, General Santos City, the effects of the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA) on the local industries with the removal of tariffs on ASEAN products in 2010 were discussed.

In the course of the discussions, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) was directed to ensure that imported commodities that need to be quarantined are inspected and cleared first by the bio-security agencies before they are assessed of duties and charges. It was noted that the strict implementation of quarantine and inspection procedures will protect the country from the entry of pests and diseases, as well as other threats to human health and environment.

In view of the above, kindly organize the concerned DA regulatory agencies to meet and discuss with BOC the implementation of the directive.

Thank you.

