

REF: BURS/CED/OP 28 II (9)

5th November 2024

Chairperson  
Freight and Customs Clearing Agents Association of Botswana  
P.O. Box 41478  
Gaborone

**Attention: Mr. L. Baretto**

Dear Sir,

**DISCONTINUATION OF CONSOLIDATED CARGO CODE (9999) FOR TRANSIT GOODS**

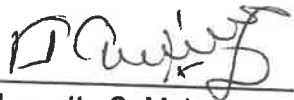
1. Please refer to the above subject matter.
2. As you may recall the association was consulted on the need to discontinue the use of transit code 9999, which was used to consolidate and clear transit cargo within the Trans Kalahari Corridor (TKC) Member States.
3. You will further recall that inline with international trade requirements, the consolidation of cargo is not considered a best practice as it distorts trade statistics and poses a security risk to the international supply chain. It was for this reason that a decision was taken to discontinue the use of consolidation of clearance of transit cargo, following the successful interface of the Botswana, Namibia and South African Customs Clearance Systems. The decision was taken cognisant of the fact that the systems interface allows the prepopulating of transit cargo, through the use of a Unique Consignment Reference (UCR), at the time of clearance.
4. In view of the above, the TKC Secretariat issued a public notice, on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024, informing the public that as of the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024, consolidation of cargo will no longer be in use.
5. You will recall that following the publication of the notice, Associations requested to be afforded a period of one (1) month, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, to familiarise themselves

with the use of the UCR. It is for this reason that the code for consolidation was left active in the Customs Management System (CMS), to allow for a transition period.

6. The purpose of this correspondence is, therefore, to inform the Associations that as from the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024, code 9999 will no longer be available in the CMS. We believe sufficient time has been provided for the familiarisation on the use of the UCR. In this regard, I request that you encourage your members to make use of the UCR to allow for the prepopulating of transit declarations.

7. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Yours faithfully



Jeanette C. Makgolo  
**COMMISSIONER GENERAL**

