Australian Customs Notice 1999 51

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CUSTOMS (PROHIBITED IMPORTS/EXPORTS) REGULATIONS**

The following amendments to the Customs *(Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* and *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* were notified in Special Gazette No. S376 of 16 August 1999. The amendments commenced on gazettal.

# SANCTIONS AGAINST ANGOLA

The United Nations Security Council imposed, via Resolution 1173 of 12 June 1998 further sanctions against the forces of Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola ("UNITA"). The sanctions prohibit the import of all diamonds from Angola not controlled through the Government of Unity and National Reconciliation of Angola's, Certificate of Origin system. In addition, the sanctions also prohibit the sale or supply of equipment to Angola used in mining or mining services and motorized vehicles or watercraft or spare parts for such vehicles, or ground or waterborne transportation services.

# Diamonds from Angola:

The importation of diamonds from Angola is prohibited unless covered by a permission from the Minister for Foreign Affairs or an authorised person of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The prohibition is implemented in Australia by regulation 4M of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* as amended by Statutory Rules 1999 No. 165 and applies only to goods classified under heading 7102 of Schedule 3 to

the *Customs Tariff Act 1995*. Jewellery that contains diamonds is not affected by the prohibition. **Export of certain goods to Angola:**

The prohibitions on the sale or supply of equipment to Angola (other than for verified medical and humanitarian purposes) used in mining or mining services and motorised vehicles or watercraft or spare parts for such vehicles, or ground or waterborne transportation services are implemented in Australia by regulation 13CF of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* as amended by Statutory Rules 1999 No. 164.

Regulation 13CH prohibits the exportation of the following goods to persons or entities in areas of Angola to which State administration has not been extended unless a permission in writing to export the goods, given by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or an authorised person of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, is presented to Customs at or before the time of exportation.

The newly imposed sanctions are in addition to those currently applied to the exportation to Angola, of petroleum, petroleum products, aircraft and aircraft components and imposed via United Nations Security Council Resolution Nos. 864, 1127 and 1135 of 1997. ACN Nos. 94/37 of 10 June 1994 and 98/04 of 13 January 1998 refer.

Any inquires concerning these amendments should be directed to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Canberra on (02) 6261 1842.

# SANCTIONS AGAINST SIERRA LEONE

The United Nations Security Council, via Resolution 1171 of 5 June 1998, imposed sanctions against Sierra Leone preventing the sale, other than through specific entry points nominated by the government of Sierra Leone, of arms and related material of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment and spare parts.

# Paramilitary equipment and spare parts:

The prohibition is implemented in Australia by regulation 13CH of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations1958* as amended by Statutory Rules 1999 No. 164. These relax the previous total prohibition on such equipment imposed via United Nations Security Council Resolution 1132 (1997) of 8 October 1997.

Exportation of paramilitary equipment and spare parts to Sierra Leone is prohibited unless a permission in writing to export the goods, given by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or an authorised person of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, is presented to Customs at or before the time of exportation.

Any inquiries concerning these amendments should be directed to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Canberra on (02) 6261 1842.

# Other arms and related material:

Those aspects of the resolution that relate to arms, weapons, ammunition, military vehicles and equipment and spare parts are implemented under existing regulation 13E of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958*. Regulation 13E prohibits the exportation from Australia of these goods unless a permission in writing to export the goods given by the Minister for Defence Industry, Science and Personnel or an authorised person of the Department of Defence, is presented to Customs at or before the time of exportation.

Any inquires concerning these amendments should be directed to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Canberra on (02) 6261 1842 or the Department of Defence on (02) 6266 3717.

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