

**[DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 97-08,
March 18, 1997]**

**GUIDELINES GOVERNING THE ENTRY AND DISPOSITION OF
IMPORTED LOGS, LUMBER, VENEER, PLYWOOD, POLES AND
PILES, AND PULPWOOD INCLUDING WOOD CHIPS**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1433, otherwise known as the Plant Quarantine Law of 1978; Executive Order No. 192, dated June 10, 1987; and in consonance with the policy on wood industry rationalization and development, the following guidelines governing the entry and disposition of imported logs, lumber, veneers, plywood, poles and piles, and pulpwood including wood chips are hereby promulgated for the guidance of all concerned.

SECTION 1. Basic Policy. — It is the policy of the government to sustainably manage the country's forest resources and to rationalize the development of the wood-based industries in order to continuously provide the wood supply need of the country in its efforts towards economic growth.

SECTION 2. Objectives. — In consonance with the above stated laws, the following objectives relative to the importation of logs, lumber, veneer, plywood, poles and piles, and pulpwood including wood chips (hereinafter referred to as wood materials) are hereby set forth:

1. To secure uninterrupted supply of affordable finished wood materials for the domestic market;
2. To import wood materials, as a stop-gap measure, until such time that local supply from natural and plantation forests can adequately meet the local needs towards economic growth, and to augment indigenous sources in order to utilize existing wood processing plant capacities;
3. To enable wood-based industries including the furniture and other downstream wood products export industries, generate employment and foreign exchange earnings.

SECTION 3. Who May Import Logs, Lumber, Veneer, Plywood, Poles and Piles, and Pulpwood including wood chips. — A holder of Timber License Agreement (TLA), Industrial Forest Management Agreement (IFMA), wood processing plant permits (WPP), or Certificate of Registration (CR) as agents, contractors or dealers of log/lumber, may import wood materials; Provided that before availing the privilege to import, the holder of TLA, IFMA and/or WPP shall have their existing local log and/or Lumber Dealer's Permit stamped by the Office of the Regional Executive Director (RED) concerned as valid also for imported wood materials without further undergoing a separate registration processes called for under DAO 94-17. However, a prospective agent, contractor or dealer who is not a holder of TLA, IFMA or WPP

shall first secure the registration requirements specified under DAO 94-17.

SECTION 4. Port of Entry. — Pending other designation by the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, the following shall be the ports of entry of imported wood materials:

1. For Luzon, the ports in:
 - Poro Point, San Fernando, La Union
 - Sta. Ana, Cagayan
 - Mariveles, Bataan
 - Batangas City
 - Legaspi City
 - South Harbor, Manila
2. For the Visayas, the ports in:
 - Iloilo City
 - Cebu City
3. For Mindanao, the ports in:
 - Cagayan de Oro City
 - Butuan City
 - Davao City
 - Zamboanga City
 - Parang, Maguindanao

SECTION 5. Entry and Discharge Requirement. — The importer shall, at least three (3) official working days before the arrival of the shipment, inform in writing the CENRO who has jurisdiction over the port of entry of the forthcoming shipment(s) indicating the type and volume of wood material(s), and the name of the vessel, and the expected time and date of its arrival and unloading. The CENRO concerned shall designate, in writing, a duly licensed and registered forester, as forest officer to meet the vessel at the port of discharge and attend to the inspection of the shipment of imported wood materials together with the personnel of the Bureau of Customs and the Plant Quarantine Office, Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture (PQO, BPI, DA):

1. A photostatic copy of the license, permit, certificate of registration and/or licenses to import as specified in Section 3 hereof;
2. A photostatic copy of the transaction documents pertinent to the shipment at hand, such as sales contract(s), letter(s) of credit and/or similar instruments;
3. A photostatic copy of the phytosanitary certificate issued by the country of origin duly received by the Plant Quarantine Officer who has jurisdiction at the port of entry indicating and therein that the logs, poles and piles were debarked and that the same, as well as the lumber, have been treated with government specified or equivalent chemicals against pests and diseases;
4. A photostatic copy of the inspection report of the Plant Quarantine Officer who attended to the said imported wood materials indicating that the same was properly treated and/or free from any disease or pest;