

Covering note for proposed amendments to rules under sections 8, 59A and 60 of the Customs and Excise Act, 1964, and consequential amendments

Amendments in respect of the rules under section 8, 59A and 60 of the Customs and Excise Act, 1964 (Act No. 91 of 1964), are hereby published for public comment **until 19 July 2019**. The publication also includes proposed consequential amendments to other rules as well as changes to forms DA 185 and DA 8 and its respective annexures.

The main purpose of the proposed amendments is to make provision for the **electronic submission of applications** for registration and licensing in respect of certain activities regulated by the Customs and Excise Act, 1964. The effect of the proposed amendments is that certain applications may be submitted **either electronically or in paper format**. However, because development of the electronic system is set to take place in phases, electronic submission **will not be available in respect of all applications at this stage**. The current manual mode of submission will continue to apply in respect of applications that are not catered for electronically yet. The amended rules set out which applications can only be submitted in paper format.

Certain amendments are furthermore proposed to bring the 1964 registration and licensing regime closer, within the legal constraints of the 1964 Act, to what the legislative position will eventually be when the new Customs legislation (viz. the Customs Control Act, 2014, Customs Duty Act, 2014 and Customs and Excise Amendment Act, 2014), is implemented.

Consequential amendments are also proposed throughout the rules to reflect the new position in relation to the different modes of submission of the relevant registration and licensing applications.

The following documents are published for purposes of public comment:

- A draft containing the proposed formal amendments to the rules under sections 8, 59A and 60;
- a draft containing the proposed formal amendments to various rules consequential to the proposed amendments to the rules under section 59A and 60; and
- Form DA 185 and Form DA 8 and its respective annexures, adapted as a result of the proposed rule amendments and systems development.