

**The Collectors of Customs**, Model Customs Collectorates, Appraisalment and Facilitation (East / West )/ Port Qasim / Enforcement and Compliance, JIAP, Karachi / (Appraisalment and Facilitation/Enforcement and Compliance), MCC Lahore/ Sambrial (Sialkot) / Faisalabad / Multan / Islamabad /Hyderabad/ Quetta ( Appraisalment and Facilitation Enforcement and Compliance Peshawar/ Gawadar/ Gilgit-Baltistan/ Exports (Karachi/Port Qasim)/.

**Determination of Customs Values of Sodium Lauryl Ether Sulphate and Sodium Lauryl Sulphate Under Section 25-A of the Customs Act, 1969**

(VALUATION RULING NO. 1444 / 20 ~~20~~ 20)

No. Misc/2/2014-II / 3002

Dated: 1703.2020

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 25-A of the Customs Act, 1969, Customs values of Sodium Lauryl Ether Sulphate and Sodium Lauryl Sulphate are determined as follows:

2. **Background of the valuation issue:** Customs values of aforementioned items were earlier determined through Valuation Ruling No.1305/2018 dated 21-05-2018. Multiple representations were received from stakeholders including Pakistan Chemicals and Dyes Merchant Association and Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry wherein it was contended that the values given in the valuation ruling, needed re-determination because the same did not reflect true prevailing prices in international markets. Moreover, various CPs were filed in the Honorable High Court of Sindh and the Honorable High Court directed to issue Ruling preferably within a period of 02 two months. This Directorate General, therefore, initiated an exercise for re-determination of the Customs Values of subject items.

3. **Stakeholders' participation in determination of Customs values:** Meetings with stakeholders, including the importers and the representatives from Pakistan Chemicals and Dyes Merchants Association (PCDMA) and field formations, were held on 16.05.2019, 21.10.2019 & 12-03-2020 in this Directorate General to discuss the issue of valuation of the subject goods. The stakeholders were also requested to furnish the following documents before or during the course of above said meetings:

- i. Invoices of imports during last three months showing factual value.
- ii. Websites, names and E-mail addresses of known foreign manufacturers of the item in question through which the actual current value can be ascertained.
- iii. Copies of Contracts made / LCs opened during the last three months showing the value of item in question.
- iv. Copies of Sales Tax Invoices issued during last four months showing the difference in price (excluding duty and taxes) to substantiate their contentions.

4. The meeting was attended by different stakeholders. Most of the participants contended that values were given in the Ruling on the higher side and proposed US\$ 990/MT for Sodium Lauryl Ether Sulphate. When asked to submit Sales Tax Invoices and other corroboratory evidences to substantiate their claim, only a few provided Performa invoices which were considered and discussed in detail.



5. **Method adopted to determine Customs values:** Valuation methods provided in Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969 were duly applied in their regular sequential order to arrive at customs values of subject goods. The transaction value method as provided in Sub-Section (1) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969 was found inapplicable due to wide variations of values displayed in the import data. Thereafter, identical / similar goods value methods as provided in Sub-Sections (5) & (6) of Section 25 ibid were examined for applicability to the valuation issue in the instant case but wide variations in declarations were observed. Information available was hence, found inappropriate. In line with the statutory sequential order of Section 25, this office conducted market inquiries under Sub-Section (7) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969. Resultantly, Customs values of subject goods have been determined under section 25 (7) of the Customs Act, 1969 accordingly.

6. **Customs values herein after specified** shall be assessed to duty/taxes at the following Customs Values:

S.No.	Item Description	PCT	Proposed PCT For WeBOC	Origin	Customs Values (C&F) USS/ Kg
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Sodium Lauryl Ether Sulphate	3402.1190	3402.1190.1000	China	1.054
		3402.1190	3402.1190.1100	All other Origins	1.207
2	Sodium Lauryl Sulphate	3402.1190	3402.1190.1200	China	1.650
		3402.1190	3402.1190.1300	All other Origins	1.778

*Note: Owing to issue of specifications the values notified above are not applicable on the imports of SLES by Ms. Procter & Gamble Pakistan (pvt) Ltd for the time being.*

7. In cases where declared/ transaction values are higher than the Customs values determined in this Ruling, the assessing officers shall apply those values in terms of Sub-Section (1) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969. In case of consignments imported by air, the assessing officer shall take into account the differential between air freight and sea freight while applying the Customs values in this Ruling.

8. **Validity of this Valuation Ruling:** The values determined vide this Ruling shall be the applicable Customs value for assessment of subject imported goods until and unless it is rescinded or revised by the competent authority in terms of Sub-Section (1) or (3) of Section 25-A of the Customs Act, 1969.

9. **Revision of the value determined vide this Valuation Ruling:** A revision petition may be filed against this Ruling, as provided under Section 25-D of the Customs Act, 1969, within 30 days from the date of issue of this ruling, before the Director General, Directorate General of Customs Valuation, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Custom House, Karachi.

10. The Collectors of Customs may kindly ensure that the values given in this Valuation Ruling for the given description of goods are applied by the concerned staff without fail. Any anomaly observed may kindly be brought to the notice of this Directorate General immediately. Customs values determined in the ruling are for the descriptions and specifications as mentioned in this Valuation Ruling. HS Codes are mentioned for illustrative purposes so that

