

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS37/99-00

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting
of the Legislative Council
on 3 December 1999**

**Legal Service Division Report on
Resolution under section 31(4) of the
Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60)**

The Secretary for Trade and Industry has given notice to move a motion at the meeting of 15 December 1999 to approve the Import and Export (Registration) (Amendment) Regulation 1999 (the amending regulation) made by the Chief Executive in Council under section 31 of the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60) on 16 November 1999.

2. The amending regulation will remove from the principal regulation all provisions allowing lodgement in person as one of the two existing methods of lodging trade declarations (TDECs) (i.e. import and export declarations) and all other supporting provisions (relating to place and manner of lodging declarations, charges payable and publication of forms).

3. After the amendments made by the amending regulation come into effect on a day to be appointed by the Secretary for Trade and Industry, the only lodgement method left will be lodgement by electronic data interchange(EDI).

4. According to the LegCo Brief (TIB 89/39/4 Pt. II issued by the Trade and Industry Bureau on 19 November 1999), the Administration intends that the amendments shall take effect from 1 April 2000 so as to achieve compulsory EDI lodgement as from that date. Amendments for the same purpose and which are intended to take effect from the same date will also be made to the Industrial Training (Clothing Industry) Ordinance (Cap. 318) (LC Paper No. LS31/99-00 containing report on the Industrial Training (Clothing Industry) (Amendment) Bill 1999 for the House Committee meeting on 26 November 1999 refers).

5. Importers, exporters, major business associations, the Small and Medium Enterprises Committee and LegCo Panel on Trade and Industry have been briefed on the plan to phase out lodgement of TDECs in person.

6. The legal and drafting aspects of the motion and the amending regulation are both in order.

Prepared by

CHEUNG Ping-kam, Arthur
Assistant Legal Adviser
Legislative Council Secretariat
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