Customs Clearing Process & Lead Times

Diplomatic vs Non Diplomatic

• Sea Freight
• Air Freight
• Road Freight
SEA FREIGHT

DIPLOMATIC (26 days)

1. Greenlight for Shipment (1 day)
   Ships supplies to Lagos Sea Ports and forward relevant documents i.e. BL, Parking List, Certificate of Origin, Certificate of Analysis to WCO Nigeria (20 days)

2. Clearing Agent is informed via mail & call about the incoming shipment (NA)

3. An original copy of approved Annual Duty waiver/exemption certificate is transferred to WHO clearing agent with LTA together with letter of authority to commence custom clearance processes (10 days)

4. Recall that the approved exemption certificate is forwarded to Customs Commissioner General at the appropriate port of entry for authentication purpose when the Annual waiver was released by Min. of Finance (NA)
   Port clearance of supplies and transportation to place of requirement (5 days)

NON-DIPLOMATIC (32 days)

1. Greenlight for Shipment (1 day)
   Assigns the shipment to a Shipping company; then e-mails Shipping documents to Consignee (NA days)
   Products are Shipped (20 days)

2. 3 originals of the Bill of Lading, Certificate of Origin, Certificate of Analysis, Invoices, Packing List and others in triplicate are sent via mail posting and received by the Consignee (NA)

3. Preliminary stages of the Clearing process begins once the copies of the Shipping documents have been received via mail (NA)

4. Ship arrives, Charges to APM Terminal, Shipping Charges (deposit for the Container to ensure their containers is returned to them), NAFDAC Charges etc are paid (10 days)
   Loading, Get gate Pass with all receipts of payments and pay a token (1 day)
**AIR FREIGHT**

**DIPLOMATIC (8 days)**

1. Forwarding of green light to cargo. Procurement Agent assigns the cargo to an airline and sends a copy of all documents which include AWB, Parking List, Certificate of Origin, Certificate of Analysis (where applicable) etc.

2. Selected clearing agent ready with LTA & Duty waiver/exemption to clear consignment; waybill, Invoices etc. received from the consignee are made available to the agent (1 day).

3. Forwarding of supplies to Abuja, Lagos or Air Port (or PH Airport in exceptional cases) etc. Cargo will arrive with an original AWB

4. Initiation of clearance process and immediate release of the goods after charges to SAHCOL/NAHCO, NAFDAC Charges etc. are paid (documents: Authority letter written to Custom Area Comptroller – Airport XXX) with AWB, Invoices, Packing List, Certificate of origin and certificate of analysis.

**NON-DIPLOMATIC (8 days)**

1. Greenlight for Shipment (1 day)
   The Procurement Agent after receiving the green light assigns the shipment to an Air Cargo Company; then e-mails shipping documents to Consignee (2 days)

2. Products are Cargoed (2 days)
   3 originals of the Air Way Bill (AWB), Certificate of Analysis, Invoices, Packing List and others in triplicate are sent through the airline bringing the products (NA)

3. Preliminary stages of the Clearing process begins once the copies of the Shipping documents have been received via mail (NA)

4. Cargo arrives with Original AWB, Charges to SAHCOL/NAHCO, NAFDAC Charges etc. are paid (2 days)
   Loading, Get gate Pass with all receipts of payments and pay a token (1 day)
ROAD FREIGHT

**DIPLOMATIC (10 days)**

1. In the case of freights by Road, the concept of green light does not have to apply (NA)
   Selected Clearing Agent ready with LTA & Duty waiver/exemption to clear consignment; waybill, Invoices etc. received from the storage point where products will be picked up are made available to the Agent (1 day)

2. Clearing Agent together with letter of authority to represent the organization given at the point of LTA start-up to commence custom clearance processes at the Border and copies scanned to the Land Port of Entry (2 days)

3. Port clearance of supplies and transportation to place of requirement (7 days)

**NON-DIPLOMATIC (10 days)**

1. In the case of freights by Road, the concept of green light does not have to apply (NA)
   Selected Clearing Agent ready with LTA & Duty waiver/exemption to clear consignment; waybill, Invoices etc. received from the storage point where products will be picked up are made available to the Agent (1 day)

2. Clearing Agent together with letter of authority to represent the organization given at the point of LTA start-up to commence custom clearance processes at the Border and copies scanned to the Storage pickup point (2 days)

3. Port clearance of supplies and transportation to place of requirement (7 days)