### MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE

### **SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM Independence - Freedom - Happiness**

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No. 39/2018/TT-BCT

Hanoi, October 30, 2018

#### **CIRCULAR**

PRESCRIBING INSPECTION AND VERIFICATION OF ORIGIN OF EXPORTED GOODS Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 98/2017/ND-CP dated August 18, 2017, defining the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Industry and Trade; Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 31/2018/ND-CP dated March 8, 2018 elaborating on the Law on Foreign Trade Management regarding the origin of exported goods;

Upon the request of the Director of the Import and Export Department,

The Minister of Industry and Trade hereby promulgates the Circular prescribing the inspection and verification of the origin exported goods.

#### Chapter I

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### Article 1. Scope

This Circular provides for the inspection and verification of the origin of exported goods before and after issuance of the certificate of origin (C/O), documents evidencing the certification of origin under the importing country's regulations and the self-certification of the origin of goods by tradespersons as per clause 1 of Article 28 in the Decree No. 31/2018/ND-CP dated March 8, 2018 elaborating on the Law on Foreign Trade Management regarding the origin of goods (hereinafter referred to as Decree No. 31/2018/ND-CP).

#### Article 2. Subjects of application

This Circular shall be applied to:

- 1. C/O-issuing bodies and organizations;
- 2. Bodies and organizations issuing the written document stating the acceptance of self-certification of the origin of goods;
- 3. Bodies and organizations receiving the registration of codes of certification of origin;
- 4. Tradespersons, including:
- a) Tradespersons requesting the grant of C/O;
- b) Tradespersons participating in the system for self-certification of origin;
- c) Tradespersons issuing the written document evidencing the certification of origin under the importing country's regulations;
- d) Manufacturers and suppliers of exported goods or raw materials used for manufacture of exports.
- 5. Other related entities and persons.

#### **Article 3. Interpretation**

1. Domestic body or organization authorized to inspect and verify the goods origin (hereinafter referred to as domestic authorized body or bodies) refers to the Department of Export and Import – the Ministry of Industry and Trade: C/O issuing body or organization: body or

organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods; body or organization receiving the registration for the origin certification code.

- 2. Body authorized to inspect and verify the origin of goods in the importing country (hereinafter referred to as the importing country's authorized body or bodies) refers to the customs authority of the importing country and the regulatory authority of the importing country.
- 3. *Inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods* refers to the review, comparison, verification of documents certifying the origin of goods which have been already issued or released in order to ensure the goods meet rules of origin.
- 4. Inspection and verification of the origin of goods at a manufacturing facility refers to the inspection and verification of the origin of goods carried out at a business establishment, manufacturing location, crop, animal or fishery production site and other location of a tradesperson in order to ensure the goods conform to rules of origin.
- 5. Request for inspection and verification of the origin of goods refers to a written document of the importing country's authorized body or another domestic authorized body that requests the provision of documents or information related to the origin of goods in doubt or requests cooperation in the inspection and verification of the origin of goods.

### Article 4. Inspection and verification of the origin of goods

- 1. The inspection and verification of the origin of goods shall be subject to provisions laid down herein.
- 2. In case where the preferential rules of origin referred to in international treaties to which Vietnam is a party, preferential rules of origin referred to in the generalized system of preferences, or other unilateral trade preferences that the importing country grants to Vietnam, contain regulations on the inspection and verification of the origin of goods, those regulations laid down in international treaties or adopted by the importing country shall become predominant.

#### Article 5. Method for inspection and verification of the origin of goods

The inspection and verification of the origin of goods shall be carried out according to the following method:

- 1. Inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods.
- 2. Inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility.

#### Chapter II

# INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS CERTIFYING THE ORIGIN OF GOODS Article 6. Cases of inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods which has already been issued or released

The inspection of documents verifying the origin of goods shall be carried out in the following cases:

- 1. The authorized body of the importing country requests the inspection of the origin of goods.
- 2. The domestic authorized body or organization carries out the inspection and management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods.
- 3. Other domestic authorized body requests cooperation if there are sufficient grounds for any suspicion or a sign of fraud in the origin of goods is detected.

# Article 7. Subject matters of the inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods which has already been issued or released

The domestic authorized body shall review documents certifying the origin of goods deposited with the C/O-issuing body or organization or the tradesperson, and request the tradesperson to provide relevant documents for verification of the followings:

- 1. Authority of the C/O-issuing body or organization, application and documentation requirements, procedures for issuance of C/O.
- 2. Authority of the body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods, application and documentation requirements and procedures for issuance of documents self-certifying the origin of goods; authority of the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code, application and documentation requirements and procedures for issuance of documents certifying the origin of goods under the importing country's regulations.
- 3. Adequacy and legitimacy in the origin declaration and commitment by the exporting tradesperson, manufacturer, supplier of exported goods or raw materials used for manufacturing of exported goods under legislative regulations on the origin of goods.
- 4. Business status of the tradesperson, such as the tradesperson's active status, temporary suspension of business activities, ownership transfer, closure or bankruptcy as per laws.
- 5. Other relevant information, documents and materials intended for the inspection of the origin of goods.

## Article 8. Procedures for inspection of issued C/O documentation or certificate of non-manipulation (CNM)

- 1. Upon the request of the importing country's authorized body, the inspection of issued C/O documentation and CNM shall be carried out according to the following procedures:
- a) The Ministry of Industry and Trade sends the C/O-issuing body or organization the written request for inspection, enclosing the request for inspection of the origin of goods made by the importing country's authorized body.
- b) The C/O-issuing body or organization inspects and respond in writing to the importing country's authorized body, send a copy of the origin inspection result to the Ministry of Industry and Trade within duration of 2 months of receipt of the written request for inspection as prescribed in point a of clause 1 of this Article. In case where it is necessary to extend the duration for response to the request for inspection of the origin of goods, the C/O-issuing body may send the Ministry of Industry and Trade a written explanation no later than 10 working days prior to the predetermined deadline as a basis for preparing the written request for such extension for submission to the importing country's authorized body. In the course of inspection of issued C/O documentation and CNM, the C/O-issuing body and organization requests the tradesperson to provide additional evidences and materials where necessary.
- c) In case where the preferential rules of origin referred to in international treaties to which Vietnam is a party, the preferential rules of origin referred to in the generalized system of preferences, or other unilateral trade preferences that the importing country grants to Vietnam, otherwise prescribe the duration for issuance of the notification and the duration for extension of the deadline for issuing the notification of the origin inspection result to the importing country's authorized body, the C/O-issuing body or organization must comply with these regulations of international treaties or regulations of the importing country.
- d) Within the duration of 5 working days of receipt of the notification (if any) from the importing country's authorized body regarding the origin inspection result as stated in point b of clause 1 of this Article, the C/O-issuing body and organization sends the written notification to the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the concerned tradesperson.

- 2. With respect to the inspection and management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods by the domestic authorized body or organization, the probability-based, periodic inspection of issued C/O documentation and CNM or the inspection carried out in case of any suspicion of origin fraud shall be subject to the following procedures:
- a) The Ministry of Industry and Trade sends the written request for inspection to the C/O-issuing body or organization.
- b) Within duration of 20 working days from the date of receipt of the written request for inspection as prescribed in point a of clause 2 of this Article, the C/O-issuing body or organization has to carry out the requested inspection and respond in writing to the Ministry of Industry and Trade. In case of wishing to extend the deadline for sending the response, the C/O-issuing body or organization sends the Ministry of Industry and Trade a written explanation no later than 5 working days prior to the prescribed deadline. In the course of inspection of issued C/O documentation and CNM, the C/O-issuing body and organization requests the tradesperson to provide additional evidences and materials where necessary.
- 3. In case of receipt of the request of the importing country's authorized body or other domestic competent entity for the inspection of issued C/O documentation and CNM, the C/O-issuing body or organization must report to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for its cooperation in taking necessary actions.

### Article 9. Procedures for inspection of documents self-certifying the released origin of goods

- 1. Upon the request of the importing country's authorized body, the inspection of documents self-certifying the released origin of goods shall be carried out according to the following procedures:
- a) The body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods sends the tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods a written request for inspection, enclosing the request for inspection of the origin of goods made by the importing country's authorized body.
- b) The tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods inspects and informs the body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods in writing of the origin inspection result:
- Within duration of 20 working days of receipt of the written request for inspection referred to in point a of clause 1 of this Article:
- Within duration of 10 working days of receipt of the written request for inspection as aforestated in point a clause 1 of this Article if the importing country's authorized body sends the written reminder of the request for inspection of the origin of goods.
- c) In case of needing an extension of the duration for sending the notification of the origin inspection result as prescribed in point b of clause 1 of this Article, the tradesperson participating in the system for origin self-certification sends the body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification a written explanation no later than 5 working days ahead of the prescribed deadline. In the course of inspection of documents self-certifying the released origin of goods, the body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods must request the tradesperson to provide additional evidences and materials where necessary.
- d) Within the duration of 5 working days of receipt of the origin inspection result as stated in point b of clause 1 of this Article, the body or organization granting the written approval of self-

certification of the origin of goods sends the written notification to the importing country's authorized body.

- dd) In case where the preferential rules of origin referred to in international treaties of which Vietnam is a member otherwise prescribe the duration for sending the notification and the duration of extension of the deadline for sending the notification of the origin inspection result to the importing country's authorized body, the body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods shall comply with these regulations of international treaties.
- d) Within the duration of 5 working days of receipt of the notification (if any) from the importing country's authorized body regarding the origin inspection result as stated in point d of clause 1 of this Article, the body granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods sends the written notification to the tradesperson involved in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods.
- 2. With respect to the inspection and management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods by the body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods, the probability-based, periodic inspection of documents self-certifying the released origin of goods or such inspection carried out in case of any suspicion of origin fraud shall be subject to the following procedures:
- a) The body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods sends the tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods a written request for inspection.
- b) Within the duration of 20 working days of receipt of the written request for inspection as stated in point a of clause 2 of this Article, the tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods sends the body granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods sends the written notification of the origin inspection result.
- c) In case of needing an extension of the duration for responding to the written request for inspection of the origin of goods, the tradesperson participating in the system for origin self-certification sends the body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification a written explanation no later than 5 working days ahead of the prescribed deadline. In the course of inspection of documents self-certifying the released origin of goods, the body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods may request the tradesperson to provide additional evidences and materials where necessary.
- d) The body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification reports to the Ministry of Industry and Trade on the origin inspection result after completion of the inspection.
- 3. In case of receiving the request of the importing country's authorized body or other domestic competent authority for inspection of documents self-certifying the released origin of goods, the tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods reports to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for its cooperation in taking necessary actions.

### Article 10. Procedures for inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods released by the tradesperson in accordance with the importing country's regulations

- 1. Upon the request of the importing country's authorized body, the inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods released by the tradesperson in accordance with the importing country's regulations shall be carried out according to the following procedures:
- a) The body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code complies with clause 1 of Article 9 hereof:

- b) In case where the preferential rules of origin referred to in the generalized system of preferences, or other unilateral trade preferences that the importing country grants to Vietnam, otherwise prescribe the duration for issuance of the notification and the duration for extension of the deadline for issuing the notification of the origin inspection result to the importing country's authorized body, the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code must comply with the regulations of the importing country.
- 2. With respect to the inspection and management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods by the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code, the probability-based, periodic inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods released by the tradesperson or such inspection carried out in case of any suspicion of origin fraud shall be subject to clause 2 of Article 9 hereof.
- 3. In case of receiving the request of the importing country's authorized body or other domestic competent authority for inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods released by the tradesperson in accordance with regulations of the importing country, the tradesperson must report to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for its cooperation in taking necessary actions.

### **Chapter III**

### INSPECTION AND VERIFICATION OF THE ORIGIN OF GOODS AT THE MANUFACTURING FACILITY

### Article 11. Cases of inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility

The inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility shall be carried out in the following cases:

- 1. The importing country's authorized body shall request the inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility if the result of inspection of documents certifying the origin of goods as prescribed in Article 8, Article 9 and Article 10 hereof does not give sufficient grounds for determination of the origin of goods or in case of any suspicion of fraud in the origin of goods.
- 2. The body or organization is authorized to carry out the inspection and management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods:
- a) prior to issuance of C/O:
- b) prior to issuance of the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods or grant of origin certification code;
- c) after issuance or release of documents certifying the origin of goods.
- 3. Other domestic authorized body requests cooperation if there are sufficient grounds for any suspicion or a sign of fraud in the origin of goods is detected.

# Article 12. Subject matters of inspection and verification of the origin of goods carried out at the manufacturing facility

The domestic authorized body or organization carries out the inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility to collect and authenticate the following information:

- 1. Information about business status of the tradesperson, such as the tradesperson's active status, temporary suspension of business activities, ownership transfer, closure or bankruptcy as per law soft.
- 2. Information about the existence of the manufacturing establishment or main office, whether or not similar to information declared in the registration information provided by the tradesperson.

- 3. Information about business performance, input material importing markets, product exporting markets that exist prior to the date of inspection and verification of the origin of goods.
- 4. Information about the production capacity, equipment condition, warehousing location and workforce.
- 5. Information about goods, input materials, manufacturers or suppliers of exported goods or input materials used for manufacturing of exported goods.
- 6. Information about the storage, representation and interpretation of documents certifying the origin of goods which have been issued or released, and other relevant documents.

# Article 13. Procedures for inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility before and after issuance of C/O

- 1. Upon the request of the importing country's authorized body, the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility shall be carried out according to the following procedures:
- a) The C/O-issuing body or organization issues the decision on establishment of the commission in charge of carrying out the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility after agreeing with the importing country's authorized body. The decision on establishment of the commission must contain fundamental information such as the commission's members, duties and powers, the tradesperson subject to the inspection and verification, and the date on which the inspection and verification activities take place.
- b) The C/O-issuing body or organization informs the tradesperson, whether in writing or via emails, of the inspection and verification date, preparations to be made to meet inspection and verification requirements not later than 7 working days prior to the inspection and verification taking place at his/her manufacturing facility.
- c) The commission and the importing country's authorized body conducts the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility on the informed date and makes a report based on opinions of related parties after completion of the inspection and verification task.
- d) Within the duration of 5 working days of receipt of the notification (if any) from the importing country's authorized body regarding the result of origin verification taking place at the manufacturing facility, the C/O-issuing body and organization sends the written notification to the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the concerned tradesperson.
- 2. With respect to the inspection, verification, management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods by the domestic authorized body or organization, the probability-based, periodic inspection of the origin of goods or such inspection carried out in case of any suspicion of origin fraud shall be subject to the following procedures:
- a) The C/O-issuing body or organization issues the decision on establishment of the commission in charge of carrying out the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility. The decision on establishment of the commission must contain fundamental information such as the commission's members, duties and powers, the tradesperson subject to the inspection and verification, and the date on which the inspection and verification activities take place.
- b) The C/O-issuing body or organization informs the tradesperson, whether in writing or via emails, of the inspection and verification date, preparations to be made to meet inspection and verification requirements:

- Not later than 3 working days prior to commencement of the inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility in case of any suspicion arising before issuance of C/O as prescribed in point a of clause 2 of Article 11 herein. The timelength of the inspection and verification of the origin of goods taking place at the manufacturing facility shall not be included in the duration for processing of the written request documentation for grant of C/O at the C/O-issuing body or organization.
- Not later than 7 working days prior to commencement of the inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility in case of completion of issuance of C/O as prescribed in point c of clause 2 of Article 11 herein.
- c) The commission conducts the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility on the informed date and makes a report after end of the inspection and verification.
- d) The C/O-issuing body or organization informs the tradesperson, whether in writing or via emails, of the inspection and verification result:
- Not later than 3 working days after end of the inspection and verification in case of any suspicion arising before issuance of C/O as prescribed in point a of clause 2 of Article 11 herein;
- Not later than 7 working days after end of the inspection and verification in case of completion of issuance of C/O as prescribed in point c of clause 2 of Article 11 herein.
- 3. In case of receipt of the request of the importing country's authorized body or other domestic competent entity for the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility, the C/O-issuing body or organization must report to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for its cooperation in taking necessary actions.

## Article 14. Procedures for inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility before and after issuance of origin self-certification documentation

- 1. Upon the request of the importing country's authorized body, the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility shall be carried out according to the following procedures:
- a) The body or organization granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods issues the decision on establishment of the commission in charge of inspecting and verifying the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility after obtaining an agreement with the importing country's authorized body. The decision on establishment of the commission shall include such basic information as the commission's members, duties and powers, affected tradesperson and commencement time.
- b) The body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification informs the tradesperson participating in the system for origin self-certification, whether in writing or via emails, of the inspection and verification date, preparations to be made to meet inspection and verification requirements not later than 7 working days prior to the commencement date of the inspection and verification taking place at his/her manufacturing facility.
- c) The commission and the importing country's authorized body conducts the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility on the informed date and makes a report based on opinions of related parties after end of the inspection and verification.
- d) If the preferential rules of origin referred to in the international treaties to which Vietnam is a party otherwise prescribe the procedures for inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility, the body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification and the

tradesperson participating in the origin self-certification system shall be obliged to comply with the aforestated regulations.

- dd) Within the duration of 5 working days of receipt of the notification (if any) from the importing country's authorized body regarding the result of the origin inspection and verification taking place at the manufacturing facility, the body granting the written approval of self-certification of the origin of goods sends this notification to the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the concerned tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods.
- 2. With respect to the inspection, verification, management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods by the domestic authorized body or organization, the probability-based, periodic inspection of the origin of goods or such inspection carried out in case of any suspicion of origin fraud shall be subject to the following procedures:
- a) The body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification issues the decision on establishment of the commission in charge of carrying out the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility. The decision on establishment of the commission must contain fundamental information such as the commission's members, duties and powers, the tradesperson subject to the inspection and verification, and the date on which the inspection and verification activities take place.
- b) The body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification informs the tradesperson, whether in writing or via emails, of the inspection and verification date, preparations to be made to meet inspection and verification requirements:
- Not later than 5 working days prior to commencement of the inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility before granting the written approval of origin self-certification as prescribed in point b of clause 2 of Article 11 herein;
- Not later than 7 working days prior to commencement of the inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility after granting the written approval of origin self-certification as prescribed in point c of clause 2 of Article 11 herein.
- c) The commission conducts the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility on the informed date and makes a report after completion of the inspection and verification.
- d) The body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification informs the tradesperson, whether in writing or via emails, of the inspection and verification result:
- Not later than 3 working days subsequent to the date of completion of the inspection and verification before granting the written approval of origin self-certification as prescribed in point b of clause 2 of Article 11 herein;
- Not later than 7 working days subsequent to the date of completion of the inspection and verification after granting the written approval of origin self-certification as prescribed in point c of clause 2 of Article 11 herein.
- 3. In case of receiving the request of the importing country's authorized body or other domestic competent authority for the inspection and verification of the origin of goods taking place at the manufacturing facility, the tradesperson participating in the system for self-certification of the origin of goods reports to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for its cooperation in taking necessary actions.

Article 15. Procedures for the inspection and verification of the origin of goods taking place at the manufacturing facility with respect to origin certification documents released by the tradesperson in accordance with the importing country's regulations

- 1. Upon the request of the importing country's authorized body, the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility with respect to origin certification documents released by the tradesperson in accordance with the importing country's regulations shall be carried out according to the following procedures:
- a) The body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code complies with clause 1 of Article 14 hereof:
- b) In case where the preferential rules of origin referred to in the generalized system of preferences, or other unilateral trade preferences that the importing country grants to Vietnam, otherwise prescribe the procedures for inspection and verification at the manufacturing facility with respect to origin certification documentation released by the tradesperson in accordance with the importing country's regulations, the body or organization receiving the registration of the origin certification code, the tradesperson must carry out such inspection and verification in compliance with the regulations of the importing country.
- 2. In case where the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code carries out the inspection, verification and management of risks and prevention of fraud in the origin of goods, the inspection and verification of the origin of goods taking place at the manufacturing facility shall be subject to clause 2 of Article 14 hereof.
- 3. In case of receiving the request of the importing country's authorized body or other domestic competent authority for the inspection and verification of the origin of goods at the manufacturing facility with respect to the origin certification documentation released by the tradesperson in accordance with the importing country's regulations, the tradesperson must report to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for its cooperation in taking necessary actions.

### **Chapter IV**

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF RELEVANT ENTITIES AND PERSONS, AND IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS

### Article 16. Responsibilities of the Import and Export Department – the Ministry of Industry and Trade

- 1. Assist the Minister of Industry and Trade in monitoring, expediting, checking, and making reports on any difficulties or unsolved issues arising from, the implementation of this Circular.
- 2. Preside over and cooperate with the importing country's authorized body and other domestic authorized body in carrying out the inspection and verification of the origin of goods.
- 3. Carry out, at their discretion, or provide the C/O-issuing body or organization, the body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification, the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code, and the tradesperson with instructions for, the inspection and verification of the origin of goods.
- 4. Inform the C/O-issuing body or organization, the body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification, the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code, and related parties, of goods with high risks and fraud in their origin.

# Article 17. Responsibilities of the C/O-issuing body or organization, the body or organization granting the written approval of origin self-certification, the body or organization receiving the registration of origin certification code

1. Cooperate with the Ministry of Industry and Trade, other domestic authorized body and the importing country's authorized body in carrying out the inspection and verification of the origin of goods.

- 2. Bear responsibility for the origin inspection and verification result and inform the importing country's authorized body by the prescribed deadline.
- 3. Report to the Ministry of Industry and Trade on a quarterly and yearly basis on the inspection and verification of the origin of goods.
- 4. Apply or suggest applying measures to prevent and control fraud in the origin of goods as prescribed in point b, point c of clause 1, clause 2 and clause 3 of Article 29 in the Decree No. 31/2018/ND-CP.
- 5. Archive, ensure confidentiality of and provide related documents, information and materials used in origin inspection and verification activities in accordance with Article 30 in the Decree No.31/2018/ND-CP.

#### Article 18. Responsibilities of the tradesperson

- 1. Cooperate with the domestic authorized body and the importing country's authorized body in carrying out the inspection and verification of the origin of goods.
- 2. Contact the manufacturer and supplier of exported goods or input materials of clear origin used for manufacturing of exported goods in order to support the inspection and verification of the origin of goods if the tradesperson is a direct manufacturer or suppliers of such goods or input materials.
- 3. Explain, provide and supplement, by the prescribed deadline, relevant documents, information and materials used in origin inspection and verification activities.
- 4. Bear legal liability for accuracy and authenticity of related explanatory reports, documents, information and materials used in origin inspection and verification activities.
- 5. Archive, ensure confidentiality of and provide related documents, information and materials used in origin inspection and verification activities in accordance with Article 30 in the Decree No.31/2018/ND-CP.

#### Article 19. Responsibilities of entities and persons concerned

Entities and persons concerned shall be responsible for cooperating with the Ministry of Industry and Trade in providing information and materials to support origin inspection and verification activities.

#### Article 20. Entry into force

This Circular shall enter into force from December 14, 2018./.

**MINISTER** 

**Tran Tuan Anh**