



Global Industry Request Related to Certificates of Free Sale During COVID-19

Cosmetics and personal care products companies are committed to providing consumers around the world with safe, effective products during this time when our nations are responding to the COVID-19 crisis.

Our industry manufactures a diverse range of products such as hand sanitizers, soaps, body washes, moisturizer, toothpaste, shampoo, and other products that millions of consumers rely on to maintain their own personal hygiene and health.

The continuation of international trade for our products and supply chains is now more important than ever. However, the closure of government offices and embassies around the world presents new challenges to fulfill all requirements of certain export documents, such as a Certificates of Free Sale (CFS) and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) certificates, to those countries that require them. For example, in many countries, it is presently not possible to obtain necessary signatures and stamps by government bodies and legal entities when such offices have closed.

Amidst this pandemic, it is of paramount importance that consumers continue to have access to cosmetic and personal care products, and that local manufacturers have access to ingredients and other inputs needed to maintain operations.

In recognition of current circumstances, and in the interest of maintaining trade to the extent possible, we therefore request that, for a temporary period, those governments that require CFS, GMP, and other documents requiring legal signatures that accompanying imports:

- Accept documents to be forwarded electronically or in physical format
- Accept documents without signatures/stamps by government agencies, embassies, and legal entities in country of manufacture
- Extend these policies until such time as government offices and embassies re-open and return to normal operations
- Following expiration of this temporary policy, importers will submit physical, original document with normally required signatures/stamps

Our industry is committed to following our respective governments' guidelines and recommended policies in this common effort to reduce the spread of coronavirus. None of the administrative changes proposed should relieve an exporter from having to meet cosmetic regulatory requirements or standards. We respectfully request urgent attention to this matter to allow our industry to continue to serve our communities and consumers around the world.