



## **PRESS RELEASE**

MJBA-114-2009

### **GUIDELINES ON NEW/USED CLOTHING DONATIONS**

Los Angeles, 16 October 2009 – The Department of Finance (DoF) wishes to clarify that all foreign donations for the victims of Typhoon Ondoy of new and/or used clothing may be accepted provided that said donations are consigned to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) or any DSWD-accredited NGO.

The Deeds of Donation shall be authenticated by the Philippine Consulate General free of charge.

Also, pursuant to Executive Order No. 831, the Secretary of Finance shall have complete discretion in authorizing tax and tariff exemptions for relief goods donated from abroad, provided the donated relief goods, articles, equipment for free distribution to calamity declared areas and victims of calamities and/or disasters shall be for the account of the DSWD or any of the organizations, not operated for profit, duly registered with the DSWD. The EO was signed by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on 1 October 2009.

The said EO also creates the One Stop Shop in all collection districts of the Bureau of Customs headed by the DoF and composed of representatives from the various Departments, namely: Social Welfare, Education, Health, Agriculture, National Defense and other government agencies, including the Department of Foreign Affairs.

In essence, the One Stop Shop provides for the duty free and tax free processing of donated relief goods consigned to the DSWD or any DSWD-accredited/registered/licensed NGOs.

Presently, the One Stop Shop is located at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Bureau of Customs Building near the NAIA II Terminal (Tel: +632 879 5180). ###end