MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2014-020

TO: Economic Zone Locator Enterprises in the CALABARZON area
   Economic Zone Administrators / Managers
   PEZA-Registered Brokers, Freight Forwarders and Truckers

FROM: Director General LILIA B. DE LIMA

SUBJECT: Urgent Measures to Address the Manila Port Congestion

DATE: 28 July 2014

The Manila port congestion problem continues to hamper seaborne trade and the smooth flow of containerized cargoes at the expense especially of our ecozone export manufacturing enterprises.

The government has undertaken steps to declog the Manila Port but we need the cooperation of all concerned.

We reiterate our call to all economic zone locators to cooperate by doing the following:

1. Immediately pull out from the port the shipments already cleared by the Bureau of Customs including any overstaying laden containers.
2. Maximizing truck deliveries for import and export shipments on weekends (Saturday to Monday morning). Records show, that Sundays are so underutilized, hardly any delivery is done on Sunday when this is the time there is no traffic in Metro Manila.
3. Divert the containerized shipments from Manila to Batangas Port to avoid further delays of shipments and avoid increasing costs on freight, demurrage, container detentions, etc.

We assure you that government is unrelenting in finding solution to this problem.

This Friday, August 1, the Off-Dock Container Yard facility at the Cavite Economic Zone in Rosario, Cavite will start accepting empty containers that will be brought there from the ports to help decongest the ports.

LTFRB will extend until August 29, 2014 its No Apprehension policy for truckers.

Please report to MMDA (telephone number 136) and LTFRB (telephone number 4592129) hotlines for erring personnel who prey on truckers.

DPWH to extend the deadline up to January 31, 2015 for the implementation of the Anti-Overloading Regulations for Truckers.

There are now 8 vessels calling port in Batangas with daily sailing schedule except Thursday. Please allot more TEU volumes in this Port so ecozone locators can be assured of more ship calls and freight cost savings.

Thank you very much for your continued support to PEZA.