

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** February 26, 2025

**Report Number:** RP2025-0011

**Report Name:** Philippines Notifies WTO of the Implementation of Pre-Border Technical Verification and Cross-Border Electronic Invoicing of Imports

**Country:** Philippines

**Post:** Manila

**Report Category:** FAIRS Subject Report, Trade Policy Monitoring, WTO Notifications

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**Report Highlights:**

On February 18, 2025, the Philippines notified the World Trade Organization Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade of the Department of Finance's Joint Administrative Order (JAO) No. 001-2025. The JAO provides the implementing guidelines of the pre-border technical verification (PTV) and cross-border electronic invoicing (CEI) of all imported commodities. According to the JAO, the PTV and CEI implementation will commence 30 days after the Philippine Bureau of Customs publishes the specific rules, known as the Customs Administrative Order (CAO), for PTV and CEI. As of February 21, 2025, there has been no public announcement regarding the formulation of the CAOs, especially a schedule for public consultations.

## Background

Philippine President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. signed [Administrative Order \(AO\) No. 23](#) on May 13, 2024, directing the implementation of a digital and integrated system for the pre-border technical verification (PTV) and cross-border electronic invoicing (CEI) of all imported commodities. On January 24, 2025, the Philippine Department of Finance announced the issuance of [Joint Administrative Order \(JAO\) No. 001-2025](#). The JAO provides the implementing guidelines of AO 23, including coverage of PTV and CEI system, penalty for non-compliance, implementation period, and responsibilities of exporters (see [GAIN Report](#)).

## JAO Updates

On February 18, 2025, the Philippines notified the World Trade Organization Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade of the JAO under notification number [G/TBT/N/PHL/340](#). The Philippines cited that the PTV and CEI implementation seeks to ensure that imported goods comply with regulatory standards before reaching the Philippine borders; enable risk assessments to identify and deter potential threats related to substandard products and dangerous goods; provide shipment information in advance for early detection of discrepancies and irregularities; and encourage smoother cross-border trade transactions. The notification indicated that the proposed entry into force of the JAO was on February 7, 2025.

According to the JAO, the Philippine Bureau of Customs (BOC) will formulate two separate Customs Administrative Orders (CAO), which will provide the specific rules for PTV and CEI system. Additionally, the JAO stipulates that the implementation of PTV and CEI will commence 30 days after the BOC publishes each of the CAO. FAS Manila understands that the BOC will conduct public consultations before the finalization and publication of the CAOs. As of February 21, 2025, there has been no public announcement regarding the formulation of the CAOs, especially a schedule for public consultations.

## Attachments:

No Attachments.