

Revised Guidelines for Duty and VAT Exemption Guidelines for Duty and VAT Exemption

In-kind Donations from Donors Offshore for TC Winston

1. Conditions for exemption: (i) Consignment need to be addressed to: National Disaster Management Office, C/Attorney General and Minister for Finance Ministry of Finance Government of Fiji, Republic of Fiji. OR C/Attorney General and Minister for Finance Ministry of Finance Government of Fiji, Republic of Fiji. (ii) Prior to shipment, donor (s) need to make a formal request for exemption with a list of items being shipped. (iii) Upon shipment, donor (s) need to provide the (i) Airway Bill or Bill of Lading; and Invoice (Value of Goods).
2. Exempted items are those reasonable expected to provide immediate relief and help rebuild a household. Vehicles, Jewellery and any prohibited item are not covered under this exemption.

To be effective from Saturday 20 February 2016 to 21 March 2016 (initial 30 day period of State of Natural Disaster). Extension will be subject to the decision of the Minister.

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Tropical Cyclone Winston Disaster Relief Efforts from UAE Tropical Cyclone Winston – the most devastating storm on record in the Southern Hemisphere – recently reached our shores, destroying homes and livelihoods, and cutting many Fijians off from utilities, telecommunications and essential medical services.

In response to this crisis, the Fijian Government is working hard to coordinate rescue and recovery efforts. There is a great need for additional resources to urgently address the needs of affected Fijians and assist with the rebuilding process.

The Fiji Embassy wishes to express deep gratitude on the outpouring of empathy and generous offers of assistance from Gulf Fijians and “Friends of Fiji” residing in the Gulf region in the aftermath of Cyclone Winston. The Embassy provides the following information to facilitate a coordinated response from Fijian diaspora groups and “Friends of Fiji” towards the relief efforts already taking place in Fiji, in order to avoid duplication and prevent any wastage of precious aid resources.

Immediate Assistance: Donations of money toward relief efforts in the first instance is the most effective form of emergency assistance and will empower cyclone victims to purchase what they need the most whilst ensuring that much needed foreign exchange is injected into the local economy.

The Fijian Government has established bank accounts to receive financial donations in the wake of this crisis.

These funds will be used to directly benefit those Fijians who have been left homeless, without adequate food, water and essential services – especially those in rural and maritime communities.

In Australia, Westpac and ANZ Banks have waived international telegraphic transaction (TT) fees for ALL remittances and donations to Fiji. Donations can be made from the UAE and the Gulf countries through the Bank accounts below:

Bank: Australia New Zealand (ANZ) Banking Corporation Account Number: 12628523 Account Name: Prime Minister's National Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation: Cyclone Winston Swift Code: ANZBFJFX BSB: 010 890

Bank: Westpac Banking Corporation Account Number: 9806094927 Account Name: Prime Minister's National Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation: Cyclone Winston Swift Code: WPACFJFX BSB: 039001

Donations in kind: A number of Fijian community groups in the UAE have taken the initiative in providing relief assistance.

The Embassy is fully supportive of these efforts and has undertaken to facilitate, where possible, freight assistance and expedited port clearances for Partner Initiatives.

The Embassy wishes to encourage support for the relief efforts of our Fijian community groups and welcomes discussions from interested parties on any form of assistance towards disaster relief in Fiji and can be contacted via email: info@fijiemb.ae