



Legal Watch

DTI, DOLE, AND DOF SIGN JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER TO PROHIBIT IMPORTS PRODUCED THROUGH FORCED LABOR



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SUMMARY

The DTI, DOLE, and DOF signed a Joint Administrative Order establishing a process for investigating and prohibiting imports produced wholly or partly through forced labor. An Inter-Agency Committee, chaired by the DTI and composed of the DOLE, DOF, Bureau of Customs, Board of Investments, and Philippine Economic Zone Authority, will receive and evaluate complaints, conduct investigations, and recommend appropriate action.

The Bureau of Customs will implement import prohibitions based on the Committee's findings and recommendations. The measure seeks to protect workers, promote fair competition, and align Philippine trade practices with international labor standards and growing expectations on ethical sourcing and supply-chain transparency.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Importers, distributors, manufacturers, retailers, and PEZA-registered enterprises should review their supply chains, particularly products or raw materials sourced from jurisdictions and industries associated with forced-labor risks. Companies should identify direct and upstream suppliers and require records on origin, production sites, recruitment practices, and labor conditions.

Supply and purchase agreements should include forced-labor prohibitions, compliance warranties, audit and information rights, notification duties, suspension or termination rights, and indemnities for seizures, shipment delays, or regulatory violations. Importers should assign responsibility for responding to government inquiries and maintain traceable sourcing, shipping, customs, and supplier due-diligence records.

* Agency Name

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

* Issuance Title

DTI, DOLE, and DOF sign Joint Administrative Order to prohibit imports produced through forced labor

* Issuance Date

24 July 2026

* Link

<https://www.dti.gov.ph/dti-latest-news/dti-dole-dof-sign-jao-prohibit-imports-produced-forced-labor>

