



Solomon Islands Government



PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice No. 19

Ref.: 467/1/4

To: All Shipping Agents & Exporters

Date: 09/06/2025

RE: IRD CLEARANCE EVIDENCING PAYMENT OF 5% WITHHOLDING TAX ON CARRIAGE OF ALL GOODS EXPORTED FROM SOLOMON ISLANDS (INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT) REQUIRED BEFORE GRANTING OF CLEARANCE.

The Commissioner of Inland Revenue Division has brought to our notice that the majority of exporters and Shipping Agents have failed to comply with the payment of 5% withholding tax on carriage of all Goods Exported from Solomon Islands (International freight).

From this directive all current Shipping Agents and Exporters must pay the 5% withholding tax due to Inland Revenue Division (IRD) before customs clearance is issued on any international ships to leave our waters.

The following actions are to be imposed immediately as of 9th June 2025 concerning the above subject;

1. **All** customs clearing officers respectively under shipping sector must also include sight/check evidence of tax and export duty are paid on International ships within customs pre-clearance check list.
2. **All** Government treasury receipt must be submitted along with any other relevant documentation required by Customs shipping Officers.
3. **The** 5% withholding tax due to IRD must be paid before clearance is issued on any international ships to leave our waters.
4. **Failure** to comply will result with ships being denied clearance & forbidden to leave our waters until shipping tax is paid to IRD.
5. **Should** there be any difficulties encountered, the agent should be directed to **IRD** for resolution of the matter.

Your prompt compliance is vital for a smooth cooperation with Customs & Excise and Inland Revenue Division under Solomon Islands Ministry of Finance and Treasury.

All concerned parties must comply with these instructions to avoid any inconvenience.

Thank You.

Peter Hughes
Comptroller
Customs & Excise Division