

# PwC Indonesia Legal Alert



August 2025 / No. 45

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regulation on Ministry  
of Trade Regulation  
Number 16 of 2025

# Reformation of import regulation on Ministry of Trade Regulation Number 16 of 2025

## I. Introduction

On 30 June 2025, the government of the Republic of Indonesia, through the Ministry of Trade (**MOT**), recently ratified Ministry of Trade Regulation Number 16 of 2025 concerning Import Policies and Regulations (**MOTR 16/2025**). This new regulation will come into effect 60 days after the ratification, which will fall on 29 August 2025. One of the main reasons for the Government to ratify MOTR 16/2025 is to strengthen the national economy amidst uncertain global market and economic conditions. Through MOTR 16/2025, the Government seeks to strengthen the foundations of the domestic economy by providing facilities for importers to strengthen competitiveness, supporting an ecosystem that creates jobs and encouraging labor-intensive sectors to attract new investment.<sup>1</sup> In an effort to optimise this import deregulation, the MOT also ratified eight sectoral import regulations, namely:

1. MOTR Number 17 of 2025 concerning Policies and Regulations on Imports of Textiles and Textile Products;
2. MOTR Number 18 of 2025 concerning Policies and Regulations on Imports of Agricultural and Livestock Goods;
3. MOTR Number 19 of 2025 concerning the Policy and Regulation of Salt and Fishery Commodity Imports;
4. MOTR Number 20 of 2025 concerning the Policy and Regulation of Imports of Chemicals, Hazardous Materials and Mining Materials;
5. MOTR Number 21 of 2025 concerning Policies and Regulations on Imports of Electronic and Telematics Goods;
6. MOTR Number 22 of 2025 concerning Policies and Regulations on the Import of Certain Industrial Goods;

1. Metro TV News, "Hadapi Ketidakpastian Global, Paket Deregulasi Impor dan Kemudahan Usaha Diluncurkan," can be access on <https://www.metrotvnews.com/read/kBVC90ev-hadapi-ketidakpastian-global-paket-deregulasi-impor-dan-kemudahan-usaha-diluncurkan>.

7. MOTR Number 23 of 2025 concerning Policies and Regulations on Imports of Consumer Goods;
8. MOTR Number 24 of 2025 concerning the Policy and Regulation of Imports of Goods in Non-New Condition and Non-Hazardous and Toxic Waste Ranging from Textile Products to Non-New Goods and Non-B3 Waste

## II. Key changes

MOTR 16/2025 amends several general (non-sectoral) provisions in the import sector previously regulated in Ministry of Trade Regulation Number 36 of 2023 concerning Import Policies and Regulations and Its Amendments (**MOTR 36/2023**) that has been revoked. One clearly visible change in MOTR 16/2025 is the formulation of laws and regulations that are more systematic and structured than its predecessor. Furthermore, substantively, the following are important changes to note in MOTR 16/2025:

### 1. Relaxation of import requirements for certain goods whose purpose is to be transported directly or transported further

MOTR 3/2023 stipulates those imports of certain goods for directly or further transported exempt from the requirement to have a business licence in the field of importing goods in the form of a registered importer, producer importer and/or import approval.<sup>2</sup> Through MOTR 16/2025, imports of certain goods directly or further transported are not only exempt from business licences in the field of imports but also receive exemptions from two other requirements.<sup>3</sup> Article 6 of MOTR 16/2025 explicitly states that imports of certain goods for directly or further transported are also exempt from the provisions on the use of a Business Identification Number (**NIB – Nomor Induk Berusaha**) which serves as an Importer Identification Number (**API – Angka Pengenal Importir**) and technical verification or tracing. The addition of exemptions to requirements for imports of certain goods directly or further transported indicates additional convenience for importers in conducting the relevant business activities.

### 2. Addition of categories of goods exempt from the prohibition on trading or transferring

MOTR 36/2023 stipulates those goods imported by NIB holders as Importer Identification Number-Producer (“**API-P**” – *Angka Pengenal Importir-Produsen*), namely capital goods, unprocessed materials, auxiliary materials or materials for production purposes, are prohibited from being traded or transferred.<sup>4</sup> However, MOTR 36/2023 stipulates several types of goods that are exempt from this prohibition, namely:

- a. goods in the form of unprocessed materials and/or remaining auxiliary materials in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations
- b. capital goods imported in new condition by API-P if they have been used for a period of at least 2 (two) years
- c. manufactured goods as complementary goods, for market testing purposes and/or for after-sales service
- d. goods traded or transferred by business actors in the form of business entities holding:
  - oil and gas processing business permit
  - oil and gas trading business licencedetermined by the minister who oversees government affairs in the field of energy and mineral resources.<sup>5</sup>

2. Article 3 paragraph (2) of MOTR 36/2023.

3. Article 6 of MOTR 16/2025.

4. Article 2 paragraph (15) of MOTR 36/2023.

5. Article 2 paragraph (16) of MOTR 36/2023.

Regarding these categories, MOTR 16/2025 amends this provision by adding the types of goods exempted from the ban. The types of goods also exempted from the ban on trading or transfer are unprocessed materials, auxiliary materials and/or materials to support the production process originating from imports and then re-exported in the maximum quantity according to the import customs notification.<sup>6</sup>

### 3. Relaxation of conditions for changing API-U to API-P

MOTR 36/2023 as also MOTR 16/2025 stipulates that the NIB that is valid as Importer Identification Number-General (**API-U** – *Angka Pengenal Importir-Umum*) can be changed so that the NIB is valid as API-P.<sup>7</sup> MOTR 36/2023 itself stipulates that the change can only be made if two conditions are met.<sup>8</sup> First, the importer who already has a business permit in the import and/or surveyor report (**LS** – *Laporan Surveyor*), has realided all his imports. Second, the NIB that is valid as API-U has passed a validity period of at least 1 (one) year.

However, MOTR 16/2025 regulates new requirements for changing API-U to API-P, namely the importer does not have a valid import business permit in the form of an import approval and/or LS.<sup>9</sup> On the other side, in the case of an importer having an import approval and/or LS, the importer must not currently realise the import.<sup>10</sup> It can be concluded, there is relaxation for importers who wish to change their API-U status to API-P, namely by eliminating the requirement that the NIB valid as API-U has passed a validity period of at least 1 (one) year. As a result, with the new provisions in MOTR 16/2025, importers who already have an NIB valid as API-P but have not been valid for more than 1 (one) year, can still change their API-P to API-U.

### 4. New obligation related to import realisation report

MOTR 36/2023 stipulates one of the importers obligations is to submit the import realisation report, both realised and unrealized, to the MOT.<sup>11</sup> This obligation applies to importers holding an import business permit and/or LS. Importers are required to submit the report no later than the 15th of each month.<sup>12</sup> However, this obligation was amended by MOTR 16/2025 which differentiates the obligation for the holder of import business permit and importers with LS. Import business permit holders are still required to submit the import realisation report no later than the 15th of each month.<sup>13</sup> On the other hand, LS holders shall submit the import realisation report at no later than 30 days after the LS is used as a supporting customs document for inspection conducted in the customs area or as an import requirement document for inspection conducted post-border.<sup>14</sup> This change is important for importers to pay attention to because non-compliance with this obligation will result in importers being subject to sanctions.<sup>15</sup>

6. Article 7 paragraph (4) letter e of MOTR 16/2025.

7. Article 2 paragraph (6) of MOTR 36/2023 and Article 8 paragraph (1) of MOTR 16/2025.

8. Article 2 paragraph (7) of MOTR 36/2023.

9. Article 8 paragraph (2) of MOTR 16/2025.

10. Article 8 paragraph (2) of MOTR 16/2025.

11. Article 50 paragraph (1) of MOTR 36/2023.

12. Article 50 paragraph (4) of MOTR 36/2023.

13. Article 61 paragraph (2) of MOTR 16/2025.

14. Article 61 paragraph (4) of MOTR 16/2025.

15. Article 68 paragraph (1) of MOTR 16/2025.

## 5. Form of sanction arrangement

One of the most obvious changes between MOTR 36/2023 and MOTR 16/2025 is the regulation of sanctions. Unlike the less structured and systematic provisions in MOTR 36/2023, MOTR 16/2025 provides a more structured approach. MOTR 16/2025 clearly stipulates which articles may be subject to sanctions. There are 11 (eleven) violation conducts that can be subject to administrative sanctions.<sup>16</sup> Furthermore, MOTR 16/2025 also explicitly stipulates 11 (eleven) forms of administrative sanctions that can be imposed either gradually or non-gradually.<sup>17</sup> These are the 11 administrative sanctions stipulated in MOTR 16/2025, which are:

- a. electronic warning
- b. written warning
- c. freezing of business permit in the import sector
- d. revocation of business permit in the import sector
- e. freezing of certificate<sup>18</sup>
- f. revocation of certificate<sup>19</sup>
- g. recommendation to revoke the LS
- h. suspension of the process of issuing, changing, extending business permit in the import sector
- i. suspension of the process of issuing or amending the certificate
- j. recommendation to suspend verification or technical investigation services
- k. recommendation to revoke the NIB that is valid as API.

## 6. Revocation of special import permits

One of the crucial things to take note of is that MOTR 16/2025 directly revokes and/or cancels sectoral import approvals, both approved and in process.<sup>20</sup> MOTR 16/2025 firmly list the sectoral import approval that will be revoked or cancelled, namely:

- a. import approval of forestry products API-P and API-U
- b. import approval of plastic raw materials API-P and API-U
- c. import approval of subsidised fertilisers API-P and API-U
- d. import approval of other fuels – fuel and fuel blends API-P and API-U
- e. import approval of other fuels – other than fuel and other than fuel blends API-P and API-U.

This revocation or cancellation is a form of relaxation of import activities by the Government. With the issuance of MOTR 16/2025, importers importing the above products no longer need to wait for import approval. The MOT decided to deregulate these five categories of goods because they are dominated by unprocessed materials. The import facilitation is intended to maintain domestic reserves of related unprocessed materials. However, the importers shall obtain an import declaration from the relevant ministry.

## III. Conclusion

MOTR 16/2025 was enacted by the Government in response to the instability of global trade and economic conditions. This regulation will serve as an umbrella regulation for sectoral import regulations. MOTR 16/2025 comprises several important changes, both more restrictive ones with the addition of obligations and sanctions and more relaxed ones, such as exemptions from certain restrictions. Finally, importers should pay attention to MOTR 16/2025, as these changes can be leveraged to improve their business but can also become obstacles if non-compliance occurs.

16. Article 68 paragraph (1) of MOTR 16/2025.

17. Article 68 paragraph (2) of MOTR 16/2025.

18. Certificate refers to a document that affirms the approval granted by the Ministry of Trade, concerning the exemption from import policies and regulations, or the authorization of imports for specific purposes, as defined in Article 1 point 21 of MOT 16/2025.

19. Certificate refers to a document that affirms the approval granted by the Ministry of Trade, concerning the exemption from import policies and regulations, or the authorization of imports for specific purposes, as defined in Article 1 point 21 of MOT 16/2025.

20. Article 93 letter c and d of MOTR 16/2025.

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