

Interim Measures for Import/Export of Cannabis

KINGSTON, JAMAICA



The Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA), having conducted broad consultations with its stakeholders on the Dangerous Drugs (Cannabis Import and Export Licensing) Regulations 2020, has been reviewing and providing feedback on drafts of the regulations. Most recently the third draft of the regulations was reviewed and comments and requests for further changes provided to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA). MICAFA has since submitted the finalised draft regulations to the Ministry of Justice.

Minister of State in MICAFA, Floyd Green, says that “whilst the CLA awaits the promulgation of these regulations, it has put in place protocols to facilitate both the import and export of cannabis (ganja) by its licensees. These protocols, the ‘Interim Measures - Importation of Cannabis’ and the ‘Interim Measures - Export of Cannabis’, can be found on the CLA’s website.” Additionally, he says MICAFA has been working closely with the Ministry of Justice on the promulgation of the regulations.

For over a year, as part of efforts to preserve the business interests of licensees, the CLA has facilitated exports using these protocols. Over this period, several licensees have taken advantage of these interim measures and have exported cannabis and its extract (oil) to countries across the world such as Canada, Australia and the Cayman Islands.

Chief Executive Officer of the CLA, Lincoln Allen, says, “the CLA stands ready to facilitate the export of cannabis and its extracts by its licensees as long as the Authority is satisfied that the licensee has met all the requirements of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 protocol.”

He added, that “upon the promulgation of these regulations the CLA will continue to facilitate the import and export of cannabis by its licensees.”

The CLA has issued 60 licenses since October 2017 and 15 export authorizations to seven licensees since November 2018. All licensees that have applied to export cannabis have been granted export authorizations after meeting the requirements of the posted interim measures.

###END###

Notes to Editors:

About the Cannabis Licensing Authority: The CLA, which was created by the Dangerous Drug Act, has powers to make and oversee the implementation of regulations for licences, permits and other authorisations for the cultivation, processing, distribution, sale and transportation of ganja, for medicinal, scientific and therapeutic purposes.

About Jamaica’s UN Drug Treaty Obligation: Parties to the 1961 Convention undertake to limit the production, manufacture, export, import, distribution and stocks of, trade-in and use and possession of the controlled drugs so that they are used

Building an Industry, Cultivating Responsibly

Cannabis Licensing Authority | 4th Floor, PanJam Building | 60 Knutsford Boulevard | Kingston 5 | Jamaica

www.cla.org.jm || media@cla.org.jm || +876 654-7582, +876 596-2996

exclusively for medical and scientific purposes. The production and distribution of controlled substances must be licensed and supervised.

Interviews: Available on request

Images: n/a

Website: www.cla.org.jm

Social Media: Facebook: facebook.com/TheCannabisLicensingAuthority

Twitter: twitter.com/cla_jamaica

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/cannabislicensingauthority

Building an Industry, Cultivating Responsibly

Cannabis Licensing Authority | 4th Floor, PanJam Building | 60 Knutsford Boulevard | Kingston 5 | Jamaica

www.cla.org.jm || media@cla.org.jm || +876 654-7582, +876 596-2996