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22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011

For immediate release

## **LRA resuscitates cargo store**

In an effort to promote **trade facilitation and improve service delivery**, the Lesotho Revenue Authority – Customs Division embarked on the resuscitation of the cargo store based at Moshoeshoe 1 International Airport. The store is located 200 meters from the main airport building.

The main purpose of the store is to:

- Warehouse and clear cargo imported and exported through MIA. It is equipped with facilities to assist in determining the value of the goods being imported or exported
- Cargo Scanners are installed to detect and prevent illicit goods from being imported into or exported out of the country, thus contributing to global fight against illicit trade and the security of international supply chain.
- Air freight is the fastest mode of transporting goods; the cargo store facility will support just in time delivery of goods and thereby contribute significantly to trade facilitation and competitiveness of the country.
- Reduce clearance costs through execution of clearance process right at MIA as opposed to the previous regime where clearance was conducted at State warehouse, adding unnecessary costs to taxpayers and delaying the release of such goods.

Clearance of cargo is done differently from clearance of goods imported as accompanied hand baggage; with cargo there is a need to engage the services of clearing agents unless the importer is conversant with Customs clearance matters whereby he / she may clear by himself like it is the case with accompanied hand baggage.

The ever improving relationship with other agencies, (Civil Aviation, SA Air Link, LMPS, Port Health and Immigration) guarantees the taxpayers the effectiveness and efficiency of the cargo

store. Customs and business partnerships also play a pivotal role in ensuring compliance with the law governing the movement of the goods in and out of the country.

The store will be operational from 08:00am to 17:00 pm Monday to Friday.