

## Clearing and forwarding services procurement

To facilitate the import and export of goods, humanitarian organisations often contract the services of agents to act as intermediaries to ensure the correct application of import/export procedures and the use of proper documentation along the import/export process.

The main agents working in import/export are:

- In many countries, only official licensed **clearing agents** are authorised to effect customs clearance and can obtain the release of imported or exported goods. Their tasks include the classification of the goods, the presentation of the required customs documentation and guaranteeing that taxes or duties are collected or that the relevant exemption is granted. In some countries, customs regulate the clearing of goods through a governmental clearing service.
- **Freight forwarding agents** who can book all types (air, sea, land, etc.) and levels (national, regional, international) freight capacity as required.

For more details on the procurement of clearing and forwarding services, see Chapter 2 - Warehousing.