**Dear Valued UMAC Customers:**

**Greetings of love and peace!**

**Kindly take notice that our international units and partners who pick up your balikbayan boxes have deemed it necessary to adjust and increase their rates due to the imposition by the Philippine Bureau of Customs ("BoC") of an increase in the taxes and duties to be paid for every balikbayan box container coming into the Philippines.  As you may be aware, the balikbayan box industry has been in the center of the news in the Philippines lately as a result of the BoC's implementation of the 100% examination of all balikbayan boxes, as well as the increase in the additional duties and taxes to be paid.  While the 100% examination has been lifted by Malacañang as a result of the widespread protests in the Philippines and from overseas Filipinos from all around the world, the increase in duties and taxes has sadly remained, much to the balikbayan box industry's regret.  The balikbayan industry as a whole is constrained to increase rates to ensure the survival of the cargo consolidators and forwarders.**

**As we remain eternally grateful to you for your continued patronage of our services, please be assured that the minimal increase in the amount you will be paying for your UMAC balikbayan boxes is necessary for us to continue operating efficiently, with a view of sustaining our strict quality standards for a fast, safe, and secure delivery of your cherished boxes.**

**Thank you very much for your understanding.  We wish everyone all the best!**

**Faithfully yours,**

**You’re UMAC Family**