Customs Guide · Import

CAMEROON

This guide is compiled from the FIDI Customs Guide for reference only. Customs regulations change frequently; please consult your Seapoe relocation consultant for the latest requirements before shipping.

Updated 2026

Household Goods/PE

Documents Required

- Copy of valid passport
- Valued inventory in French or English, dated and signed by the shipper
- Taxpayer card (the shipper must apply online www.impots.cm)
- Original invoices for all new items less than 6 months old (those need to be listed on a separate inventory)
- Original letter of employment by the employer in Cameroon and/or original transfer letter by the employer in the country of origin
- Original change of residence certificate provided by the city of residence in the country of origin or original declaration of fact certified by a commissioner of oaths (for non-French speaking countries)
- Prohibited items declaration, signed (Washington Convention)
- Non-sale certificate
- Potential additional costs declaration, signed (signature on page 8 + initials on the other pages)
- Diplomats
- Diplomatic consignments are exempt from duties and taxes for sea freight provided the following documents are added to the list of documents mentioned above: a letter of exemption, PD2 for personal effects and/or a PD5 vehicle, must be obtained by your agency from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This certificate should then be approved by the general management of Cameroon Customs.

Customs Prescriptions

- Average customs clearance time for a shipment of personal effects from the date all required documents are received:
- 5 to 10 days for an air shipment
- 2 to 3 weeks for a sea shipment without a vehicle
- 5 to 8 weeks for a sea shipment with a vehicle
- Originals of all documents are required (except for the passport).
- Copies of documents will systematically be rejected by Cameroon customs.
- At their own discretion, customs may ask that some additional documents be submitted while the file is being examined.

Remarks

- Returning Cameroonians who return without a job will have to be present in Cameroon during customs clearance procedures because the original passport can be requested by local Customs. Working Cameroonians will have to present a work certificate (issued locally and on an original letterhead).
- The absence of any one of the documents will automatically lead to customs extra charges (fines, duties) and the taxation without exemption of the personal effects.

- All new items less than 6 months old are subject to custom duties (taxation according to the tariff position, depending on each item). They will have to be declared before shipping and listed on a separate inventory sheet. Original purchase invoices will have to be provided. The value of these items may not be greater than FCFA 1 000 000 to be allowed to be imported with your used personal effects.
- Customs duties for used items (more than 6 months old) are subject to duty of more or less 12% of the CIF value (value of the items + freight cost+ insurance).
- It is recommended not use the items' original packaging for shipping.
- Diplomats
- Note that time required for the exemption certificate is at least 2 to 3 weeks. Check with your employer that they are able to obtain this exemption. The diplomatic rate for import charge depends on obtaining this exemption certificate (carte diplomatique) and therefore the shipper's presence in the country. Port storage and demurrage charges must be expected (see page 6).
- Approx. 2% import charge on CIF value will be levied by customs for all diplomatic shipments.
- Documents must be received by moving company least 2 weeks prior to the shipment's arrival in Cameroon.
- Even though the change of residence certificate is not required for diplomats, it is recommended that one be submitted to allow for a faster clearance process for personal effects. This is because the diplomatic exemption can take time which will delay clearance. Should this be the case, the shipment will clear customs without the exemption (customs duties of approximately 12% of the CIF value) and may lead to a physical inspection of the container by customs at the port of entry or at the diplomat's residence during the delivery.