

EGYPT

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 2024

Removal goods - Returning Citizens/Foreign Citizens

Documents Required

- Original passport. for air shipment.
- Original Bill of Lading (OBL) or Telex Release (SWB)/ Air Waybill (AWB) with proper name of consignee (as written on passport) C/O Egyptian employer/ authority name and address C/O local agent address.
- ACID will be applied to household goods /VH/motorbike before the sailing date of the shipment.
- ACID number should be adding on Bill of Lading (or SWB)
- In case there is no ACID number mentioned on Bill of Lading, the container will return on the vessel for reexport to the country of origin.
- Detailed inventory, valued, typed, dated and signed in English.
- Packing list.
- Original power of attorney to be issued and notarized from the notary public in Egypt or at Egyptian embassy abroad + legalized from MOFA office in Egypt.

Customs Prescriptions

- For returning citizens: passport with entry stamp date of 3 months' old maximum.
- For foreign citizens: passport with valid residency visa for minimum 6 months.
- Packing list must be clear and legible as it will be translated into Arabic; do not indicate "Miscellaneous," "Packed by Owner," or "PBO."
- All shipments, from private to halfdiplomatic are subject to Customs inspection.
- Clearing time: 14-21 business days due to new rules where tripartite committee needs to be available during inspection process port congestions, provided that full and completed paperwork is available.
- Consignee must be present in the country upon customs clearance of his used household goods. Attendance in person during customs inspection is not required.
- All audio-visual goods (tapes, video, books, DVD, CD ROMS, etc.) will be inspected, viewed, read by Customs and released no sooner than 3 weeks after import.
- Extra charges may be applied for the inspection of special items, including food, phones, paintings, etc.
- The shipper pays inspection fees, duties
- and VAT, demurrage fees, port storage fees, management fees, bonded warehouse fees.
- All items are subject to customs duty and VAT of 14%, including consumables:
- Egyptian citizens/private shippers have to pay full duties & VAT to import their used household goods adding to the above mentioned fees.
- Used household goods and personal effects can be imported duty free for expatriates working within governmental or private sectors under the terms of temporary admission and subject to full exportation by providing a Ministry guarantee or bank guarantee. This is only granted if the consignee provides a work visa valid for a minimum of 3 months.
- The Inventory must state the model, brand, size and content (e.g., Sony 40" Television) for all

electrical and electronic items.

- Wood packaging must be treated and stamped as per ISPM15 standards.

Remarks

- ACID : advanced cargo information declaration
- Egyptian Customs do not accept handwritten Inventories.
- Egyptian consignee does not require residency visa BUT requires newly dated entry stamp of maximum 3 months old.
- Keys for car, any locked baggage or safes to be provided (returning citizens). For foreign citizens, keys for any automobile or any locked baggage/items.
- Vehicles and all audio-visual goods must be loaded at the door of the container.
- Foreign citizen shipment will be subject to full duties of 60%, VAT of 14 in order to import used household goods and personal effects.
- For more information: <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/egypt>
- Egypt started to implement ACID number, Pre-registration system for shipments since 2021 –
- Any sea shipment should be dispatched only after the issuing date of the ACID# not before.
- Any discrepancy will result in the shipment being blocked at the port
- and returned, causing significant delays and additional costs.
- <https://www.nafeza.gov.eg/en>
- According to the New Customs Law no. 207 for the year 2020 which was implemented on the 14th of November 2020, any manifest amendment, and any shortage of the pallets mentioned in MBL will incur USD 1000 as an amendment fine and to be paid to the customs.

Diplomats removals

Documents Required

- Sea Way Bill or original Bill of Lading and Air Way Bill with proper name of consignee (as written on passport) c/o Egyptian employer / authority name and address, C/O local agent address.
- Egyptian Diplomatic ID for full/1st degree Diplomats. It takes two weeks to 1 month to be issued.
- Original power of attorney
- Clearing letters issued by Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Egypt.
- Form 4DE (for diplomats), along with the notarized packing list.

Customs Prescriptions

- Wood packaging must be treated and stamped as per ISPM15 standards.
- Used household goods and personal effects can be imported duty free for full/1st degree diplomats.
- Consignee must be present in the country upon customs clearance. Attendance in person during customs inspection is not required.
- Clearing time: around 3-9 working days (if OBL and local customs paperwork is available and complete).
- Motor vehicles can be imported duty-free for full Diplomat:
- Clearing time: 10-14 working days (if all OBL + customs and complete).
- Clearing of vehicles takes longer than household goods.
- Authorization letter, locally issued in Egypt.
- If consignee is half-diplomat of 2nd degree, his full shipment will be subject to 14 % VAT fees
- Keys for automobile are to be provided.
- Diplomatic missions and some international organizations must apply for duty and VAT exemptions on personal effects (approximately 7 to 21 working days).
- Diplomats may be exempted from Customs duties and inspection provided they apply for and are granted Form 4DE (Protocol).

- Only diplomats with a diplomatic passport can import alcohol. It is recommended to check the accepted quota with employer in Egypt by providing MOFA exemption docs against this quota

Restricted/Dutiable items

Documents Required

- Scanners, printers, phones and faxes (agreement by Egyptian Authorities required).
- Perfume for personal use.
- Tobacco.

Customs Prescriptions

- All import items are dutiable except the full diplomatic shipments which are duty free.
- Video tapes, computer disks, cassette tapes, CD's, DVD's, records, and slides are subject to censorship authority approval and are subject to confiscation in the event that they fall into the category of prohibited items listed below.
- Printers, scanners, fax machines, copiers, and satellite receivers:
 - Subject to censorship by the Ministry of Interior.
 - Subject to approval or refusal.
 - The brand and model number of any such items must be included on the packing inventory.
 - Inclusion of the owner manual for any such item will assist in clearance from the Ministry.
- Office jets/work stations:
 - Subject to approval or refusal.
 - Laser Jet colour printers are prohibited to enter for personal use.
- High value works of art, including statues and paintings:
 - Will be examined by a special committee for evaluation purposes.
 - This evaluation is time consuming and costly and will delay customs clearance process.
- Foods to be examined by health authorities.

Remarks

- They might be considered as 'commercial' if large quantity of items. If included in the shipment, higher duties apply and the clearing process gets more complicated and more expensive.
- Contact the Egyptian Customs office for full and current information prior to importation.

Prohibited items

Customs Prescriptions

- All telephones (mobile, wireless, landline)
- Pornographic materials
- Drugs and medications (including medical devices like wheelchairs, crutches, canes, blood pressure monitors, thermometers, nebulizers, and blood glucose monitors)
- Firearms, weapons, ammunition, daggers, swords (even decorative), axes, hunting rifles, toy guns, saws (including electric saws and shredder machines)
- Compasses
- Anti-Islamic religious materials or any religious books (including Qurans and Bibles)
- Gold and silver jewellery (except tableware)
- Bank notes and coins
- Humidifier
- Camping tents
- Inflatable boats

- Seeds
- Internet routers
- Printers (including multifunction devices with scanner and fax functions)
- Air tanks, diving suits, and diving equipment
- Telescopes and binoculars
- Stamps
- Any kind of alcohol
- Scaffolding materials
- Large butcher or supermarket knives/device with sharp blades used for cutting meat and cheese
- Collections of stamps or old/cancelled money
- Remote-controlled toy cars
- Drones (including parts)
- Kitesurfing boards
- Inflatable kites
- Globe maquettes and any kind of map
- Ivory items (even decorative)
- Embalmed items
- Natural leather (even decorative)
- Air filters
- Any GPS devices
- Food
- Cosmetics (except within the personal use only)
- Receivers
- Camouflage clothing (military style)
- Security cameras
- Electronic cigarettes and hookahs
- Wines or Alcohols

Remarks

- Contact the Egyptian Customs office for full and current information prior to importation.
- It is strictly forbidden to send alcohol on shipments to Egypt.
- Contravening this regulation will impose severe penalties and criminal charges on the customer and its employer.
- This infringement will also have serious consequences for the removal company and the freight forwarder.