

KENYA

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

Household Goods

Documents Required

- Original Bill of Lading or Express/Telex Release (NVOCC telex release not accepted for FCL Shipments)
- Scanned Copy of the Airway Bill
- Packing List in English
- Original Passport (copy not acceptable by customs for non-diplomatic shipments)
- E-Residence Permit or E- Work Permit (Not required by a returning Kenya Citizen nor a Full Diplomat)
- Original Diplomatic PRO1B Exemption Document or DA1 Fiscal duty exemption for diplomats & Quasi Diplomatic/Technical Assistance Project funded consignments
- Consignee's Kenyan PIN Certificate
- See <https://itax.kra.go.ke/KRA-Portal/>

Customs Prescriptions

- A period of 3 months (90 days) is allowed for importation. There are no Duties & Taxes on used household goods if they have been OWNED & USED for over twelve months prior to dispatch of the shipment, and that the owner/shipper has not been in Kenya for more than 90 days in the past two years. All non-diplomatic shipments are liable for up to 100% physical verification examination on arrival.
- Non-diplomatic shipments;
- Items that cannot be included:
 - Alcohol
 - Food Stuff and Pantry Items
 - Pharmaceutical Drugs
 - New items
- Leisure items: Such as boats, unregistered off-road motorcycles and similar items are normally considered dutiable.
- Diplomatic / Fiscal Entry:
 - A period of 3 months (90 days) is allowed for importation.
 - Diplomatic shipments are not physically inspected but may be scanned.
 - Alcohol: Provide a detailed alcohol inventory list for the diplomatic mission to apply for PRO1A tax exemption.

Remarks

- A Diplomatic PRO1B Exemption Document or DA1 Fiscal duty exemption document:
- Obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Ministry of Finance by the client's mission in Kenya and requires a copy of the Bill of lading/Airway Bill and Inventory list with values to be attached to the application (scanned copies must be sent to destination agent as soon as the vessel has sailed). The client has to be in Kenya and registered by their mission to enable application and approval.

- A PIN Certificate is issued by the Kenya Revenue Authority and is required prior to the start of customs clearance procedures.
- The destination agent cannot use a company PIN Certificate to clear HHGS & PE.
- All wood packaging material used must be to ISPM15 Specification and clearly stamped.
- Customs Clearance cannot take place if the client is not in the country.
- If not a Kenya Citizen, a valid 2 year permit (Residence/Work Permit) or Exemption must be in place to enable Duty Free clearance [used HHG & PE] to take place.
- Air Shipments:
 - Clearing procedures in Nairobi usually take 2 to 5 working days if ALL the required documents are in order.
 - Email scanned copies must reach your destination agent at least 5 days prior to shipment arrival – contact your destination agent for exact timing.
- Sea Shipments:
 - Containers booked up to Nairobi (ICD Embakasi) and beyond are railed up to Nairobi.
 - This means that customs clearance would take place in Nairobi.
 - Clearing procedures in Nairobi (Inland Container Depot Embakasi-ICDE) take 5 to 7 working days if ALL the required documents are in order.
 - Documents must reach the destination agent at least THREE WEEKS days prior to shipment arrival at port of entry. Please contact your destination agent to get confirmation on exact timing.

Prohibited Items Exhaustive list can be accessed from here Prohibited and Restricted Goods Under the

Customs Prescriptions

- All Firearms and Explosives including all weapon types: Air rifles, pellet guns, firearm replicas including toy guns or water pistols that are realistic in appearance, ammunition,

Second and Third Schedule of the Eac Customs Management Act, 2004.pdf (kra.go.ke)

Customs Prescriptions

- tear and stun gas, pepper spray, high powered bows and arrows, large blade swords and sabres or similar, fencing foils, antique firearms and collector's pieces.
- Snares & traps capable of killing or capturing game or animals.
- All wild animal products including hides, skins, ivory, endangered Species of World Flora and Fauna etc. and all CITES restricted items.
- Unwrought precious metals and precious stones, and Historical Artefacts.
- False money and counterfeit currency notes and coins
- Pornographic materials
- Ozone Depleting Substances and Matches containing white phosphorous
- Narcotic drugs and all psychotropic drugs under international control
- Soaps and Cosmetic products containing mercury, or Lead based paint
- Agricultural and Industrial Chemicals which can be used in the manufacture of explosives or poisons
- Armoured fighting vehicles