

Senegal

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

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Documents

Required Documents

Specific Information

The destination agent must receive all documents at least 15 days before the shipment's arrival in order to obtain the duty-free exemption certificate. Missing this window will result in delays and storage charges accruing at the port.

Used household goods and personal effects are exempt from customs duty if they meet all of the following conditions: the items have been in the owner's possession and use for at least 6 months (items in original/new packaging do not qualify); the items are not intended for sale; and the non-sale certificate is provided.

One each of the following major appliances may be imported duty-free: refrigerator, stove/cooker, freezer, computer, television, and VCR/media player. Additional units of these items are subject to customs duties.

Satellite dishes are classified as luxury items and are taxed by Customs regardless of personal use status.

All shipments are subject to customs inspection.

BSC/CTN requirement: The Bordereau de Suivi de Cargaison (Cargo Tracking Note) is a mandatory document for all sea freight imports into Senegal. It must be obtained before shipment departs from origin. The destination agent should advise on the current issuing authority and process.

Senegal applies an 18% VAT on most imports. Personal household goods qualifying for duty-free exemption may not attract VAT, but this should be confirmed with the destination agent at the time of booking.

All solid wood packing materials must comply with ISPM 15 phytosanitary treatment standards.

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air and sea shipments.

All documentation must be in French or accompanied by certified French translations. The inventory must be in French, dated, valued, and signed by the owner of the goods.

The original bill of lading is mandatory -- express or telex release is not accepted. Ensure the original OBL is couriered to the destination agent and arrives at least 15 days before the vessel to allow time to obtain the duty-free exemption certificate.

The BSC (Bordereau de Suivi de Cargaison / Cargo Tracking Note) is required for all sea freight to Senegal and must be obtained at origin before departure. The destination agent should advise on the current issuing process.

The Port of Dakar (Port Autonome de Dakar) is the main entry point for sea freight. It is a busy port and demurrage charges accrue quickly. Prompt and complete documentation submission is essential to avoid unnecessary storage fees.

Items purchased within 6 months of import require purchase invoices. Items in original/new packaging do not qualify for the duty-free used goods exemption and will be assessed for duty.