

Import and Export Regulations Law 118 of 1975

The president of the Republic

The people's assembly decided the following provisions and we issued it:

Chapter one **With Regard to Imports:**

Article 1 - The import of goods is allowed by both the public and private sectors according to the provisions of general plan of the country. Individuals may import goods for their personal use from their own resources or through intermediary agents.

- The Minister of Foreign Trade & Industry issues a decree of defining the procedures and rules that organize the import process.
- The Minister of Foreign Trade & Industry may confine importation activities to agreement countries, and may reserve the import of certain essential commodities to public sector organs.

Article 2 -The rules of this chapter will not be applied on commodities that may be exempted from its rules due to laws, treaties or international agreements in which Egypt is one of its parties.

Chapter two **With Regard to Exports:**

Article 3- The Minister of Foreign Trade shall issue a decision organizing export operations whether from local production or from previous imports, and shall issue certificates of origin and lay down the procedures to be followed in this connection.

The Minister of Foreign Trade & Industry may restrict the export to agreement countries and also the export of certain essential commodities to the public sector.

Article 4- Exports can only be practiced by persons whose names are recorded in the register ad hoc in the Ministry of Foreign Trade. Persons whose names are to be recorded in this register should belong to one of the following categories:

Shareholder companies of the nationality of the Arab Republic of Egypt and having their head offices in it.

Public organizations, cooperatives and their unions.

Persons and companies fulfilling the conditions to be defined by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade.

Persons exporting commodities for personal use are to be exempted from registration in the exporters register.

Article 5- The following matters are to be defined by a decision from the Minister of Foreign Trade:

The conditions, forms, proceedings and documents relating to registration and its renewal in the register, modifications of the data striking out and cancellation.

Duties of registration, renewal and modification of data, and extracted copies, provided that they do not surpass the following limits:

LE50 duty of registration in the exporters register.

LE15 duty for renewal of registration every three years.

LE5 duty for modification or insertion of data.

LE3 duty for copy extracted from the register.

Article 6- the exporter's register may be cancelled according to a reasoned decision if the exporter breaches the rules of this law and its implementing decisions, or he lost one of the required conditions of registration at export register.

The minister of trade & industry may warn or suspend the register export for a period not surpassing one year in case of breaching the rules of this law and its implementing decisions.

An application for re-entry in the exporters' register in respect of exporters whose entries have been cancelled will not be considered before the expiry of three years from the date of cancellation.

Suspension or cancellation decisions shall only be issued after the exporter has been served notice by a registered letter of receipt to submit his defense arguments in writing in 15 days from the date of his notification.

Article 7-The interdiction or restriction of the export of certain commodities from the Republic of Egypt abroad may be established by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade & Industry. The export of such commodities shall be in compliance with the conditions and forms decided by the Minister.

Article 8-a duty may be imposed on certain exports, not exceeding 100% of their value, on consideration of allowing the realization of a reasonable profit to the exporter. The duty and its increase are not applicable on export permits issued before their imposition. Commodities on which the duty is applicable, its amount, mode of collection, cases of its refund or total or partial exemptions from it are to be defined by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade.

The exporter may, in virtue of a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade & Industry or whoever is empowered by him, be required to present a guarantee for effecting export operations. Such a decision shall specify the kind of guarantee, the period of its return, and in which cases it may be confiscated.

Chapter three

Concerning the control on exports and imports

Article 9- The commodities to be specified by the Minister of Foreign Trade & Industry shall be subjected to the specific control on exports and imports.

Article 10-Commodities subjected to control cannot be exported before the obtainment of an investigation certificate attesting their conformity with the conditions and specifications to be laid down by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade, after agreement with the competent authorities. The export of such commodities must take place within the period in the said certificate. In case this period lapses without the export being made a new certificate should be obtained.

Article 11- commodities subjected to control cannot be imported before being inspected to make sure they are compatible to the conditions and specifications laid down by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade, or if these commodities are accompanied by an inspection or revision certificate approved by the Egyptian authorities attesting their conformity with the conditions and specifications.

Article 12- Some exported or imported consignments may be exempted from the conditions and specifications cited in articles 9 and 10, according to circumstances, by the minister of trade or whoever is empowered by him according to a request from the competent minister.

Article 13-procedures of seeing and inspecting the consignment, notifying the concerned body with the results and status of his appeal about the inspection results and the way of judging the consignment as well as the concerned bodies responsible for issuing the certificates of inspections and revisions cited in articles 9 and 10 shall be defined by a decision from the minister of trade.

Chapter Four

General provisions and penalties

Article 14- The fees of export and import inspections shall be defined by a decision from the minister of trade and the fees will not exceed 250 malleem as per consignment inspection for each package or kilogram of the consignment.

2 pounds as per consignment inspection in non-official working hours.

1 pound as per issuing inspection, revision, origin certificates as well as a copy or a true copy of it.

5 pounds as cash insurance on appealing against the inspection results and a request of request for arbitration that may be refunded in case the consignment has been approved.

Article 15- Anyone who breaches the provisions of rule number (1) of this law or its implementing decisions, shall be punished with a fine not less than 100 pounds and not surpassing 1000 pounds and the court's decision in all cases will judge by confiscating the commodities, the subject of crime.

The minister of trade and whoever is empowered by him and before filling the criminal case may release the imported commodities that breaches the provision of article (1) or its implementing decisions on the basis that the violator shall pay a compensation equivalent to the value of the commodities released according to customs valuation. This compensation shall be collected for the account of ministry of trade. It is not allowed to file a criminal case or take any procedure against the mentioned crimes Only upon a written request from the minister or whoever empowered by him.

Article 16-

Without prejudice to any more severe penalty stipulated by Penal Code or any other criminal law, a fine not less than 100 pounds and not surpassing 1000 pounds will be collected at following cases:

Whoever violates the provision of this law with the exception of article 1 or its implementing decisions. Spreading or causing intentionally in spreading incorrect data about the exported goods inside the Arab republic of Egypt or abroad.

Whoever deliberately or intentionally provided incorrect data whether these data are concerned with registration at exporters' register, renewal or its modifications.

Moreover, a fine equivalent to the value of goods, the subject of crime, may be imposed.

Article 17- In case of occurrence of a violation from a company or an association or a juridical person, the responsible for this violation will be the responsible partner, the manager, managing board member or chairman of the board as the case may be.

Article 18- employees at the ministry of trade and customs authority Appointed by the minister of Justice after the agreement of the competent minister shall have this quality of judicial officer to prove crimes stipulated in this law.

Article 19-

Laws numbered 9/1959 with regard to imports, 203/1959 with regard to exports and 95/1963 with regard to organizing imports shall be cancelled and all rules that may contradict with this law shall be cancelled.

Article 20-

The minister of trade shall issue the required decisions to implement this law.

Article 21-

This law shall be published in the official gazette and will be executed after one month of its publication. This law shall be stamped with the seal of the state, and enforced as one of its laws.

Issued under the presidency of the Republic on 8th of Ramadan 1395 (13 September 1975)