

Using the right HS Code



Goods are classified under the Harmonized System Nomenclature (HS Codes) which is the basis for the classification of goods by importers, exporters, and shipping companies.

When applying for an export or import permit it is important for the client to use the right HS code on the Import Permit Application for the goods he/she wishes to receive a permit for.

The **Customs Management Tariff and classification of Goods Regulations 2022 - Statutory Instrument 113** can be accessed on the link: <https://www.tradeportal.sc/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SI-113-Customs-Management-Tariff-and-Classification-of-Goods-Regulations-2022.pdf>

Applying for a Permit



An individual or company wishing to import or export restricted goods for the first time must:

STEP 1:

(a) Submit a copy of their Business registration certificate, valid business license, National Identity Card (NIN) or Tax Identification Number (TIN) Certificate to the Import Export Permit Unit at Maison Esplanade, 2nd Floor, Rue de la Possession.

(b) In addition, supporting documents will need to be provided to justify the permit being sought in respect to the restricted goods.

STEP 2:

(c) The import and export services is available through an online facility known as the IE Permit which upon registration with the unit, and receiving their e-ID, a notification email will be received by the client providing guidance towards the E Service Gateway which can be accessed on the link:

<https://eservice.egov.sc/ieGateway/homepage.aspx>

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An Introduction to Import Licensing

For additional information several Import guidelines and Import / Export guides can be accessed on the below website:

www.tradeportal.sc

Bringing simplification and transparency in Import Licensing Procedures

What is Import Licensing?

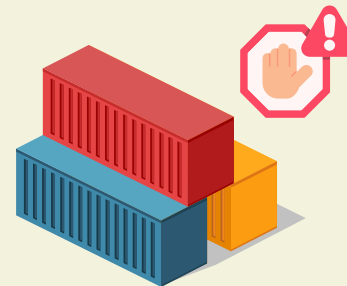


Import licensing refers to administrative procedures where importers must provide an application or specific documents (beyond standard customs forms) to the relevant authority before goods can be brought into the country.

In Seychelles, the Import Permit Unit under the aegis of the Trade Department is the administrative body responsible for processing of import and exports permits in collaboration with other approval authorities as prescribed by the Customs Management Act 2011, Customs Management (Prohibited and Restricted goods) Regulations 2023 and Customs Management (Export Permit) Regulations 2014. Both regulations governs the issuing of import and export permit in Seychelles.

As a WTO member, Seychelles has taken the initiative to simplify import and export procedures, reduce the complexity of customs processes, and minimize the required documentation. This includes streamlining formalities to make international trade more efficient and less burdensome.

Restricted Goods



It is mandatory for an importer or exporter whether individual or a company to obtain a permit prior to importation or exportation of restricted goods into or from the Seychelles.

Examples of few Goods that are restricted:

- a) Live animals, Meats, fish, crustaceans, mollusks and other aquatic invertebrates
- b) Vehicles
- c) Animals and animal products
- d) Plants and plant products and edible vegetables, fruits, spices
- e) Pharmaceutical goods.

Prohibited Goods



As for prohibited goods, they are strictly forbidden to be imported into the Seychelles and no import permits is issued for their importation.

Examples of few Goods that are Prohibited:

- a) Controlled Drugs as defined under the Misuse of Drugs Act, 2016 (Act 5 of 2016),
- b) Pharmaceutical waste in procedural products of chemicals,
- c) Body shell of Motor vehicles of headings 87.03,
- d) Balloons of Plastics, vulcanized rubber and plastic carrier bags.

The **Customs Management (Prohibited and Restricted Goods) Regulations, 2023** -Statutory Instrument 87 of 2023 can be accessed on the link below:

<https://www.tradeportal.sc/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/SI-87-Customs-Management-Prohibited-and-Restricted-Goods-Regulations-2023.pdf>

Export Permit



The Export permit is regulated by the Customs Management (Export Permit) Regulations, 2014. It is mandatory to obtain a permit prior to exportation of restricted goods outside of Seychelles.

Examples of few Goods in need of Export Permit:

- (a) Fish and fisheries products
- (b) Live plants and plant products
- (c) Live animals
- (d) Motor Vehicles

The **Customs Management (Export Permit) Regulations, 2014** - Statutory Instrument 67 of 2014 can be accessed on the link below:

<https://tradeportal.sc/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SI-67-2014-Customs-Management-Export-Permit-Regulations-2014.pdf>