

## Import and Export Regulation Law

<b>Overview</b>	<p>Next to the Customs Law, the Import and Export Regulation Law No. 118 of 1975 is the most important law relating to the organization of import and export activities.</p>
<b>Main Provisions Regarding Imports</b>	<p>Both the public and private sectors are permitted to import goods. Individuals may import goods for their personal use with their own resources or through intermediary agents.</p> <p>The Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry may confine import activities to agreement countries and reserve the import of certain essential commodities to public sector organs.</p> <p>Commodities subject to specific import controls may not be imported unless they are examined to ascertain their conformity with the conditions and specifications decreed by the law or unless they are accompanied by a certificate of examination approved by the Egyptian authorities, confirming that they have satisfied all requirements of Law No. 118.</p>
<b>Main Provisions</b>	<p>The Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry 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.</p> <p>The Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry may restrict the export to agreement countries and also the export of certain essential commodities to the public sector.</p> <p>Export of goods may be undertaken only by juristic persons whose names are recorded in the ad hoc register at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry. Persons whose names are to be recorded in this register must belong to one of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Shareholder companies of Egyptian nationality with headquarters in Egypt</li><li>▪ Public organizations, cooperatives and their unions</li><li>▪ Persons and companies satisfying the conditions to be defined by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry</li></ul> <p>Persons exporting commodities for personal use are to be exempted from the requirement of registration in the exporters' register.</p>

The following matters are to be defined by a decision by the Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry: the conditions, forms, proceedings and documents relating to registration and its renewal, as well as modifications of registry data (including cancellations and deletions).

The Minister will also determine levels of duties on registration, renewal and modification of data and extracted copies, provided that they do not surpass the following limits:

- EGP 50 duty for registration in the exporters' register
- EGP 15 duty for renewal of registration every three years
- EGP 5 duty for modification or insertion of data
- EGP 3 duty for copy extracted from the register

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 and Industry. The export of such commodities must comply with the conditions set forth by the Minister.

A duty may be imposed on certain exports, not exceeding 100 per cent of their value, in order that the exporter realizes a reasonable profit. The duty and its increase are not applicable to export permits issued before their imposition. Commodities to which the duty applies, its amount, mode of collection, and cases of refund or total or partial exemption from it are to be defined by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry.

By virtue of a decision by the Minister or a person authorized by the Minister, the exporter may 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 withdrawn.

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

Commodities subjected to control cannot be exported without an investigation certificate attesting that they conform to the conditions and specifications to be laid down by a decision of the Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry, upon agreement with the competent authorities. The export of such commodities must take place within the period set forth in the certificate. If the goods are not exported within this period, a new certificate will be required.