Bulletin n° 3 on Importation and Customs Processes

Importation to SUDAN

Transit through CHAD – ETHIOPIA - EGYPT

This is a live document that is subject to change
based on evolving regulations

Date of the document: 20 June 2023

OBJECTIVE

This document provides a situational update on importation and customs processes.

Being aware of and complying with the measures put in place by Customs administrations leads to a reduction in delays at customs entry points.

Humanitarian activities are guided by humanitarian principles: Humanity, Neutrality, Impartiality, and Independence.

Contents

SUDAN 3
Importation of Medicines and Medical supplies 3
Vehicles 4
Goods purchased in Nairobi, transported by road through Ethiopia for entry into Sudan 4
Additional information 4
REPUBLIC OF CHAD 5
Procédure de l'importation des aides humanitaires - Pour les réfugiés soudanais (in French) 5
Autorisation d'atterrissage à l'aéroport Hassan Djamous de N'djamena 7
FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA 7
Goods bought in Ethiopia and exported to Sudan 7
Transit procedures 8

Bulletin n° 3 on Importation and Customs Pr[illegible]

Importation to SUDAN

Transit through CHAD – ETHIOPIA - EGYPT

Requirement for trucks to cross Metemma into Sudan or Vice versa 9
Vehicles 9
Passengers on arrival 9
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 10
DJIBOUTI 10

Bulletin n° 3 on Importation and Customs Pr[illegible]

Importation to SUDAN

Transit through CHAD – ETHIOPIA - EGYPT

SUDAN

Process to import non-food items (source: HAC)

Current Customs Clearance process at Port Sudan (by air)

1. Write a letter to Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) informing about the incoming shipment, arrival, details of the cargo, purpose, etc. In case you are handing over the cargo to HAC, the forthcoming step would not be required as HAC would be undertaking the whole process.
2. Write a letter of Undertaking to the General Manager, Red Sea Customs for approval. The letter will be undertaking that "Form 10" that is normally received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) can't be submitted in the prevailing situation and will be provided once possible. The letter could either be submitted directly to the General Manager after organizing a meeting or be left at the General Manager's Executive Office. The former way is quicker.
3. For cargo related to telecommunication, inform the National Telecommunication Corporation (NTC) about the incoming cargo in advance along with the copies of shipping documents to ensure that they are available on the ground to inspect and accordingly report on the cargo to the customs authorities.
4. For cargo related to health e.g. medicines and equipment, inform the National Medicines and Poisons Board (NMPB) in the Ministry of Health about the incoming cargo in advance along with the copies of shipping documents to ensure that they are available on the ground to inspect and accordingly report on the cargo to the customs authorities.

Current customs clearance process at Port Sudan (by sea)

1. In addition to the above steps, write a letter of undertaking to the General Manager Sea Port Corporation (SPC). The letter will be undertaking that the exemption letter that is normally received from the Federal Ministry of Finance can't be submitted in the prevailing situation and will be provided once possible. The letter could either be submitted directly to the General Manager after organizing a meeting or be left at the General Manager's Office. The former way is quicker.

Importation of Medicines and Medical supplies

Step by step guide for 'pre-clearance' in Port Sudan:

- Write a letter (duly signed and stamped by the official representative of your organization) to the Customs administration asking for the pre-clearance of the container, through your clearing agent.
- Add to your letter a copy of the Airway bill, Packing List, Certificate of Origin, Proforma invoive, etc

- Hand it over to your customs clearing agent.

If the donation is to MoH and approved by the MoH, MOH is responsible for clearance.

A representative of the Ministry of Health will be deployed to Metemma.

Useful link: Sudan | AUDA-NEPAD- AMRH

Vehicles

Ethiopian plated trucks can enter Sudan if they have a COMESA certificate and a valid passport (driver).

Goods purchased in Nairobi, transported by road through Ethiopia for entry into Sudan

- Road Waybill: The document should clearly mention: "From Nairobi to Kosti, Sudan through Ethiopia". Ethiopia should be mentioned as the transit location.
- Packing list
- Commercial invoice
- Certificate of origin
- For Soap, a certificate of analysis is required.
- For Sanitary napkins, health certificate is required.

Additional information

- It is recommended to contact the Embassy of Sudan from the export country. The Embassy will contact the Customs administration to get the approval to import.

- Administrative Resolution No. 25 of 2023: Extension of the validity of registration certificates until the end of September 2023.

REPUBLIC OF CHAD

From the point of view of customs regulations, the two points of entry are said to be legal: border on the Chad-East side: Adré (exit) on the Sudan side: Eldjinéné (entry) and Chad borders, further southeast: Gosbeida (exit) and on the Sudan side: Forbarnga (entry).

Importations can pass via N'Djamena from the Port of Douala in Cameroon or by air directly to N'Djamena.

From N'Djamena, there is the corridor N'Djamena - Abéché - Adré (Border) and Eldjininé (Sudan) with a distance of about 912 km and, N'Djamena - Abéché - Goz Beïda (Border) and Forbaranga (Sudan) with a distance of about 960 km.

Along these corridors, there are the Customs offices of N'Djamena, Abéché and the two border offices Adré and Goz beïda;

Humanitarian Assistance with final destination Sudan must pass through these areas to enter Sudan.

Procédure de l'importation des aides humanitaires - Pour les réfugiés soudanais (in French)

Les importations d'aides humanitaires aux réfugiés au ou via le Tchad sont traités sous le principe de la Convention de Vienne, relayées par l'Acte n°02/92-UDEAC-556- SE1 du 30 avril 1992 portant révision de l'Acte n°13/65-UDEAC-35 fixant les conditions d'application de l'article 241 du Code des douanes de l'UDEAC. Elles sont exonérées du paiement des droits et taxes au cordon douanier. Cependant, il y a une procédure à mettre en place pour traiter efficacement les importations à destination du Soudan via le Tchad.

I. Des Préalables

Bulletin n° 3 on Importation and Customs Pr[illegible]

Importation to SUDAN

Transit through CHAD – ETHIOPIA - EGYPT

Il faut prévenir et disposer des véhicules pour le transport terrestre jusqu'au lieu de déchargement (Tchad ou Soudan) si les aides seront importés par voie Aérienne.

Mettre en place le système de traitement des cargaisons admis à la douane du Tchad : (Les heures légales du Travail au Tchad commencent de 7h à 15h30mn lundi à jeudi et le vendredi de 7h à 12h). En dehors de ces heures ci-dessus indiquées, il faut une demande au bureau de douane pour traiter les importations moyennant de frais accessoires appelé « travail Extra Légal » (TEL).

II. Pour sortir les cargaisons de la douane :

Souscrire l'IM8 transit auprès du service de douane et mettre sous l'escorte jusqu'à la frontière, premier poste d'entrée au Soudan (frais escorte à supporter) ;

Souscrire un enlèvement Direct (ED) ou la soumission cautionnée D48 et faire escorter jusqu'au lieu de déchargement.

Faire décharger dans un magasin identifiable par le service de douane et ensuite, régulariser l'opération au bureau de douane par une IM4 dont est jointe une attestation de franchise.

III. Stockage (Entrepôt) :

Le régime de l'entrepôt sous douane permet le stockage des marchandises sous certaines conditions, en suspension des droits et taxes de douane. La Firme d'Expertise d'Entreposage en Douanes réglementation et la taxation applicables lors de la sortie du régime de l'entrepôt de douane sont celle en vigueur à la date de cette sortie (art 231.1 Code douane CEMAC).

Désigner le lieu de stockage Entrepôt (N'Djamena, Abéché, Adré ou Goz Beida).

Le lieu de stockage doit respecter les normes de sécurité (vol) Mettre en place la gestion d'entrepôt en comptabilité matérielle en commun accord avec le service des douanes.

Faire agréer par le Directeur National des Douanes et fermer à double clef ;

Supporter les frais d'exercice de l'entrepôt par le concessionnaire ;

Bulletin n° 3 on Importation and Customs Pr[illegible]

Importation to SUDAN

Transit through CHAD – ETHIOPIA - EGYPT

Se faire souscrire une caution contre le risque de perte ;

Les cargaisons qui y seront admis seront traités sous le régime de IM7 ;

A leur sortie pour mettre à la consommation chez les réfugiés au Tchad sous IM4 et pour réexporter au Soudan, souscrire IM8.

[Source : FEXED - Cabinet d'expertise des questions douanières et logistiques, recommandé par la Direction Générale des Douanes du Tchad. L'une de ses missions est l'appui aux commissionnaires agréés en douane, partenaire à l'opération de dédouanement pour éviter les irrégularités réglementaires douanières. Email : dgfexed1@gmail.com]

Autorisation d'atterrissage à l'aéroport Hassan Djamous de N'djamena

Contact: abakar.gombo@tchadlogistiqueservices.com

FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

[Official source: ECC]

Goods bought in Ethiopia and exported to Sudan[1]

- Entrepot trade is not allowed in Ethiopian law.
- An importer does not have the right to re-export unless the special permit is provided for such types of export.
- Export is 100 % free from customs duty and taxes.

[1] In case the container is opened to create a kit with goods imported from country A and/or B, with goods purchased locally, you can only use the importation regime. When the kits are done, you will use the export regime. No TRANSIT is allowed in this situation.

- all Ethiopian goods exported to Sudan is free from customs duty and vice versa because of bilateral trade agreement between Sudan and Ethiopia (It applies only for goods of Ethiopian and Sudan origin).
- To export food items from Ethiopia, a special permit from the Ministry of Trade may be needed.
- There is no trade bans from Ethiopia to Sudan.

Transit procedures[2]

When the goods arrive in Bole Airport and transported to Sudan by land transport:

- An outward transit declaration with guarantee is required, until the goods leaves Ethiopia.
- The guarantee will be refunded up on re-exportation of the goods from Ethiopia.

By law, 4 types of guarantees exist in Ethiopia: letter guarantee, cash deposit, bank guarantee and insurance bond.

There is no general bonded warehouse in Ethiopia.

Customs transit is classified into 4 categories:

1. Through transit

2. Inward transit

3. Outward transit

4. Inland transit

[2] You can only use the customs transit regime if the container goes directly from one country to another without any change. The content of the container that enters a country in transit should be STRICTLY the same when it leaves the country of transit to its final destination.

If the goods are re-exported, it will be re-exported from bonded warehouse by only outward transit procedure which is described by CPC 8271-800.

Requirement for trucks to cross Metemma into Sudan or Vice versa

Permit is required from Ministry of transport after submission all the required documents (drivers passport & driving licence , truck details, cargo details etc).

Vehicles

Ethiopian plated trucks can enter Sudan if they have COMESA certificate and valid passport (driver).

Requirement for trucks to cross Metema into Sudan or vice versa: Permit is required from the Ministry of Transport after submission of all the required documents (driver's passport & driving license, truck details , etc),

Passengers on arrival

[source: INGO partner]

1. UNHAS Arrival passengers in transit will be escorted to Ethiopian Airlines (ET) customer service desk in the international terminal for their onward flights check in.

2. Passengers whose final destination is ADD can go directly to immigration and then proceed to collect their bags from arrival area.

3. If onward flight is other than ET, passenger will be escorted to the international terminal and will have to go to ET customer service desk for check in 3 hours before their flight.

Bulletin n° 3 on Importation and Customs Pr[illegible]

Importation to SUDAN

Transit through CHAD – ETHIOPIA - EGYPT

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

It is practically impossible to import and export at present via the corridor in Birao and Am Dafok. (source: customs Administration of CAR – 22 May 2023)

DJIBOUTI

Shipment from Djibouti to Sudan via Ethiopia

1. Complete Djibouti transit according to Djibouti law

2. For Ethiopian transit: Inform the Ministry of Foreigh Affairs of Ethiopia with a supporting letter from the EDRMC.

The Ministry of Transport will deliver a permit if the driver is from Djibouti.

If you have any questions or if you have information to add to this bulletin on CIQPs,

please contact:

IMPACCT

Ms Virginie BOHL
Coordinator
impacct.2021 [at] gmail.com

Global Logistics Cluster

Global.logcluster [at] wfp.org

Annex: Experiences with cargo movement reported by partners

*This document is provided solely as a compilation of **information received from humanitarian partners based on their experience** regarding the processes and documentation required for clearing humanitarian cargo. This document is not intended to replace or substitute any official guidance, process, or protocol.*

Partners are encouraged to rely on official sources and guidance for accurate and up-to-date information. In the event that partners encounter additional or different processes and requirements, they are strongly advised to reach out to sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org. This document is a live document and will be continuously updated as more information becomes available or new processes are described. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided, no guarantees are made regarding its completeness or applicability to specific situations.

CARGO IMPORT THROUGH EGYPT (Argeen)*

*Experience shared by a UN Agency for food items purchased in Egypt. As reported by the partner, the full process took 2 weeks and a half, including the border crossing. (as of 18 June 2023)

Egypt side:

1. A note verbale was sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to commence the clearance process.
2. This was followed by regular approvals from line ministry (s) and customs. For Food items, documents of proof of origin and regular papers had to be provided.
3. A letter acknowledging authorisation from the Sudanese Customs and Department of Health that the product was an acceptable commodity.

Sudan side

- After the border, the consignment was held whilst all known parties cleared for onward movement.

CARGO IMPORT THROUGH ETHIOPIA (Metema)*

*Experience shared by a partner for NFIs purchased in Nairobi and transited via road through Ethiopia. A (as of 18 June 2023)

Ethiopia – transit

1. The customs declaration point will be **Kality Customs Commission** for any transit shipment going through Ethiopia as it is appointed central customs station that will coordinate the entry and exit stations and arrange the required support letters. The entry point depends on the choice of transport mode, while the exit point for any shipment going to Sudan remains to be Metema customs checkpoint.
2. Transit goods are not subjected to duty and tax payment; however, a **security bond** equivalent to the duties and taxes amount shall be deposited in the form of Cash, Bank Guaranty, or CPO. The Security Guarantee shall be valid for 90 days and will be refunded once a confirmation is given to Kality customs from the exit customs point, Metema assuring that the goods have crossed the Ethiopian territory.
3. The sender must have at least the copies of basic shipping documents **Transport Document**, **Invoice, Packing List and certificate of origin** to start the clearance. Once you have the documents, you may reach out to your nominated customs clearing agent who will advise you of the guarantee amount to be deposited for customs, and then you will arrange the guarantee through your bank accordingly.
4. Customs might do an evaluation of the goods based on their ECVS data (A price database of customs) and request additional guarantees in the middle of the clearance process. In this case, you will be forced to arrange an additional Guarantee for the added duty value.

Annex: Experiences with cargo movement reported by partners

5. Border Pass permit shall be processed for truck/s loading the shipment if the sender organisation will use Ethiopian or Kenyan trucks to load the cargo. Trucks must have a COMESA certificate, Valid Ownership certificate and Valid driver documents to get the permit from the Ministry of Transport and Logistics. The authority will issue a 1-2 months permit, and trucks must finish the delivery within the given time.
6. It is recommended to load/dispatch trucks when the transit permit confirmation has been received from the customs agent to minimise/avoid stranding of the trucks.
7. The Sudan government does not allow the Importation of Medical items through Metema. There is no restriction from the Ethiopian side on commodity type.
8. Ethiopian customs do have the right to inspect the cargo, but sampling and laboratory test will not be required for transit shipments.

Sudanese requirements:

The following steps were taken:

1. Regular customs processes followed with our usual clearing agent for road shipment
2. Regular permit received from Customs Director of El Gadaref (border) state to allow the organisation to import goods without 'Form A' (exemption form)
3. The Humanitarian Aid Commissioner of El Gadaref (border) state approved the movement in particular for the organisation's cargo Galabat crossing.
4. National Intelligence and Security Authority's Department for International Organizations approved the movement.
5. National Intelligence and Security Authority's Department for Economic Security provided approval for the border crossing.
6. El Gadaref state Governor addressed a letter to MI to ask for the green light for this movement.
7. MI asked for Emergency Committees approval i.e. need instruction to stamp partner's request for border crossing (this was unexpected)