

Saudi Arabia (SA)

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National Guaranteeing Association

The Federation of Saudi Chambers

Field of application notified

Convention on Temporary Admission (Istanbul Convention, 26 June 1990)

- Annex A (temporary admission documents)
- Annex B1 (concerning goods for display or use at exhibitions, fairs, meetings or similar events) with a reservation in respect of Article 5.1 (a), whereby Saudi considers itself not to be bound by the provisions of this Article. With the reservation entered, small samples mentioned in the Article 5.1(a) are not exempted from customs duty and taxes, and they are subject to regulations of restriction and prohibition.
- Annex B2 (concerning professional equipment)
- Annex B3 (concerning containers, pallets, packings, samples and other goods importened in connection with a commercial operation)
- Annex B5 (concerning goods imported for educational, scientific or cultural purposes)

Other applications

ATA Carnets are accepted for postal traffic.

ATA Carnets are accepted for transit.

ATA Carnets are accepted for goods transported as cargoes, as well as hand-carried goods.

ATA Carnets issued by Contracting Parties to either the ATA or Istanbul Convention, or to both Conventions, are accepted.

Importation in split consignments is accepted.

Languages in which Carnets should be completed

ATA Carnets may be completed in English or Arabic. The Customs may require a translation when the ATA Carnets are completed in any other language. If the English version is ambiguous, the Customs may ask for a translation.

Replacement carnet

Replacement Carnets are accepted in accordance with Article 14, Annex A of the Istanbul Convention, and the Common Customs Law for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC Sates).

Regularization fee requested by Customs

In case a claim is regularised by evidences other than the re-exportation counterfoil completed and stamped by the Saudi Customs, Saudi Customs Authority reserves the right to charge a regularisation fee. The amount is to be confirmed but shall be consistent with the provision of Article 10 and 11 of the Annex A, Istanbul Convention.

Customs offices

All Customs offices are authorised to handle ATA Carnet procedure.

Special observations

Based on information received from the Federation of Saudi Chambers on 3 June 2024, Saudi Customs, i.e. the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA), has introduced a mandatory carnet pre-approval procedure for the clearance of goods under ATA Carnets. Carnet holders must lodge requests (free of charge) via ZATCA's official
website: https://eservices.zatca.gov.sa/sites/sc/en/TemporaryEntrybyCardBook/Pages/TemporaryEntrybyCardBook/Client/RequestLanding.aspx
Kindly note: When submitting the request, please make sure to submit a copy of the Carnet's front cover page and general list in the designated box during registration. The cover page's box J must be duly completed before submission. If a Letter of authorization (PoA for the representative to submit the carnet declaration in Saudi) exits, it must be submitted as well. For details, please check Service User Manual

If the goods or a part thereof cannot be re-exported outside KSA under ATA carnet before the re-export deadline, the holder of ATA carnet shall notify the Saudi Customs Authority before the expiry of such deadline in writing to extend the said date or give a permission for the internal use that is conditional upon the Saudi Customs Authority's approval. Saudi Customs Authority may be notified at the following address: Customs Control Department, email: coc-temporary@zatca.gov.sa Tel.: 19993

Failing to re-export goods by the final date of re-exportation as specified by Saudi Customs, a penalty of SR 1,000 shall be payable for every week or part of the week past the re-exportation date, taking into consideration that the final amount shall not exceed 20% of the value of the goods. Goods not re-exported, for whatever reason, shall be subject to import duties, taxes, and penalties according to the Common Customs law. The responsibility of the national guaranteeing associations shall not exceed the amount of import duties and taxes payable by more than 10%, as specified in Article 8 (2) of Annex A to the Istanbul Convention. The additional penalty amount that goes beyond the responsibility of the national guaranteeing associations shall be directly imposed on the holders.

Goods subject to import prohibition and restrictions are found on the Customs administration website.

In case of false declarations as to the goods' value, the ATA Carnet shall be rejected at time of import. False declaration of value of the goods may further entail seizure/confiscation of the goods, and/or the application of fines to the holder. The holder will be held accountable, and the customs procedures shall be applied in accordance with the Common Customs Law.