



# Importing Personal Property Into Kenya

## IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

### **DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:**

- The property has been in the possession and use by the importer for more than one year
- Client must be changing residence, visiting country or returning to Kenya. Period of three months allowed for importation.
- Goods must have been used for at least three months prior to import.
- Duty-free entry allowed for diplomats

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

#### **Non-Diplomats**

- ✓ Original Passport
- ✓ Work Permit (expect 3-6 weeks for processing)
- ✓ Packing list
- ✓ Original Bill of Lading/Airway Bill

#### **Diplomats**

- ✓ Original Passport
- ✓ DA 1 or Pro IB: diplomatic clearance documents obtained in 2 to 4 weeks from arrival of shipper in Kenya and deposit of the request to the Kenya Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- ✓ Original Bill of Lading/AWB
- ✓ Packing list

### **Notes:**

- Shipper must be present at the arrival of the shipment
- Documents have to be express mailed 15 days prior to shipment's arrival in order for the shipper's employer to apply for the possible duty free exemption certificate.

### **RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- Live animals, animal traps, game trophies
- Drugs, explosives, fake money
- Gambling devices, indecent literature, pornographic publications
- Toy pistols, rifles and airguns
- Precious metal and stones
- Firearms and weapons (valid firearms certificate is required and issued by the Kenyan Firearms Office)
- Pets and animals are generally prohibited or restricted. (health certificate is needed and can be applied for at the Kabete Veterinary Clinic)
- Alcohol and other spirits are strictly prohibited

### **IMPORTING MOTOR VEHICLES:**

- Vehicle must be owned by shipper at least three months prior to shipping
- If the vehicle is older than one year there is no duty provided that the vehicle is registered under the name of the person who is moved, and only if the vehicle is not exceeding 2500 cc.
- Vehicles imported duty free are not transferable for a period of one year
- Duty free concession is only given for one car
- Taxes on vehicles are based on a percentage of the local value for a similar car (approx. 55%)
- Car must not exceed a sitting capacity of more than 13 seats

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

- Original registration card or logbook
- Original passport
- Original Bill of Lading
- Sales Contract mentioning value

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- AGS Worldwide Movers, 2001
- Household goods Forwarders Association of America, INC. "Commercial Shipper's Guide", 1998

**The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of printing and is frequently subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of the owner or importer of the household goods to comply with the current customs regulations, and duties of the country to which the goods are imported. We strongly advise customers to contact the consulate or embassy of the destination country for the most current information on customs regulations, restriction and duties for importing household goods, personal effects and vehicles.**