



SFAAZ ALERT NUMBER 14 OF 25 MARCH 2026

Statutory Instrument 59 of 2026 - Open General Import Licence Notice

Key Highlights

Statutory Instrument 59 of 2026 consolidates various disparate legislative provisions governing the Control of Goods (Import and Export) (Commerce) Regulations, previously scattered across multiple statutory instruments. This consolidation is welcomed as it significantly enhances the ease of doing business. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is commended for responding favorably to industry representations.

Grounds for Refusal of Import or Export License

An application for an import or export license may be refused where:

1. the goods fail to meet national quality or safety standards;
2. the importation or exportation is deemed prejudicial to the economic interests of Zimbabwe; or
3. the applicant has previously contravened the provisions of these regulations.

License Fees

The prescribed fees remain unchanged:

- **Imports:** US\$100 or equivalent in local currency
- **Exports:** US\$50 or equivalent in local currency

Importation of Second-Hand Motor Vehicles

Prohibition

No second-hand motor vehicle aged ten years or more from the date of manufacture shall be imported into Zimbabwe.

Import Licenses

No import license shall be issued for a second-hand motor vehicle aged ten years or more from the date of manufacture and any vehicle imported in contravention of this prohibition shall be re-exported by the owner at the owner's sole expense.



Forfeiture

If the vehicle is not re-exported within sixty (60) days, it shall be deemed forfeited to the State in terms of the Customs and Excise Act [Chapter 23:02].

Exceptions

Notwithstanding the age prohibition, the following categories of second-hand motor vehicles aged ten years or above may be permitted entry,

- (a) vehicles forming part of a deceased estate (inherited vehicles);
- (b) vehicles belonging to an immigrant as defined under section 9(1) of the Customs and Excise (Suspension) Regulations, 2003 (S.I. 257 of 2003);
- (c) vehicles belonging to an immigrant as defined under section 105(1) of the Customs and Excise (General) Regulations, 2001 (S.I. 154 of 2001);
- (d) vehicles belonging to diplomats returning to Zimbabwe from their postings; and
- (e) vintage vehicles as defined in the Vehicle Registration and Licensing Act [Chapter 13:14].

Importation of Second-Hand Clothing and Undergarments

The importation of second-hand clothing is prohibited unless the importer holds a valid permit authorizing importation exclusively for charitable purposes. Such importation is subject to conditions prescribed by the Secretary to ensure that the goods are distributed for charitable ends.

The importation of second-hand undergarments is strictly prohibited under all circumstances.

Goods Requiring an Import Permit

The previous First Schedule has been repealed and replaced with a new First Schedule. The new schedule introduces additional goods, which now require an import license.

Note this SI is effective today and the new products add effectively require permits as from today 25 March 2006.

A summary of the goods subject to import licensing is set out below.

GOODS REQUIRING AN IMPORT LICENCE

Product	Tariff Code
School uniforms, including socks	-
Furniture and steel kitchen units	-
Live poultry (fowls of the species gallus domesticus, ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea fowls)	01.05
Meat and edible offal of poultry, fresh, chilled or frozen	02.07



Meat of swine, fresh, chilled or frozen	02.07
Milk and cream not concentrated, not containing added sugar (packed for retail)	04.01
Disaccharide-free milk, milk specially prepared for infants (packed for retail)	0402.91.10
Other milk and cream, not containing added sugar (packed for retail)	0402.91.90
Disaccharide-free milk, milk specially prepared for infants (packed for retail)	0402.99.10
Other milk and cream not elsewhere specified (packed for retail)	0402.99.90
Fermented milk	0403.90.10
Other milk and cream not elsewhere specified	0402.99.90
Onions	0703.10.00
Potatoes	0710.10.00
Noodles	1902
Cement clinkers	2523.10.00
White cement, whether or not artificially coloured	2523.21.00
Other Portland cement	2523.29.00
Diesel fuel (imported in container by non-NOCZIM)	2710.19.22
Petrol	2710.12.12
Jet A1 fuel	2710.12.13
Paraffin	2710.19.11
Aviation gasoline	2710.19.12, 2710.19.13, 2710.19.16, 2710.19.19, 2710.12.11
Aluminium Sulphate	2833.22.00
Radioactive chemical elements and radioactive isotopes; mixtures and residues containing these products	28.44
Isotopes and compounds thereof	28.45
Antacids (Magnesium/Aluminium salts, excl. alginic acid or sustained release)	3004.40.90
Seamless tubes, internal diameter $\leq$ 63.5 mm, polymers of ethylene	3917.21.10
Other tubes, pipes, hoses, rigid, polymers of ethylene	3917.21.90
Tubes, external diameter 18–28 mm	3917.23.10
Tubes, external diameter $\leq$ 610 mm	3917.23.20
Tubes, external diameter $>$ 610 mm	3917.23.90
Plastic bags and polymers	3920, 3921, 3923
Conveyor belts, metal reinforced	4010.11.00
Conveyor belts, textile reinforced	4010.12.00
Other conveyor belts	4010.19.00
Retreaded/used tyres, solid/cushion tyres, tyre treads and flaps	40.12
Doors and frames, tropical wood	4418.21.00

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Other doors and frames	4418.29.00
Other lightweight coated paper	4810.29.90
Self-adhesive paper reels	4811.41.10
Envelopes, letter cards, postcards, correspondence cards, boxes, pouches, wallets	4817
Toilet paper	4818.10.00
Cartons, boxes, cases, corrugated	4819.10.00
Folding cartons, boxes, cases, non-corrugated	4819.20.00
Sacks and bags, base width ≥ 40 cm	4819.30.00
Other sacks and bags, including cones	4819.40.00
Other packing containers, record sleeves	4819.50.00
Registers, account books, notebooks, order books, receipt books, letter pads, diaries	4820.10.00
Exercise books	4820.20.00
Other stationery articles, binders, folders, file covers	4820.90.00
Printed paper/paperboard labels	4821.10.00
Other printed/embossed/perforated paper/paperboard	4823.90.70
Printed books in single sheets	4901.10.00
Dictionaries and encyclopaedias	4901.91.00
Textbooks	4901.99.10
Newspapers, journals, periodicals (appearing at least four times a week)	4902.10.00
Other newspapers, journals, periodicals	4902.10.00 (other)
Children's picture, drawing or colouring books	4903.00.00
Printed music	4904.00.00
Postage/revenue stamps, banknotes, cheque forms, stock certificates	4907
Printed postcards, greeting cards	4909.00.00
Calendars, printed	4910.00.00
Trade advertising material, catalogues	4911.10.00
Pictures, designs, photographs	4911.91.00
Guide books, directories, travel/exhibition publicity	4911.99.10
Instructional charts and diagrams	4911.99.20
Long pile fabrics	6001.10.00
Looped pile fabrics, cotton	6001.21.00
Looped pile fabrics, man-made fibres	6001.22.00
Looped pile fabrics, other textile materials	6001.29.00
Blankets, wool/fine animal hair	6301.20.00
Blankets, cotton	6301.30.00
Blankets, synthetic fibres	6301.40.00
Other blankets and travelling rugs	6301.90.00



Flexible intermediate bulk containers, man-made textiles	6305.32.00
Sacks/bags, polyethylene/polypropylene strip	6305.33.00
Sacks/bags, other textile materials	6305.90.00
Waterproof footwear, rubber/plastics	6401
Other footwear, rubber/plastics	6402
Footwear, rubber/plastics/leather uppers, leather soles	6403
Footwear, rubber/plastics/leather uppers, textile materials	6404
Other footwear	6405
Parts of footwear, gaiters, leggings	6406
Fishing Ceramics	6907.40.00
Flat-rolled iron/steel products, width <600 mm, uncoated	7211.19.00
Bars/rods, iron/non-alloy steel, forged/hot-rolled	7214.20.00, 7214.30.00, 7214.99.00
Angles, shapes, sections, iron/non-alloy steel	7216.10.00, 7216.21.00, 7216.22.00
Bridges and bridge-sections	7308.10.00
Towers and lattice masts	7308.20.00
Doors and frames for lifts	7308.30.10
Other doors, windows, frames	7308.30.90
Mining head frames, yielding arches, shaft guides	7308.90.20
Other structures and parts	7308.90.90
Cans, soldered/crimped, capacity <50L	7310.21.00
Other cans, capacity <50L	7310.29.00
Barbed wire, fencing wire	7313.00.00
Grill, netting, fencing, welded, zinc-coated	7314.31.00
Anchors, grapnels, iron/steel	7316.00.00
Wire nails, iron/steel	7317.00.00
Other screws, bolts, with nuts/washers	7318.15.00
Other threaded articles	7318.19.00
Aerosol cans	7612.9010
Crown corks	8309.10.00
Nuclear reactors	8401.10.00
Fuel elements, non-irradiated	8401.30.00
Parts of nuclear reactors	8401.40.00
Metal clad insulated panels	8418.99.10
Conveyor idlers	8428.39.00
Single furrow mouldboard ploughs, weight ≤55 kg	8432.10.10
No till-direct planters	8432.31.00
Other planters	8432.39.00
Disc harrows, less than 30 discs	8432.21.10
Disc harrows, more than 30 discs	8432.21.90
Cultivators	8432.29.20

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Plough beam	8432.90.10
Other parts	8432.90.90
Groundnut Sheller	8437.10.00
Flywheels, pulleys, pulley blocks	8483.50.00
Containers, metal cladded insulated panels	8609.00.10
Other seats, wooden frames (upholstered)	9401.61.00
Other seats	9401.69.00
Metal furniture, office use	9403.10.00
Other furniture (excluding wooden kitchen furniture)	94.03 (excluding 9403.40.00)
Modular building units, steel	9406.20.00
Other prefabricated buildings, metal cladded insulated panels	9406.90.20
Antacids (Magnesium/Aluminium salts, excl. alginic acid)	3004.90.32
Aspirin and Caffeine tablets/capsules	9902.12.11
Aspirin tablets (excl. 100mg and sustained release)	2918.22
Cotrimoxazole suspension/syrup/granules	3004.20.20
Cotrimoxazole tablets	3004.20.10
Erythromycin capsules/tablets	3004.20.30
Erythromycin suspension	3004.20.30
Frusemide/Furosemide 40mg tablets	3004.40.90
Ibuprofen tablets/capsules	3004.90.90
Metformin 500mg tablets (immediate release)	3004.90.99
Metronidazole tablets	3004.90.99
Paracetamol and Codeine tablets	3004.90.99
Paracetamol syrup	3004.90.99
Paracetamol tablets	3004.90.99
Amoxicillin capsules/tablets	3004.20.40
Amoxicillin granules (paediatric)	3004.20.40
Cloxacillin capsules/tablets	3004.20.40
Cloxacillin granules (paediatric)	3004.20.40
Dextrose 5% IV infusion	3004.90.10
Half-strength Darrow's with glucose IV	3004.90.10
Maintelyte with Dextrose IV	3004.90.10
Ringer's Lactate IV	3004.90.10
Sodium Chloride (Normal Saline) IV	3004.90.10



GOODS REQUIRING AN EXPORT LICENCE

Product	Tariff Code
Fertiliser	-
Raw and refined sugar	-
Second hand industrial equipment	-
Second hand motor vehicles for the transport of ten or more persons, including the driver	8702
Second hand motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons (other than those of heading 87.02), including station wagons and racing cars	8703
Double cabs (Diesel or semi-diesel)	8704.21.20
Other motor vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition engine (diesel or semi-diesel), payload not exceeding 800 kg	8704.21.30
Other motor vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition engine (diesel or semi-diesel), payload more than 800 kg but not exceeding 1,400 kg	8704.21.40
Other motor vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition engine (diesel or semi-diesel), g.v.w not exceeding 5 tonnes not elsewhere specified	8704.21.90
Double cabs / Twin cabs (Petrol)	8704.31.20
Other motor vehicles for the transport of goods with spark-ignition engine, payload not exceeding 800 kg	8704.31.30
Other motor vehicles for the transport of goods with spark-ignition engine, payload more than 800 kg but not exceeding 1,400 kg	8704.31.40
Other motor vehicles for the transport of goods with spark-ignition engine, g.v.w not exceeding 5 tonnes not elsewhere specified	8704.31.90

Exemption from Import License Requirements

An import license shall not be required for the importation of personal goods belonging to the following categories:

- (a) deceased estates (inheritance goods);
- (b) diplomats based abroad;
- (c) returning residents with immigrant status; and
- (d) returning residents who have resided continuously outside Zimbabwe for a period of not less than six months.



Repealed Notices

The following statutory instruments are hereby repealed:

Item	Description	Citation
1	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2017 (No. 5)	S.I. 122 of 2017
2	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2018 (No. 6)	S.I. 237A of 2018
3	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2020 (No. 7)	S.I. 60 of 2020
4	Control of Goods (Open General Import and Export Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2020 (No. 7)	S.I. 90 of 2020
5	Control of Goods (Import and Export) (Commerce) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 (No. 9)	S.I. 89 of 2021
6	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2022 (No. 8)	S.I. 94 of 2022
7	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2022 (No. 9)	S.I. 103 of 2022
8	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2022 (No. 9)	S.I. 185 of 2022
9	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2023 (No. 9)	S.I. 101 of 2023
10	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2024 (No. 14)	S.I. 6 of 2024
11	Control of Goods (Import and Export) (Commerce) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 (No. 10)	S.I. 54 of 2024
12	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2024 (No. 15)	S.I. 68 of 2024
13	Control of Goods (Import and Export) (Commerce) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 (No. 11)	S.I. 111 of 2024
14	Control of Goods (Import and Export) (Commerce) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 (No. 13)	S.I. 172 of 2024
15	Control of Goods (Import and Export) (Commerce) (Amendment) Regulations, 2025 (No. 14)	S.I. 45 of 2025
16	Control of Goods (Open General Import Licence) (Amendment) Notice, 2025 (No. 17)	S.I. 46 of 2025

Note: We are engaging the Ministry on Transitional Arrangements. In the interim, members are advised to carefully note the products now subject to import and export control under Statutory Instrument 59 of 2026 and to apply for the requisite permits in accordance with the provisions of the instrument.

From the Secretariat Desk

