

Import Regulations for Foreign Companies in Republic of Iraq

Ministry of Trade (MoT) within **Government of Iraq (Gol)** is the responsible entity on importation in General.

According to the Iraqi Modified Companies' Law Number 21 for 1997, all Importers in Iraq should be registered at MoT. This is to get the "Import License", and you should be either:

- a. A company that is registered in Iraq, or;
- b. A foreign company that are not registered in Iraq, but have a contract that worth at least 1m. US dollars with a registered local company or have an investment contract.

For Foreign Companies that are registered in Iraq and would like to have the Import License, they should visit the Import Department at MoT . According to the Foreign Companies Regulation number 2 for 2017 (Article Number 6 and 14), you should submit the Following:

1. Establishment license of the Foreign Company branch in Iraq issued by the Companies' **Registration Department** at MoT.
2. A letter from Companies' Registration Department states that the Office of the company in Iraq has been transferred to a branch.
3. Authorization letter from the original company to the Managing Director of the branch in Iraq, stating the he/ she can run the branch on their behalf in Iraq. This is to be done whether the Managing Director is Iraqi or Foreigner.
4. A foreign company should have a valid contract with Gol, which means any of Iraqi ministries, governorates, entities. etc. The expiry date of the contract should be mentioned according to article number 4 from Foreign Companies Law mentioned above.
5. If the Managing Director is a foreigner, he/ she should submit a copy of the passport along with the residency and two passport photos; if he/ she is Iraqi, they should submit all personal documents like Jinsiya, Hawiat Ahwal Madanieh... etc (original and copy) along with two passport photos.

Full Address for Import Department/ MoT:

Baghdad International Fairground
Damascus St.
Al- Mansour
Baghdad

The Regulations of Import License:

1. The license will be expired in one Year.
2. The license will be issued depending on the imported materials, laws, degrees and regulations for these materials.
3. The importer can choose two border points for imported goods to get through. He/ She can change these border points one time only by submitting a request to the **State Company of Exhibitions and Commercial Services**.

4. Ministry of Agriculture is the entity that decides the period, quantity, country of origin and border port for the license of plants and their products processed in a manner that did not divert them from their plant nature along with the seasonal agricultural products and live animals. This is according to the "Law of Agriculture Quarantine" no.75 for 2012, the "Law of Animal Protection" no. 32 for 2013 and the Agriculture Seasonal Calendar.
5. License for chemicals, dual used and any other dangerous materials will be granted according to the General Secretariat for Council of Ministers no. (ش.ل.ص/3426/42) for 2015.
6. Importing gold or any other precious minerals is subject to modified degree no.335 for 2017.
7. Importing oil products is subject to "Importing and Selling Oil Products Law" no. 9 for 2006 and its regulations.
8. Goods imported to Iraq should be subject to iraqi standards approved by **Central Organization for Standardization and Quality Control (COSQC)**. It should be subject to the tests of the other relevant governmental entities in Iraq as of Ministry of Health or Ministry of Agriculture or any other authorized private entities, in condition of all imported goods should come with its international inspection certificates, as well as, certifications from entities with sectors related to the imported goods.
9. The State Company of Exhibitions and Commercial Services in MoT is authorized to specify the quantity of goods for each import license. Except for goods' quantity with sectors related to other entities (i.e Ministries of Health, Agriculture, Electricity, Industry& Minerals... etc). However, these entities should provide the State Company of Exhibitions and Commercial Services with studies to explain the exact need of Iraq for such needs.
10. Governmental entities are exempt from the procedure of getting import license. Hence, any contract with %25 participation with Gol and above will be treated as a public sector contract. Any contract with less than %25 participation of the government will be treated as a private sector contract.

Instructions of Issuance a License to Import Staple Food and agricultural.

1. A prior approval from Ministry of Agriculture is needed before issuing a license for food and agriculture staples in raw condition, according to the Council of Ministers decree no. 1741 of 2006, 2281 in 2007 and no. 13215 in 2009.
2. For processed food, the license would be issued according to the Council of Ministers decree no. 33751 of 2008, which states that the importer should get a letter from Ministry of Health first states the store in which such materials are going to be stored at is up to specifications.
3. For some raw spices, the importer should get an approval from General Authority for Plants Protection in Ministry of Agriculture before requesting a license.
4. Complying with all instructions from the sectoral entities responsible for preventing or allowing the import of food staples, as well as for the decisions of Advisory Commission for Food Safety and the pandemic position from Avian influenza.
5. To import the materials mentioned above, the company must be registered in Iraq and have up to date import license.

Regulations of Issuance an Import License for Miscellaneous Materials:

1. Materials with Dual uses (i.e. some chemicals, tools and equipment). Approvals from following entities are required:

- A. Ministry of Interior - Civil Defense Directorate - Environment Protection Police Directorate.
- B. Ministry of Interior - Federal Intelligence and Investigations Agency - Directorate of Information Technology - Licensing Department (Security and Criminal Registration), which should be renewed every year.
- C. The Iraqi National Intelligence Service (INIS). This is for foreign companies and Iraqi companies whose director is a non-Iraqi.
- D. Ministry of Health in case of the imported chemicals are included in the Red List of precursors that can be used in in the manufacturing of drugs.

2. Communication Equipment and CCTVs:

- A. Iraqi Commission of Communication and Media.
- B. Ministry of Interior - Federal Intelligence and Investigations Agency - Directorate of Information Technology - Licensing Department.

3. Gases and Cooling Equipment that can affect the Ozone Layer:

- A. Ministry of Environment

4. Fire extinguishers (Equipment or materials) in foam and powder.

- A. Ministry of Environment.

5. Any other Chemicals:

- A. Ministry of Environment.

6. Radioactive Materials, Nuclear Materials, and any Material Considered as a Source for Radioactive Materials:

- A. Iraqi Radioactive Source Regulatory Authority (IRSRA).

7. Veterinary Medications& Vaccines, Fertilizers and Pesticides:

- A. Ministry of Agriculture.

8. Motor's Oil, Grease and Fuel:

- A. Ministry of Oil.

9. Medications, Medical Equipment, Chemicals used for Medications& Drugs and Medical Supplies:

- A. Ministry of Health

10. Children Toys:

- A. Ministry of Defense to make sure that the toys are not inciting violence and sectarianism.

11. Books, Magazines and Daily Publications:

- A. Department of Public Cultural Relations.

- **Ministry of Industry and Minerals Should estimate the annual need of raw materials used in the production plants of the Directorate of Industrial Development**
- **Ministry of Industry and Minerals should issue approvals for importation of materials produced by public and private factories in Iraq (i.e all types of cement - limestone- clinker).**