

Law No. 118 Of The Year 1975  
Concerning

**Import & Export**

Amended As Per Law No. 203/1991

**The President of the Republic,**

The People's Assembly passed the following bill and we hereby promulgated it into law,

Section (1)  
With Regard To Import

**Article: 1**

The import of the commodity - requisites of the country may be effected by both the public and private sectors, in compliance with the provisions of the general plan of the State, and the individuals may import their needs for personal use<sup>1</sup> from their own resources either directly or through the intermediary of others. The Minister of Trade shall issue a decree defining the procedures and rules organizing the import operations.

The Minister of Trade may confine the import to agreement countries, and may reserve the import of certain essential commodities to public sector organs.

**Article: 2**

The provisions of this section are not applicable to commodities exonerated from them by virtue of laws, treaties or international agreements in which the Arab Republic of Egypt is a party.

<sup>1</sup> Amended as per Law No. 203/1991 ("Within the limits of the current monetary budget", such term had been deleted by Article (7) of Law No. 203/1991, promulgating the Law on Public Business Sector Companies).

**Section (2)**  
**With Regard To Export**

**Article: 3**

The Minister of Trade shall issue a decree organizing export operations whether from local production or from previous imports, and shall issue certificates of origin and lay down the procedures to be followed in this connection.

The Minister of Trade may restrict the export to agreement countries and also the export of certain essential commodities to the public sector.

**Article: 4**

Exports can only be practiced by persons whose names are recorded in the register ad hoc in the Ministry of Trade. Persons whose names are to be recorded in this register should belong to one of the following categories:

1. Shareholder companies of the nationality of the Republic of Egypt and having their head offices in it.
2. Public organizations, cooperatives and their unions.
3. Persons and companies fulfilling the conditions to be defined by a decree of the Minister of Trade.

Persons exporting commodities for personal use are to be exempted from registration in the exporters' register.

**Article: 5**

The following matters are to be defined by a decree of the Minister of Trade:

- a. The conditions, forms, proceedings and documents relating to registration and its renewal in the register, modifications of the data striking out and cancellation.



- b. Duties of registration, renewal and modification of data, and extracted copies, provided that they do not surpass the following limits:

L.E. 50 duty of registration in the exporters' register.

L.E. 15 duty for renewal of registration every three years.

L.E. 5 duty for modification or insertion of date.

L.E. 3 duty for copy extracted from the register.

### **Article: 6**

The registration of the exporter shall be canceled by a causative decree if he contravened the provisions of the law, or the executive decrees on it, or the executive decrees of it, or if he loses any of the conditions requisite for registration in the exporters' register.

The Minister of Trade, may in the case of contravention by the exporter, of the provisions of this law, or of its executive decrees, content with warning him, or stopping him from work during a period not exceeding one year.

Applications for registration of persons whose registration was canceled cannot be looked to, except after the lapse of three years from the date of cancellation of their registration.

The decree of cancellation or suspension shall not be issued except after notifying the exporter by a registered letter with receipt note, to present his defense in writing within 15 days from the date of receipt of the notice.

### **Article: 7**

The interdiction or restriction of the export of certain commodities from the Republic of Egypt abroad may be established by a decree of the minister of Trade. The export of such commodities shall be in compliance with the conditions and forms decided by the Minister of Trade.

### **Article: 8**

A duty may be imposed on certain exports, not exceeding 100% of their value, on consideration of allowing the realization of a reasonable profit to the exporter. The duty and its increase are not applicable on export

permits issued before their imposition. Commodities on which the duty is applicable, its amount, mode of collection, cases of its refund or total or partial exemptions from it are to be defined by a decree of the minister of Trade.

The exporter may, in virtue of a decree of the minister of Trade or whomsoever is empowered by him, be required to present a guarantee for effecting export operations. Such a decree shall specify the kind of guarantee, the period of its return, and in which cases it may be confiscated.

**Section (3)**  
**With Regard To Control Of Exports And Imports**

**Article: 9**

The commodities to be specified by the Minister of Trade shall be subjected to the specific control on exports and imports.

**Article: 10**

Commodities subjected to control cannot be exported before the obtainment of an investigation certificate attesting their conformity with the conditions and specifications to be laid down by a decree of the Minister of Trade, after agreement with the competent authorities.

The export of such commodities must take place within the period in the said certificate. In case this period lapses without the export being made a new certificate should be obtained.

**Article: 11**

Commodities subject to specific control on imports can not be imported unless they are examined in order to ascertain their conformity to the conditions and specifications to be laid down by a decree of the Minister of Trade, or unless they are accompanied by a certificate of examination or checking approved by the Egyptian authorities, and confirming their fulfillment of the said conditions and specifications.



## **Article: 12**

The Minister of Trade or whoever is empowered by him may on the demand of the competent Minister exonerate certain imported or exported consignments from the conditions of specifications alluded to, in Article 9 and 10 as the case may be.

## **Article: 13**

The proceedings of inspection and examination of the consignments, and notification of the interested parties with the results, and the proceeding relating to appeal against the results of the examination, and the mode of decision thereon, and the authorities concerned with the issue of certificates of examination and checking prescribed in Articles 9 and 10, are to be defined by a decree of the minister of Trade.

### **Section (4)** **General Provisions And Penalties**

## **Article: 14**

The duties on examination of exports and imports are to be fixed by a decree of the minister of Trade within the following limits:

- P.T. 25      On the examination of every package or kilograms of the consignment.
- P.T. 200     On examination of the consignment out of official working hours.
- L.E. 1      Duty on extract of a certificate on the result of the examination or check or certificate of origin or copy of it, or of replacement of a lost certificate.
- L.E. 5      Cash deposit on opposable against the result of an examination or check, or demand of arbitration. This deposit is to be refunded in full in case of acceptance of the consignment in its standing condition.

## **Article: 15**

Whoever contravenes the provisions of Article (1) of this Law or of its executive decree shall be liable to a fine not less than L.E. 100, and not exceeding L.E. 1000. In all cases, the court shall decide the confiscation's of the commodities forming the subject of the contravention.

The Minister of Trade, or whoever is empowered by him, may, before bringing the penal action release the goods imported in contravention to Article (1) and its executive decrees, on basis of payment by the contravening person of a compensation equal to the value of the released goods according to the estimation of the customs administration. This compensation is to be collected to the account of the Ministry of Trade.

The Minister or whoever is empowered by him, may, at the demand of the importer, authorize the re-export of the said goods on basis of payment of a compensation equivalent to one quarter of its value according to the estimation of the customs administration.

This compensation is to be collected to the account of the Ministry of Trade.

The penal action can not be brought and no action can not be taken in the said contravention's except on a written demand from the Minister of Trade or from whosoever is empowered by him.

## **Article: 16**

Without prejudice to any severer penalty enacted by the penal code, or any other law, a fine not less than L.E. 100 and not exceeding L.E. 1000 is imposed on anyone:

- a) Who contravenes the provisions of this law with the exception of Article 1 or its executive decrees.
- b) Who puts or presents incorrect data concerning the consignment.
- c) Who publishes or causes to be published with evil intention, incorrect data inside the Republic or outside it on the exported commodities.



- d. Who presents willfully or with evil intention, incorrect data whether those data are in connection with registration in the exporters' register or with renewal of registration in this register, or of modification of data in it.

Besides what is mentioned above, a fine may be imposed equal to the value of the goods forming the object of the contravention.

### **Article: 17**

In case the contravention is perpetrated by a company, or a society or other moral personality, the person to be held responsible shall be the responsible partner, or the manager, or the delegated board member, or the chairman of the administrative board as the case may be.

### **Article: 18**

Officials of the Ministry of Trade, and the customs administration, who are to be nominated by a decree of the minister of Justice after agreement with competent minister shall have the power of judiciary officers for confirmation of the contravention's specified in this Law.

### **Article: 19**

Laws Nos. 9/1959 relating to import and 203/1959 concerning export and 95/1963 concerning organization of import as well as any provisions in contradiction to the provisions of the present Law are canceled.

### **Article: 20**

The Minister of Trade shall issue the decrees necessary for enforcement of this law.

This Law shall be published in the Official Journal, and comes into force after one month from the date of its publication.

This Law shall be stamped by the seal of the State and enforced as one of its laws.

**Issued On 13<sup>th</sup> of September 1975.**

**Anwar Al Sadat**