

**Directive issued to regularize the situation in which Ethiopian overseas diplomats, who returned home after serving in Ethiopian Embassies, shall import household goods and an automobile free of duty for their private use.**

It is a common practice in most countries around the world including Ethiopia to grant a duty free privileges to diplomats who return home after serving in embassies overseas so that they are able to import, free of duty, household goods and one private automobile that they had acquired 'duty free' whilst they were serving overseas;

It is believed that keeping this practice would help and strengthen the diplomatic efforts;

In order to give effect to this, this directive is issued as follows.

**1. Short title**

This directive may be cited as the "directive issued to regularize the situation in which diplomats are able to import their household goods and one private automobile free of duty on their return to Ethiopia after serving in Ethiopian Embassies overseas "

**2. Importing goods on duty free base**

- 2.1. Ethiopian diplomats returning home from abroad after completing their mission shall be able to import free of duty one automobile with no more than 10 seats and household goods as indicated in the appendix within a year from date of first return to Ethiopia.
- 2.2. However, diplomats should note that they only are allowed to import into Ethiopia duty free automobile once every ten years.

2.3. Goods indicated in sub article 2.1 of this directive can only be imported free of duty when the state minister of foreign affairs or his deputy sends a detailed prescription of the diplomat's household goods to be imported into the country to the Ethiopian Revenues and Customs Authority. This process endorses the legitimacy of the official request made.

### **3. Transferring Duty free goods to a third party**

3.1. Returning diplomats shall be able to transfer the ownership of his/her duty free household goods and automobile to the third party. However this can only be done after five years from the first date of entry into Ethiopia.

3.2. Where a returning diplomat transfers the ownership of the duty-free household goods and an automobile to the third person who has no diplomatic privileges, the tax and duty due shall be paid.

### **4. Cancellation of the privilege**

If a returned diplomat leaves the employment of Ministry of Foreign Affairs within five years of returning to Ethiopia from an oversea post, he/she will have to pay the customs duty and tax due.

### **5. Effective date**

This directive shall come into force as of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009.

## Appendix

**Table for personal effects and Household goods**

Item	Type of Goods	Unit	Unit CIF Value in USD	Tariff Code	Remark
	<b>Salon and bed room articles</b>				
1.	Cupboard	In Number	131.00	94036000	
2.	Control Buffet	"	131.00	94036000	
3.	Bed	"	99.00	94035000	
4.	Dressing table	"	50.00	94035000	
5.	table	"	64.00	94036000	
6.	chair	"	13	94038000	
7.	Arabian sofa *	"	6.00	94018000	
8.	Sofa upholstered with Leather *	"	50.00	94018000	
	sofa upholstered with Textile *	"	47.00	94018000	
9.	Springy mattress	"	47.00	94049000	
10.	Shelf of books	"	69.00	94036000	
11.	Wheel barrow for moving drinking or goods	"	23.00	94038000	
12.	A device to move the air out and to get rid of foul smell (Fan )	"	57.00	84148000	
13.	Deckchair	"	9.00	94035000	
14.	Camp bed	"	15.00	94035000	
15.	Camp Tent	"	27.00	63062100	
16.	TV Rack	"	37.00	94038000	
17.	Syntactic carpet 3 by 4 m*	In square meter	1.60	57019000	
	Woven Carpet 3 by 4 m *	"	1.00	57019000	
	<b>Kitchenware</b>				
18.	Gas cylinder with two stoves *	In number	23-00	73211100	
	Gas cylinder with four stoves *	"	64.00	73211100	
	Gas cylinder with five stoves *	"	80.00	73211100	
19.	Kitchen sink	"	69.00	73249000	

<b>20.</b>	Vegetable (food) processor	"	25.00	85099000	
<b>21.</b>	Gas cylinder, of large size	"	30.00	73110000	
<b>22.</b>	Oven	"	61.00	85165000	
	<b>Bathroom Articles</b>				
<b>23.</b>	Water heater to be fixed on a wall	"	25.00	85161000	
<b>24.</b>	Sinks for washing hair	"	46.00	39269090	
<b>25.</b>	Wash- basins	"	419.00	691090000	
<b>26.</b>	Cistern	"	31.00	69109000	
	<b>Sport kits</b>				
<b>27.</b>	Bicycle for adults	"	50.00	87120000	
<b>28.</b>	Electrical device for running	"	462.00	95069100	
<b>29.</b>	Electrical bicycle	"	289	95069100	
<b>30</b>	Kits for table tennis in a set	in a set	246	95064000	
	<b>Musical instrument</b>				
<b>31</b>	Piano with legs, for domestic use	In Number	1222.00	92011000	
<b>32.</b>	musical Key board	"	119.00	42030000	
<b>33.</b>	Guitar	"	32.00	92021000	
	<b>Camera</b>				
<b>34.</b>	Video Camera of medium size*	In number	330.00	8524000	
	Video Camera NXM 9500CM *	"	330.00	85244000	
	Video Camera, of small size *	"	280.00	85244000	
	<b>Electronics</b>				
<b>35.</b>	21 inch TV with deck	"	179.00	85281200	
<b>36.</b>	Double deck*	"	223.00	85199300	
	Normal deck *	"	101.00	85211000	
	VCD*	"	145.00	85279020	
	DVD*	"	156.00	85279020	
<b>38.</b>	Desk Top Computer	"	565.00	84714900	
<b>39.</b>	Lap top computer	"	999.00	48713000	
<b>40.</b>	Normal printer*	"	159.00	84716000	
<b>41.</b>	Fridge CFC based)free/CFC	In litter	D.72	84182010 84182190	
<b>42.</b>	Washing machine for goods	By Kilo	36.00	84221100	
<b>43.</b>	Laundry machine	In number	36.00	84512100	
<b>44.</b>	Vacuum cleaner	"	23.00	85091000	
	<b>Electrical goods</b>				
<b>45</b>	Tape speaker	"	15.00	85182900	
<b>46.</b>	Automobile cassette player	"	30.00	85203300	

	with speaker				
<b>47.</b>	Fax *	"	447.00	85172100	
<b>48.</b>	Hair cask	"	60.00	85162100	
<b>49.</b>	Hair steam	"	60.00	85163300	
<b>50.</b>	4 in one fax, printer, copier and scanner*	"	740.00	84716000	
<b>51.</b>	Scanner *	"	75.00	84719000	
<b>52.</b>	Various drills with 500 wat	"	32.00	85081000	
<b>53.</b>	<b>TV*</b>				
	With 14 inch	"	63.00	85281200	
	With 20 inch	"	125.00	"	
	With 21 inch	"	170.00	"	
	With 25 inch	"	350.00	"	
	With 29 inch	"	735.00	"	
	With 34 inch	"	862.00	"	
	With 36 inch	"	912.00	"	
	With 43 inch	"	1089.00	"	
	With 50 inch	"	1267.00	"	
	<b>CD player*</b>				
<b>54.</b>	With one CD changer and two cassette player	"	85.00	85279030	
	With three CD changer and two cassette player	"	108.00	"	
	With five CD changer and two cassette player	"	123.00	"	
	With nine CD changer and two cassette player	"	221.00	"	
	<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
<b>55.</b>	Lawn mower, of small size	"	88.00	84331900	
<b>56.</b>	Generator with 4 kilo watt		190	84051000	
<b>57.</b>	Hand tools in a set, of small size	In a set	82.00	82059000	
<b>58.</b>	Satellite dish with its receiver and L.N.B *	In number	410.00	85291000	
	Dish plate	"	185.00	85291000	
	Receiver	"	205.00	"	
	L.N.B	"	20.00	"	
<b>59.</b>	Sewing machine with its dynamo	"	144.00	8452100	
<b>60.</b>	Tyre with its wheel	"	27.00	40111000	
<b>61.</b>	Five-seated boat	"	1356	89011010	
<b>62.</b>	For spare parts of a personal automobile, a				

	document from the sole import company verifying that the spare part is not available in domestic market and certificate of ownership is required				
--	--	--	--	--	--

Asterisk \* is used to denote items that can be imported alternatively into the country.