

DATA SHEET - UGANDA

PRE-EXPORT VERIFICATION OF CONFORMITY TO STANDARDS (PVOC) – GENERAL GOODS



1. Regulation

Authority:	Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS)
Notification:	Pre-Export Verification of Conformity to Standards for general goods as per the UNBS Act cap 327 and the Import Clearance Inspection Regulations
Starting date:	1 st June 2013
Renewal date:	24 th February 2023
Appointed company(ies):	Bureau Veritas and other companies as stated on UNBS web site
Scope of the regulation:	Conformity assessment of goods exported to the Republic of Uganda
Assessment based on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Documentary review ▪ Control testing if necessary ▪ Physical inspection ▪ Facilitation procedures ▪ Conclusion of the assessment
Remark:	N/A

2. Products subject

Subjected goods (*):	<p>General goods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group I – Toys • Group II – Electrical & electronics including solar equipment • Group III – Automotive products and inputs • Group IV – Chemical products (including cosmetics, fertilizers, petroleum based products...) • Group V – Mechanical material and gas appliances • Group VI – Textile, leather, plastic and rubber products • Group VII – Furniture (wood and metal articles) • Group VIII – Paper and stationery • Group IX – Safety (Personal Protective Equipment) • Group X – Food and food products • Group XI – Used products <p>For more details, please refer to the Products List available on UNBS website: https://www.unbs.go.ug/content.php?src=categories-of-goods-covered-under-pvoc&content</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New and used motor vehicles are subject to another Pre-export Verification Of Conformity (PVoC) program specific for motor vehicles, see the list of appointed PVoC service providers: https://www.unbs.go.ug/attachments/menus/31/CONTACT%20DETAILS%20FOR%20APPOINTED%20PVOC%20SERVICE%20PROVIDERS%20FOR%20MOTOR%20VEHICLES.pdf - As per the Public Notice issued by UNBS on October 28th, 2024 for Used Goods under PVoC program, all used (second hand) goods (including used earth moving equipment and used cranes) except for used textiles, used footwear, and used motor vehicles, shall be inspected at destination by UNBS for a period of 6 (six) months (from October 28th, 2024 till April 27th, 2025). Additionally, all used textiles and used footwear shall still require a PVoC Certificate of Conformity at country of export according to the applicable compulsory Uganda standards.
----------------------	---

– DATA SHEET –

Second-hand goods:	<i>Specific requirements (used tyres are forbidden).</i>
Prohibited goods:	<i>See annex 1</i>
Counterfeited goods:	<i>Not allowed</i>
Exempted goods:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A consignment whose Free on Board (FOB) value does not exceed US\$ 2000</i> • <i>Consignments of commodities profiled as low risk.</i> • <i>Consignments of imports by importers profiled as low risk and registered as Authorised Economic Operators (AEO).</i> • <i>Government project specific commodities whose procurement has an inbuilt or demonstrated quality assurance system that guarantees conformity to national standards.</i> • <i>Raw materials and direct inputs used in the manufacturing process, including packaging material imported for use in a manufacturing process and not for sale.</i> • <i>Diplomatic cargo.</i> • <i>Personal effects of returning residents and expatriates.</i> • <i>Commodities manufactured in or originating from a Partner State of the East African Community.</i> • <i>Industrial machinery and accessories; including spare parts for a manufacturing process and not for re-sale.</i> • <i>Farm machinery, agro processing equipment and spare parts not for resale.</i> • <i>Mining equipment and spares not for resale.</i> • <i>Branded or engraved hospitality and tourism industry equipment.</i> • <i>Classified military, police, prisons and State House cargo.</i> • <i>Religious books and literature such as Bibles, Qurans and other related printed matter.</i> • <i>Energy meters and water meters</i> <p><i>For more details, please refer to the Products List available on UNBS website: https://www.unbs.go.ug/attachments/menus/16/THE%20UNBS%20(INSPECTION%20&%20CLEARANCE)%20REGULATION%202022.pdf, & Letter BO/PVOC/020 issued by UNBS on March 9th 2023.</i></p> <p><i>Although the categories of goods presented above are exempt from PVoC, the exporter/importer will require a letter of exemption directly from UNBS or related Uganda governmental authority at point of clearance.</i></p>
Restricted goods:	<i>See annex 2</i>
Minimum value subject to the programme:	<i>USD 2,000 - Goods with FOB value <2000 USD may be shipped without PVoC certificate. However, they will be subject to destination inspection by UNBS.</i>

3. Technical requirement

Conformity requirements:	<i>Compliance of goods to applicable compulsory Uganda standards shall be demonstrated with test reports issued by an ISO 17025 accredited laboratories or a UNBS recognized laboratory.</i>
National deviations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Type of plugs and sockets: 3 squared pins (BS 1363). Other kind of plugs could be accepted if provided with a compliant plug adapter (male part being compliant to BS 1363)</i> • <i>Voltage: products connected to the mains shall be rated for 220V or 230V or 240V</i> • <i>Frequency: products connected to the mains shall be rated for 50Hz (not applicable to lamps).</i> • <i>Country of origin marked on the product or primary packaging</i> • <i>Inspection of fishing gear: In addition to the applicable compulsory Uganda standards, the “Fish (Fishing) Rules, 2010, Statutory Instruments NO.33, particularly, Part II – Prohibited Nets and Fishing with Nets – Clause 3, 4, 6, 7 and 19 shall be applied.</i> • <i>Inspection of new Tyres: In addition to the applicable compulsory Uganda</i>

– DATA SHEET –

	<i>standards, the guideline as per 24th January 2023 shall be applied. Tires shall not be stacked inside the others.</i>
Labelling requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The marking shall be at least in English</i> • <i>All imports with a marked limited shelf life shall have at least:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>seventy five per cent (75%) remaining shelf life from the date of expected arrival in Uganda, if food products</i> - <i>fifty per cent (50%) remaining shelf life from the date of expected arrival in Uganda, if non-food products</i>
Other specific requirements:	N/A

4. Application

Applicant:	<i>Exporter or importer</i>
Application name:	<p>- <i>Application request submitted by the exporter/importer through the UeSW (Uganda Electronic Single Window): https://singlewindow.go.ug/stp/#/register</i></p> <p><i>Note: Watch the following link to know how to apply for the PVoC Certificate via the UeSW: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpNPwNW006U</i></p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p>- <i>Request For a Certificate (Request possible on https://verigates.bureauveritas.com) to a Bureau Veritas local contact.</i></p>
Required documents:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Final/proforma invoice (including Importer TIN code)</i> • <i>Packing list</i> • <i>Transport document (Bill of Lading/Air Way Bill/ CMR...), if available</i> • <i>Test reports traceable to the shipped goods provided by exporters, as per compulsory Uganda standards</i> • <i>Product declaration form (product designation, brand, model, quantity, size, batch number, HS code (EAC CET), production and expiry dates where applicable...)</i>
Required information:	<i>Declared FOB value</i>
Application office(s):	<i>Bureau Veritas offices (see contacts list on Verigates : https://verigates.bureauveritas.com/programmes/uganda)</i>

5. Control testing requirements

Applicable cases:	<i>Test report not available or not acceptable</i>
Laboratory criteria:	<i>ISO 17025 accredited laboratory</i>
Testing:	<i>According to applicable compulsory Uganda standards</i>

6. Physical inspection requirements

Scope of inspection:	<i>Review of markings as per applicable compulsory Uganda standard(s) and identification of products</i>
Destination inspection:	<i>Not allowed</i>
Remote inspection:	<i>Not allowed</i>

– DATA SHEET –

Witness of loading and Sealing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mandatory for all products processed under route A & D (Full Container Load - FCL) - Mandatory for specific high risky products (see below TABLE 1) processed under route B (Full Container Load - FCL) - Upon request and wherever feasible for all other cases <p>Note: in case of Less than Container Load - LCL and Loose cargo, the shipped goods shall be individually identified with a stamp or a sticker for all products processed under route A, D & B (for specific high risky products).</p>	
	TABLE 1 (specific high risky products under route B)	
	Product Description	Country of Origin
	Electricals including extension cables, sockets, switches, bulbs (CFL, incandescent, fluorescent), juice blenders, electric irons, shaving machines, electric cables, generators, lead acid batteries, and primary batteries	China, India, South Africa and United Arab Emirates
	Solar panels, solar kits and solar batteries	China, India and United Arab Emirates
	Cosmetics	China, India, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, and West Africa
	Farm implements including hoes, machetes, Axes and sickles	China, and United Arab Emirates
	Toilet paper	China, India, and United Arab Emirates
	Toothpaste	China, India, and United Arab Emirates
	Reinforcement bars	China and United Arab Emirates
	Baby diapers	China, Egypt, and UAE
	Sanitary towels	China, Egypt, and UAE
Cement	China and United Arab Emirates	
Sampling:	In case of control testing (see section 5 as above)	
Type of report issued:	Inspection report (IR)	

7. Facilitation procedures

- Route B - Product Registration - for goods already registered by Bureau Veritas
- Route C - Manufacturing Licensing - for goods already licensed by Bureau Veritas
- Route D - for consolidated cargo imported by registered consolidators with UNBS

The following products are however not eligible for registration under Routes B and C (i.e. are subject to certification under Route A only):

- Sugar
- Cereals and pulses such as Rice, wheat, beans, Maize etc
- Fertilizers
- Animal and Fishery products (fresh and frozen- not further processed)
- Fresh Dairy Products
- Fresh horticultural products
- Tires
- Used or second hand good

8. Conclusion of the Assessment

- Certificate of Conformity (CoC)

– DATA SHEET –

- Non Conformity Report (NCR)

9. Fees

Paid by Exporter

(Ad Valorem fee as a percentage of the declared FOB value)

Route A: 0.50% of FOB

Route B: 0.45% of FOB

Route C: 0.25% of FOB

Route D: 0.50% of FOB

Minimum fee: 235 USD, maximum fee: 3,000 USD

The above fees cover the documentary verification and the physical inspection of goods **but do not include**:

- Testing: to be quoted on case by case basis
- Re-inspection due to vain inspection;
- Containers sealing: to be quoted on a case by case basis;
- Cost incurred by the seller in presenting the goods for inspection and/or testing
- Other fees not mentioned above

10. Contact

See contact sheet for details on Verigates: <https://verigates.bureauveritas.com/programmes/uganda>

Plot 59, Cementers Plaza, 3rd Floor-Office-B, Luthuli Avenue, Bugolobi – Kampala

P.O. Box 104427-Uganda.

Phone: +256 708 280 002/0/3/4/5 – Fax : +256 902 971 000 - email: pvoc.uganda@bureauveritas.com

11. Other relevant information

<https://verigates.bureauveritas.com/programmes/uganda>

(*) Updated information

The information contained herein is for the purpose of facilitating Pre-shipment Inspection and does not relieve Exporters or Importers from their obligations in respect of compliance with the import regulations of the country of importation. Although every effort has been made to ensure the correctness of the information, as at the date of issuance of this data sheet, Bureau Veritas does not accept any responsibility for errors or omissions and, furthermore, the information may subsequently be subject to change as may be announced by the Authorities in the country of importation. Consequently, Exporters are advised to check with Bureau Veritas, prior to shipment of the goods, if there is any doubt concerning the issuance of a Certificate of Conformity.

– DATA SHEET –

Annex 1: List of prohibited goods

Schedule (Part A) of the East African Customs Management Act, the Finance Act and its amendments (<https://www.eac.int/documents/category/eac-customs-management-act>), Letter BO/PVOC/020 issued by UNBS on March 9th 2023 & THE FISH(FISHING) RULES 2010, S.I NO.33 of 2010

1. All goods the importation of which is for the time being prohibited under this Act or by any written law for the time being in force in the partner state.
2. False money and counterfeit currency notes and coins and any money not being of the established standard in weight and fineness.
3. Pornographic material in all kinds of media, indecent or obscene printed paintings, books, cards, lithographs or other engravings and any other indecent or obscene articles.
4. Matches in the manufacture of which white phosphorous has been employed.
5. Any article made without proper authority with the Armorial Ensigns or coat of Arms of a partner state or having such Ensigns or Arms so closely resembling them as to be calculated to deceive.
6. Distilled beverages containing essential oils or chemical products which are injurious to health, including thijone, star arise, benzoic aldehyde, salicyclic ester, hyssop and absinthe. Provided that nothing in this paragraph contained shall apply to "Anise and Anisette" liquors containing not more that 0.1 per centum of oil of anise and distillates from either pimpinella anisum or the star arise allcium verum.
7. Narcotic drugs under international control.
8. Hazardous wastes and their disposal as provided for under the base conventions.
9. All soaps and cosmetic products containing mercury.
10. Used tyres for light commercial vehicles and passenger cars.
11. The following Agricultural and Industrial Chemicals:
 - a. Agricultural Chemicals:

2.4-T	Aldrin	Caplafol
Chlordirneform	Chlorobexilate	DDT
Dieldrin	1.2-Dibroacethanel	Flouroacelamide
HCH	Hiplanchlor	Hoscachlorobenzene
Lindone	Mercury compounds	Monocrolophs (certain formulations)
Methamidophos	Phospharmion	Methyl-parathion / Parathion
 - b. Industrial Chemicals:

Crocidolite	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PBB)
Polychlorinted Biphenyls (PCB)	Polychlorinated Terphyenylys (PCT)
Tris (2.3 dibromopropyl) phosphate	Methylbromide (to be phased out in accordance with the Montreal protocol by 2007)
 - c. Counterfeit goods of all kinds.
 - d. Plastic articles of Jess than 30 microns for the conveyance or packing of goods.
12. All cosmetics containing restricted and prohibited components such as Hydroquinone, Mercury... as per applicable compulsory Uganda standards requirements for cosmetic products.
13. All alcoholic products whose packaging is less than 200 ml
14. Below types and specifications of fishing nets Monofilament fishing net:
 - a. Gill nets: the length of which when stretched is greater than one hundred yards or the depth of which is greater than thirty meshes
 - b. seine nets, cast-nets, monofilament nets and trawl-nets.

– DATA SHEET –

Annex 2: List of restricted goods

Schedule (Part B) of the East African Customs Management Act, the Finance Act and its amendments
[\(<https://www.eac.int/documents/category/eac-customs-management-act>\)](https://www.eac.int/documents/category/eac-customs-management-act)

1. All goods the importation of which is for the time being regulated under this Act by any written law for the time being in force in the Partner State.
2. Postal franking machines except and in accordance with the terms of a written permit granted by a competent authority of the partner state.
3. Traps capable of killing or capturing any game animal except and in accordance with the terms of a written permit granted by the partner state.
4. Unwrought precious metal or precious stones.
5. Arms and ammunitions specified under chapter 93 of the Customs Nomenclature.
6. Ossein and bones treated with acid.
7. Other bones and horns- cores, unworked defatted, simply prepared (but not cut to shape) degelatinized, powder and waste of these products.
8. Ivory, elephant unworked or simply prepared but not cut to shape.
9. Teeth, hippopotamus unworked or simply prepared but not cut to shape.
10. Horns, rhinoceros, unworked or simply prepared but not cut to shape.
11. Other ivory unworked or simply prepared but not cut to shape.
12. Ivory powder and waste.
13. Tortoise shell, whalebone and whalebone hair, horns, antlers, hoovers, nail, claws and beaks, unworked or simply prepared but not cut to shape powder and waste or these products.
14. Coral and similar materials, unworked, or simply prepared but not otherwise worked shells of molasses, crustaceans or echinoderms and cattle-bone, unworked or simply prepared but not cut to shape powder and waste thereof.
15. Natural sponges of animal origin.
16. Spent (irradiated) fuel elements (cartridges) of nuclear reactors.
17. Worked ivory and articles of ivory.
18. Bone, tortoise shell, horn, antlers, coral, mother-of pearl and other animal carves.
19. Ozone Depleting Substances under the Montreal Protocol (1987) and the Vienna Convention (1985).
20. Genetically modified products.
21. Non indigenous species of fish or egg of progeny.
22. Endangered Species of World Flora and Fauna and their products in accordance with CITES March 1973 and amendments thereof.
23. Commercial casings (second hand tyres).
24. All psychotropic drugs under international control.
25. Historical artefacts.
26. Goods specified under chapter 36 of the Customs Nomenclature (for example, percussion caps, detonators, signalling flares).
27. Parts of guns and ammunitions, of base metals (Section XV of the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System), or similar goods of plastic under chapter 39 of Customs Nomenclature.
28. Armoured fighting vehicles under heading No 8710 of the customs Nomenclature.
29. Telescope sights or other optical devices suitable for use with arms, unless mounted on a firearm or presented with the firearm on which they are designed to be mounted under Chapter 90 of the Cu11fpm Nomenclature.
30. Bows, arrows, fencing foils or toys under Chapter 95 of the Customs Nomenclature.
31. Collector's pieces or antiques of guns and ammunition under heading No. 9705 or 9706 of the Customs Nomenclature.