



Customs Guide **MALAWI**

Information from FIDI Africa

Customs guide MALAWI



FIDI ACCREDITED
INTERNATIONAL
MOVER



The global quality standard for international moving.

The FAIM label is your global assurance for a smooth, safe and comprehensive relocation process.

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p>Diplomats removals – New resident</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of passport showing their nationality and date of arrival. ▪ Copy of diplomatic card from the organization and its colour are required by Customs. ▪ Notification of arrival issued by the Treasury department. ▪ Inventory with serial numbers for electrical appliances. ▪ Bill of Lading or Airway bill. ▪ Duty waiver. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The consignee must have arrived in the country before the goods arrive. He/she will be required to be physically present at customs to sign for duty free forms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goods must be imported within six months after the returning resident's time of arrival or after the time the work or resident permit has been granted to an immigrant. ▪ Goods must have been used for more than six months. ▪ New furniture and household goods are dutiable and invoices are required. ▪ Non-household items e.g. building materials are dutiable. ▪ Alcoholic beverages may be imported up to a maximum of 5 litres of which not more than 2 litres may be spirits. Otherwise duty is payable. ▪ The Consignee should be same as the Consignor.
<p>Non-Diplomats removals – New resident</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of passport showing their nationality and date of arrival. ▪ Resident/Temporary Employment Permit. ▪ Letter of employment from the employer. ▪ Inventory with serial numbers for electrical appliances. ▪ Bill of Lading or Airway bill. ▪ Duty waiver. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The consignee must have arrived in the country before the goods arrive. He/she will be required to be physically present at customs to sign for duty free forms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goods must be imported within six months after the returning resident's time of arrival or after the time the work or resident permit has been granted to an immigrant. ▪ Goods must have been used for more than six months. ▪ The consignee should be same as the Consignor. ▪ New furniture and household goods are dutiable and invoices are required. ▪ Non-household items e.g. Building materials are dutiable.

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alcoholic beverages may be imported up to a maximum of 1 litre. For the excess, duties and taxes will be applied.
Returning Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of passport showing the nationality. ▪ Proof from passport that they have been out of the country for more than one year. ▪ Inventory with serial numbers for electrical appliances. ▪ Bill of Lading or Airway bill. ▪ Duty waiver. ▪ The following documents are required for returning residents after an absence of less than one year; they will be paying duty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of passport showing their nationality. ▪ Invoice/receipts of goods being imported. ▪ Certificate of origin. ▪ Bill of lading or airway bill. ▪ Inventory /packing list for the goods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The consignee must have arrived in the country before the goods arrive. He/she will be required to be physically present at customs to sign for duty free forms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The consignee should be same as the Consignor. ▪ Goods must be imported within six months after arrival or after Duty Waiver has been granted. ▪ Goods must have been used for more than six months. ▪ For returning residents who have been working / studying, proof of termination of employment / completion of studies is required. ▪ Returning Malawi Diplomats: obtain letter from Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ▪ New furniture and household goods are dutiable and invoices are required. ▪ Non-household items e.g. building materials are dutiable. ▪ Alcoholic beverages may be imported up to a maximum of 5 litres of which not more than 2 litres may be spirits. Otherwise duty is payable
Deceased Estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Certified copy of the will ▪ Statement of the value of the goods by the executor of the estate. ▪ Written undertaking not to sell or dispose of the goods by the executor of the estate. ▪ Copy of the death certificate. ▪ Inventory list. ▪ Bill of lading or airway Bill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duty-free. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These documents are required for estates from the deceased (goods forwarded to beneficiaries in Malawi not for sale).

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
Motor vehicles, motor cycles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invoice and proof of ownership. ▪ Copy of passport showing their nationality and date of arrival. ▪ Copy of diplomatic card from the organization and its colour are required by Customs. ▪ Notification of arrival issued by the Treasury department. ▪ Bill of Lading or Airway bill. ▪ Duty waiver. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 50% import duties + 18% excise + 16.5% VAT on motor vehicles imported for new and returning residents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One must have been out of the country for more than one year. ▪ It must have been owned for more than one year. ▪ They must have arrived in the country before the vehicle arrives ▪ If Duty Waiver is granted, no taxes or duties will be applied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The consignee will be required to be physically present at customs to sign for duty free forms. ▪ Must be imported within six months after the returning resident's time of arrival or after the time the work or resident permit has been granted to an immigrant. ▪ Motor vehicle not exceeding one for each family and that has been owned and used for not less than one year prior to importation. ▪ The vehicle may not be lent, hired, given away or otherwise disposed of within five years of the date of customs clearance on importation; one may be required to pay such duty as he would have paid on its importation.
Pets			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pets are subject to import control. ▪ Applications should be made to the Veterinary Department for import Permit.
Prohibited/Restricted Articles		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prohibited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drugs, narcotics ▪ Pornographic materials ▪ Offensive weapons ▪ Forged documents ▪ Counterfeit money ▪ Restricted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Firearms may be imported with a special permit from the Ministry of Home Affairs. ▪ Citrus fruits, seeds, and deciduous plants may not be imported unless an import licence has been obtained in advance from the competent agricultural 	

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
		authorities.	
Remarks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duties are required to be paid on office equipment e.g. computers, cash registers and telefax machines. ▪ Duty is assessed according to the value including freight of the item. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The best port into Malawi is Beira but shipment should be through 'Bill of Lading' to arrival Blantyre or Lilongwe Terminals. ▪ Major Shipping lines operating in Malawi are Mediterranean Shipping line, CMA-CGM and Maersk ▪ The best Airports of entry into Malawi are through Kamuzu International Airport (LLW) or Chileka International Airport (BLZ). ▪ Major airlines operating in Malawi are Air Malawi, South Africa Airways, Kenya Airways and Ethiopian Airlines. ▪ Shipments are cleared within three days from the time of shipment arrival in either Blantyre or Lilongwe. ▪ Customs officials may demand physical examination on household effects.



The FIDI Global Alliance

Bld Louis Schmidt 29 B1
1040 Brussels - Belgium

Tel.: +32 2 426 51 60
Email: fidi@fidi.org

www.fidi.org