

**TRADE FACILITATION SERVICES
GUIDELINES FOR THE TRADE**



**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity to
Central African Republic**



This data sheet has been prepared specifically in respect of exports to CAR

Date issued: **02/06/2021**

Last modification: **09/03/2026**

1. PRODUCTS CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

PROGRAM NAME	Verification of Conformity for products to be imported to Central African Republic
PROGRAM MANDATED BY	Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI)
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	1st April 2026*
PROGRAM OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the quality of products as well as the health, safety and environmental protection of Central African consumers. • Protect the public against substandard products that can endanger public health, safety and the environment • Protect local manufacturers against unfair competition from imported products which do not comply to local Standards
PENALTIES	In accordance with the Decree N°14/MCI/DIR-CAB/DGIPIN/DNQ/ SNEC.21 dated 21st February 2021, the CoC is mandatory for all shipments arriving to CAR. Consequently, a penalty from three hundred thousand XAF (300'000XAF) twenty-five million XAF (25'000'000 XAF) will be applied to any regulated goods arriving in CAR without CoC. Non-compliant goods will be systematically destroyed or re-exported by Administration at importer's expenses.
VERIFICATION PROCESS	<p>Exporter submits to SGS the following documents through Exporter Portal (https://exporter-portal.sgs.com/):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for Certification • PROFORMA Invoice • Quality Management System Certification • Conformity Documents (test reports, quality certificates, analysis reports, etc.) • Final invoice. <p>To obtain evidence that all requirements are met in the applicable standards or technical requirements, goods must undergo one or a combination of the following verification process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remote inspection • Laboratory testing: Accepted laboratories are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -laboratory accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 or equivalent, either owned by SGS or subcontracted by SGS; or - laboratories of the supplier/producer, provided that the facility is under the certified quality management system of the

	<p>company, and of which the key elements of the ISO/IEC 17025 standard are fulfilled as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of equipment to be used with the most recent calibration information (brands, certificates, etc.); • environmental controls for the laboratory. • the qualifications of the staff carrying out the tests (training records). <p>- Other testing laboratories mutually approved by MCI and SGS The laboratories will be able to test the parameters designated by the international standards or those in force in the Central African Republic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factory audit • Documentary verification <p>After verification process is completed and results are satisfactory, exporter will have to submit the Final Invoice for the issuance of the CoC</p>
<p>ROUTES</p>	<p>There are three (3) Routes to obtaining CoC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROUTE A: for unregistered traders, suppliers, of manufacturers of sensitive goods • ROUTE B (Registration): for registered suppliers of manufactured goods and for frequent exporter with homogeneous products • ROUTE C (Licensing): for certified products form manufacturers and their authorized representatives
<p>APPROVED LABORATORY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 17025 accredited laboratory for the specific product. • ISO 17025 accredited laboratory of any of the approved by CMI Service providers.
<p>DOCUMENTATION</p>	<p>The exporter must complete and submit the Application for Certification form to SGS together with the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Request for Certification (RFC) together with the attached Declaration of Conformity duly filled-up and signed; b) Copy of the invoice issued to the Exporter by the SGS Affiliate; c) Proforma Invoice or Final Invoice; d) Packing List; e) Test reports issued by an accredited laboratory if available; f) Product Manual (if applicable); g) Copy of distribution agreements, if available; h) Any document available to best describe the product in order to facilitate the identification of the applicable standard, demonstrate product conformity and to draw the exporting profile (data sheet, safety data sheet, product specification, QMS Certification, laboratory accreditation, conformity mark, etc). <p>NB: In the absence of national and international standards we can use "Manufacturers Specifications" if deemed proven that there are no international standards for a specific product.</p>
<p>CERTIFICATE</p>	<p>A Certificate of Conformity (CoC) should be issued to evidence the compliance of the shipments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CoC is required for every shipment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It provides CMI and Customs with a proof that the goods being imported are in compliance with relevant standards and technical regulations • It is a mandatory document for goods clearance at the border.
OTHERS	<p>Other documents: when applicable and/or relevant, the following documents may also be requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality management system certificates (e.g. ISO 9001) • Factory records on tests performed by the manufacturer • Product's technical datasheets
SGS COVERAGE	SGS is mandated to provide PVoC globally – in All countries of Supply/Export

2. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS													
ARE USED PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO THE PROGRAM?	Yes												
REGULATED PRODUCTS	The following products are subject to the Program: HS code from chapter 02 to 99												
REQUIREMENTS TO ELECTRIC PLUGS	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Single phase</th> <th>AC drive</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Voltage</td> <td>220V / 230V</td> <td>380V / 410V</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frequency</td> <td>50 Hz</td> <td>50 Hz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Types of Plugs and sockets</td> <td>C, E and F</td> <td>Number of son (without earthing): 4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Description	Single phase	AC drive	Voltage	220V / 230V	380V / 410V	Frequency	50 Hz	50 Hz	Types of Plugs and sockets	C, E and F	Number of son (without earthing): 4
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LABELLING & SHELF LIFE REQUIREMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International standard regarding labelling of products and only applies to pre-packaged food • For the rest of products labelling language should be in French or at least in English • All regulated goods with limited shelf life shall have more than fifty per cent (50%) shelf life from expected landing or shipping to Central African Republic 												
FLOOR VALUE	USD 1'500 apply for all the products USD 3'000 apply for personals goods												

3. FEES	
Route A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad Valorem fee of 0.50% of the FOB Value of the goods imported • Minimum fee per shipment EUR 300 (three hundreds euros)
Route B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad Valorem fee of 0.45% of the FOB Value of the goods imported • Minimum fee per shipment EUR 300 (three hundreds euros)
Route C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad Valorem fee of 0.35% of the FOB Value of the goods imported • Minimum fee per shipment EUR 300 (three hundreds euros)

Product Registration fee:

Product / Line Item(s)	Annual Registration Fee in EUR
First 15 products/line item(s)	EUR 375
Every additional product/line item above 15 product/line item(s)	EUR 20

Coverage and conditions

The above fees are exclusive of VAT and sales tax (the fees are net of tax).

All the above fees cover the documentary verification and the digital inspection of goods.

The quoted fees **do not include** the following activities which are to be quoted on case by case basis

- Bulk shipment sampling
- Laboratory testing
- Licensing & registration
- Manufacturing audit
- Containers sealing

4. REGULATED PRODUCTS

The following products are subject to the Program: **All HS Codes of products from Chapter 02 to 99.**

5. SGS CONTACT LIST: available at [SGS website](#)

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