

Directive No983/2024

A Directive Issued to Implement the Border Trade Protocol Signed between Ethiopia and South Sudan.

WHEREAS, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Government of the Republic of South Sudan signed the Border Trade Protocol on 24 February 2017 in Addis Ababa with the aim of enabling the bordering people of the two countries to access basic consumer goods that they cannot get easily from central region of their respective countries;

WHEREAS, considering that Article 4 of the Border Trade Protocol provides that the signatory countries shall issue harmonized border trade directives to enhance and expand the smooth operation of the border trade;

WHEREAS, recognizing that legal border trade is essential to reduce contraband and illicit trade and ensure peace and security around the border areas by strengthening the relationship of the communities of the bordering areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Directive is issued by the Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration pursuant to Article 35 (2) and 52(2) of the Commercial Registration and Licensing Proclamation No. 980/2016 (as amended).

PART ONE

GENERAL

1. Short Title

This Directive may be cited as the "Ethiopia and South Sudan Border Trade Directive No.983/2024."

2. Definitions

Unless the context requires otherwise, in this Directive:-

- 1/ "Border Area" means the areas located within ninety (90) kilometers radius from the common border of Ethiopia and South Sudan;
- 2/ "Border Trader" means a natural person who is residing in the border area and granted a border trade license in accordance with this Directive;
- 3/ "Tradable Goods" means the export goods and import goods enumerated in Annex 1 and Annex 2 of this Directive, respectively;
- 4/ "Border Posts" means the designated exit and entry places at the Ethiopian border with South Sudan in which the Ethiopian Customs Commission provides customs services;
- 5/ "Ministry" means the Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
- 6/ Any expression in the masculine gender includes the feminine .

3. Scope of Application

This Directive shall be applicable upon the border trade conducted in the border area of Ethiopia and South Sudan.

PART TWO

BORDER TRADE

4. Eligibility to Engage in Border Trade

Any Ethiopian residing in the border area, who is not engaged in formal trade, is eligible to undertake border trade.

5. Goods Traded in the Border Trade

1/ The border trader shall export from Ethiopia to South Sudan the export goods enumerated in Annex-1 of this Directive.

2/ The border trader shall import from South Sudan to Ethiopia the export goods enumerated in Annex-2 of this Directive.

3/ The estimated amount of goods exported or imported by a border trader in one month shall not exceed 40,000 (forty thousand) Ethiopian Birr or the equivalent South Sudanese Pounds.

4/ A border trader may make two trips in a month, provided that the total sum of goods shall not exceed the amount specified in sub-article (3) of this Article.

5/ The border trader shall properly fill the type, quantity and amount of goods he is exporting and importing in the declaration provided to him by the staff of customs commission at the border posts, provide other relevant information and pay service fees and taxes required in accordance with the relevant laws.

6. Price of Export and Import Goods

- 1/ The selling price estimation of export goods shall be calculated based on the seasonal price list of goods issued by the Ministry or the regional government delegated by the Ministry.
- 2/ The price of importing goods shall be determined in accordance with the Customs Proclamation No. 859/2014.

7. Services Provided at Border Posts

- 1/ Any border trader shall only export and import goods through the border posts where Ethiopian Customs Commission provides customs services.
- 2/ Services provided at the border posts shall be determined in accordance with the working procedures of Ethiopian Customs Commission.

8. Information Exchange

- 1/ The Ministry or the regional government delegated by the Ministry shall notify the Ethiopian Customs Commission border branch office, the seasonal selling price of export goods listed in Annex-1 of this Directive as well as information regarding the issued and cancelled licenses to border traders.
- 2/ For the purpose of implementing this Directive, the Ministry and Ethiopian Customs Commission shall exchange statistical report of border trade export and import goods.

9. Utilization of Border Trade License

A border trader shall not transfer his license to a third party or use the license of another person.

PART THREE

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

10. Applicability of Other Laws

1/ The provisions of the following laws shall be applicable regarding the registration of border trade, issuance, renewal, substitute, suspension and cancellation of business license:-

(a) Article 35 of Business Registration and Licensing Proclamation No. 980/2016 (as amended);

(b) Articles 42-47 of Business Registration and Licensing Regulation No. 392/2017 (as amended); and

Business Registration ,Licensing and Post Licensing Inspection Directive No. 935/2023.

2/ The provisions of sub-article (1) of this Article shall not preclude the applicability of other relevant provisions of these laws.

11. Annexes

Annex-1 and Annex-2, which show the export and import goods of the border trade shall be an integral part of this Directive.

12. Effective Date

This Directive shall be effective from the date of its registration on the Ministry of Justice and uploading to the website of the Ministry.

Done at Addis Ababa, this 5th day of February 2024

Gebremeskel Chala Motalo

Minister of Trade and Regional Integration

Annex 1. Export Goods from Ethiopia to South Sudan

No	Item
1	Fruits
2	Natural Honey
3	Maize
4	Garlic
5	Potato
6	Tea
7	Canvas
8	Cinnamon/Tea spice
9	Agricultural Equipments-locally produced
10	Cosmetics/Hair oil (locally made)
11	Kenke
12	KochkochaAshete
13	Guangulish

Annex 2. Import Goods from South Sudan to Ethiopia

No	Item
1	Fresh fruits
2	Lady Tops
3	Palm nuts
4	Dry nuts
5	Stone grain mills
6	Agriculture equipment- locally produced
7	Onion(red)
8	Plastic products
9	Fennels/Kettle
10	Kitchen utensils
11	Soap
12	Scarped metals
13	Cosmetics /Hina/
14	perfumes
15	Gum olibnanum
16	Battery and battery cell
17	Traditional cloths /ready made/