

General requirements / conditions for the import of fish and fish products in Mauritius

1. Fish and fish products are controlled commodities and any person willing to import these items into Mauritius, requires an import permit issued by the Ministry.
2. Applicant should hold a valid Fish Mongers licence obtainable from the Ministry which is issued subject to applicant having a valid Trade Licence issued by the Local Authority (District Council / Municipality), a Food Handlers Certificate issued by the Ministry of Health & QL and a Morality Certificate.
3. In addition, applicant should provide evidence that he has the required infrastructures to handle and store the products:
 - Cold room facilities for storage of frozen / chilled fish / fish products;
 - Refrigerated vehicles for transport and distribution of frozen / chilled products;
 - Warehouse for storage of dry, canned fish / fish products and sea processed shells.
4. Applicant with the above prerequisite may submit an application for an import permit on the appropriate form with the following details:
 - Name and address of applicant / company,
 - the scientific names of the fish species or the species from which the product is prepared,
 - the product type and quantity,
 - the name of establishment,
 - the country of origin.
5. Import of fish species considered toxic in Mauritius, is not permitted.
6. An import permit with specific conditions depending on the product (fresh, frozen, canned, live, and ornamental) and the country of origin / export (Madagascar, India, S. Africa etc) is issued against payment of a fee of Rs 2000/- per consignment.
7. This Ministry shall have to be informed at least three days in advance of the date and time of arrival of the consignment for inspection and clearance at the port of entry.
8. The products shall be authorized for entry into Mauritius after inspection by officers of the Ministry of Health & QL and the Ministry of Agro Industry & Fisheries and the Customs Department or after analysis of samples wherever deemed necessary.
9. At the time of inspection the importer shall have to produce the following documents:
 - Original import permit issued by the Ministry,
 - Original health certificate of the products from the exporting country,
 - copy of invoice,
 - copy of bill of lading / bill of entry / airway bill,
 - Detailed analytical report of the products with certification that they are fit for human consumption.
10. No consignment of fish & fish products shall be removed from the Customs compound unless a landing permit is issued.