



DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES (DIAP) CIRCULAR NO 19 OF 2025

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) of the Republic of South Africa presents its compliments to Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Republic of South Africa and has the honour to refer to DIAP Circular No 2 of 2025 dated 1 February 2025 regarding Customs Clearances and the revised procedures.

The Department wishes to inform Foreign Missions that with effect 1 January 2026 applications for duty-free alcohol and tobacco products will need to be accompanied by the tax invoice/s issued by the relevant duty-free shop/s, for that specific quota period. i.e. 01 January – 30 June or 01 July – 31 December of any given year.

A transition period of 6 months will be maintained i.e. January to June 2026, however with effect 01 July 2026 this requirement will become mandatory, and all applications received after the 30 June 2026, not accompanied by the relevant tax invoices will be rejected and returned to the applicant whether for official or private use.

It remains the duty of the diplomat to ensure that all purchases are reflected on the ANNEXURE 3 certificate issued by DIRCO. In this regard diplomats are reminded that local beer and wine must be included on the ANNEXURE 3 as these are not exempt from duties.

In cases where quota amounts have been exceeded, the exceeded amount will be deducted from the new quota period and will be reflected as such on the Certificate A and ANNEXURE 3.

Any inquiries regarding the above should be directed to Mr J Demetroudes at email address demetroudesi@dirco.gov.za or telephone number 012 351 0582.

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa avails itself of the opportunity to renew to Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Republic of South Africa the assurances of its highest consideration.



PRETORIA
10 December 2025

**Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations
accredited to the Republic of South Africa
PRETORIA**