



BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

**REVISED REGULATIONS OF THE  
BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY**

**THE PROHIBITED IMPORTS AND  
EXPORTS ORDER 2009**

**CHAPTER F.2**

**Revised Edition**

Showing the law as at 1 September 2020

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This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Ordinance 2015 and contains a consolidation of the following laws:

The Prohibited Imports and Exports Order 2009 – SI No.1 of 2009

As amended by:

Ordinance No.1 of 2017

SI No.1 of 2017

SI No.6 of 2017

SI No.2 of 2018

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**CHAPTER F.2**

**RRBIOT c.F.2.**

In exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 5 of the Imports and Exports Control Ordinance 2009 and all other powers enabling him in that behalf the Commissioner hereby makes the following Order –

1. The importation into the Territory of the following goods is prohibited:

Any ballast, rock or other fill material which contains debris, roots, wood, scrap material, refuse, plant or animal material not originating in the Territory.

Any goods or material of any description containing or consisting of any species of living plant, animal or insect not indigenous to the Territory.

Fixed blade knives.

Folding or lock blade knives with blades more than 3 inches long.

Spear-guns.

Catapults.

Firearms.

Firecrackers.

Offensive weapons (including, but not limited to, axes, hatchets, cutlasses or clubs).

Drugs (including but not limited to, Marijuana).

Equipment used for, or to facilitate, weighing, processing, or partaking of drugs.

Clothing which bears any drug emblem.

Things or material, whether written or printed or in the form of pictures, drawings or designs, or in the form of compact discs or any other means of recording, or in the form of any other means of visual or non-visual communication, which advocate or advertise or otherwise promote the use of drugs or which contain, or are contained in, or are accompanied by, such things or material.

Obscene writings, printed matter, drawings, film, photograph or pictures, or any other obscene material or objects.

Any indecent photograph, film or pseudo-photograph or film of a child under the age of 18 years.

**Film** shall include video recording or other electronic means of recording images, and **photograph** shall include the negative as well as the positive version and data stored on a computer disc or by other electronic means which is capable of conversion into a photograph.

All types of electrically powered, or electrically assisted, cycles.

Tobacco in any form save where the import is –

(a) of not more than 200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos or 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco for the personal use of the importer and is contained in the baggage accompanying a person arriving in the Territory; or

(b) part of goods consigned to the United States authorities or to a United States contractor for the use of or for sale to members of the United Kingdom Forces, military members of the United States Forces, or to other members of the United States Forces, or to those contractor personnel and their dependents who are not engaged in any business or occupation in the Territory.

Any type of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).

For the purposes of this Order, an “Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)” means an aircraft or aircraft system that is flown from a remote location without a pilot located in the aircraft itself, and includes a Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA), a Remotely Piloted System (RPAS), an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) and a Drone.

Provided that a Customs Officer may expressly permit the import of any item included in the above list where he is satisfied by the person wishing to import the item that in the particular circumstances its import is reasonable.

For the purposes of this Order, **Drugs** means **controlled drugs**, as defined by section 3 of the Misuse of Drugs Ordinance 1992.

2. (1) The exportation out of the Territory of the following goods is prohibited, except with the prior written permission of the Commissioner’s Representative –

Wild animals, whether alive or dead.

Seashells.

Coral, whether alive or dead.

Wild birds' nests.

Birds' eggs.

Turtles' eggs.

Flora, coral or seashells specified under the Wild Life Protection Regulations 2003.

(2) In this paragraph any reference to a seashell, coral, nest or egg includes a reference to a part thereof.

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