



List of Systems for Restraining Counterfeits at Customs of African Countries

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※The content of this list is based on the available information as of January 2026.

	Countries	Is customs registration mandatory? Yes/No	Is security deposit required? Yes/No If YES, please specify the amount in local currency, USD and JPY	Effective period of customs registration	Do Customs take ex officio enforcement? Yes/No	Actions available if Customs do NOT take ex officio enforcement	Do customs provide photographs of suspended goods to right holders? Yes/No	How many days do right holders have to respond after receiving notification from Customs?	Treatment of suspended goods (storage or destruction? Who bears the cost)	Penalties to counterfeiters (Destroy/recycle/send back of products)	Is parallel import of genuine goods legal? Yes/No If it is legal, what is the criterion for allowing parallel import?	Supplementary information
1	Nigeria	NO, voluntary informal recordation according to the Customs and Excise Management Act	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action. Civil proceedings	NO	10 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	YES, there are no statutory laws that explicitly forbid parallel import	Parallel import creates challenges for IP holders as well as authorised distributors in regulating the price and control of genuine goods in the market. Regarding the effective registration period, please note that there are usually new officers posted at border posts every year. Therefore, for informal customs recordations, there is no law or official timeframe. That is why we recommend filing and renewing informal recordations yearly. Where there is no customs recordation, there is an option to file an informal customs recordation.
2	Kenya	YES, mandatory formal recordation East African Community Customs Management Act, 2004 and Tax Procedures Act, 2015	NO	1 YEAR	YES	We can alert the Kenya Anti-Counterfeit Authority to take action. Criminal proceedings	YES	90 days. The Kenya ACA handles mandatory recordation matters and not customs	ACA bears storage cost and infringer bears destruction costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	YES, however it is subject to certain conditions in terms of the Anti-Counterfeit Authority.	N/A
3	Mauritius	NO, voluntary formal recordation but highly recommended accordingly the Customs Act 1988 and Customs Regulations	NO	1 YEAR	YES	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action. Criminal proceedings	NO	10 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	NO	N/A
4	Tanzania	YES, mandatory formal recordation The Tanzania Fair Competition Commission handles these matters.	NO	1 YEAR	YES	We can alert the FCC of incoming shipments for them to take action. Civil proceedings	YES	10 days	The right holder bears destruction costs.	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	NO	N/A
5	Uganda	NO, voluntary informal recordation East African Community Customs Management Act, 2004	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action Civil proceedings	NO	7 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	NO	Regarding the effective registration period, please note that there are usually new officers posted at border posts every year. Therefore, for informal customs recordations, there is no law or official timeframe. That is why we recommend filing and renewing informal recordations yearly. Where there is no customs recordation, there is an option to file an informal customs recordation.
6	South Africa	NO, voluntary formal recordation but highly recommended	NO	10 YEARS	YES	We can take action through the South African Police Service. Civil proceedings or criminal proceedings	YES	5 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy and recycle products. Legal action against infringer	YES, however there must be compliance with the relevant authority. A notice is placed informing consumers that the goods are parallel imported	N/A

7	Morocco	NO, voluntary formal recordation	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action. Civil proceedings	NO	7 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	NO	N/A
8	Tunisia	NO, voluntary formal recordation	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action. Criminal proceedings	YES	60 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	NO	N/A
9	Algeria	NO, voluntary formal recordation	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action. Civil or criminal proceedings	YES	3 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	YES, however it is subject to certain conditions in terms of legal framework. May not be explicitly prohibited however, they may be challenging to import.	N/A
10	Zambia	NO, voluntary informal recordation, Customs and Excise Act	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipment for them to take action. Civil proceedings	YES	60 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	Yes, the Zambian Trade Mark Act permits the importation of goods bearing a registered trademark by someone other than the trade mark owner	Regarding the effective registration period, please note that there are usually new officers posted at border posts every year. Therefore, for informal customs recordations, there is no law or official timeframe. That is why we recommend filing and renewing informal recordations yearly. Where there is no customs recordation, there is an option to file an informal customs recordation.
11	Mozambique	NO, voluntary informal recordation	NO	1 YEAR	NO	We can alert customs of incoming shipments for them to take action. Civil proceedings	YES	30 days	Storage and then destruction, right holder bears costs	Destroy products. Legal action against infringer	Yes, provided that a notice is placed informing consumers that the goods are parallel imported	Regarding the effective registration period, please note that there are usually new officers posted at border posts every year. Therefore, for informal customs recordations, there is no law or official timeframe. That is why we recommend filing and renewing informal recordations yearly. Where there is no customs recordation, there is an option to file an informal customs recordation.