

Africa Warehousing Scheme (AWS)

1. Introduction

The Africa Warehousing Scheme (WS) (Scheme) is implemented and managed by the Economic Development Board (EDB) Mauritius and funded by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development.

These Guidelines set out the terms and conditions governing the Scheme. The Scheme may be terminated or amended, at any time, without prior notice. The EDB or Government of Mauritius will not bear any liability in respect of a Scheme which has been so terminated or amended.

2. Objective of the AWS

The objective of the Scheme is to provide a subsidy on the rental and administrative costs of warehouses in selected countries, so as to support access and increase competitiveness of locally manufactured products in these markets.

3. The Refund

1) Eligible Beneficiaries will be entitled to 60% refund of the annual warehousing costs.

Warehousing Costs

(a) mean:

- i) Rental and administrative costs for first 200 m² over 2 years
- ii) Rental of additional space of 200 m² over 2 years
- iii) Merchandising costs for the 1st year only
- iv) Registration costs – One-off cost in the 1st year only (Company Incorporation, Licensing, Trademarks, etc) and

(b) exclude all other costs not set out in (a) above

2) The Refund will be

- a. Time-bound for 2 years (Effective from 12th Oct 2020) and
- b. Capped at:
 - Rs. 1,200,000 for the 1st year
 - Rs. 300,000 for the 2nd year
 - Rs. 300,000 pro-rata for additional space of 200m², per year, during the two years of operations

4. Eligible Beneficiaries

AWS Committee set up by EDB will assess the eligibility of the applicants and their qualifying products.

Eligible Beneficiaries are Mauritian manufacturing entities operating warehouses in Eligible Countries for qualifying Products.

For the avoidance of doubt, a refund under this Scheme, does not attest that the Beneficiary is in compliance with all applicable laws. It shall remain the responsibility of the Beneficiary to hold all applicable licences, authorisations, permits as may be required and to ensure compliance with all applicable laws including, without limitation, compliance with laws relating to Environment, Food Safety and Labour.

The Government of Mauritius and the Economic Development Board Mauritius shall bear no liability for any incident, accident, or injury.

5. Eligible Countries

The Eligible Countries are set out in Annex 1.

6. Qualifying Products

Qualifying Products are those that are manufactured locally and comply with the SADC, COMESA, or any other alternative rules of origin acceptable to the AWS Committee.

7. The Application Process

(a) The Applicant must:

- (i) register with the EDB; and
- (ii) apply for the rebate

(b) An Applicant may apply for a rebate under the Scheme only as from the date he is registered with the EDB. No claim prior to that date shall be entertained.

8. The Registration Process

1. An Applicant wishing to benefit from the Scheme must register itself with the EDB. This is a one-off procedure.

[Click here](#) to download the Registration Form.

2. The Applicant must submit the Registration Form to the EDB and a copy of the:

- (i) Certificate of Incorporation,
- (ii) Business Registration Card; and
- (iii) VAT Certificate of Registration

3. The EDB will process the application and inform the Applicant whether his application to be registered with the EDB has been approved or not.

4. The EDB reserves the right to request for such additional documentation as it may deem fit.

5. Registration with the EDB does not in any way guarantee that the Applicant is eligible for refund.

9. The Claims Process

1. The Applicant must submit the prescribed CLAIM FORM ([Click here](#) to download Claim Form) together with a copy of the following supporting documents:

Exports of Made-in-Mauritius Products

1. Air Waybill (AWB) or House Air Waybill (HAWB) or Bill of Lading
2. Commercial Invoice
3. MRA Customs Declaration Form
4. Certificate of Origin

Africa warehousing rentals

5. Lease Agreement/Contract
 6. Warehouse Insurance Policy
 7. Certified copy of Invoice from Lessor (with costs breakdown of rental components e.g rental costs, administrative costs, etc)
 8. Receipt of payment from Lessor
 9. Merchandising Agreement/Contract
 10. Certified copy of Invoice from Merchandiser
 11. Receipt of payment for merchandising costs
 12. Certified copy of Certificate of Incorporation, Licences and Trademarks in the eligible country
 13. Receipt of payment for Company Incorporation /Licensing/ Trademarks
2. Registration and Claim Forms to be submitted to the [Economic Development Board \(EDB\) Mauritius](#), 10th Floor, One Cathedral Square Building, 16 Jules Koenig Street, Port Louis 11328.
3. The Claim has to be submitted within **three months** from the date of payment of any warehousing cost.
4. The EDB shall examine the claims and reserves the right to request for such additional documents as may be required.
5. The claim will be rejected:
- a. If the Claim does not meet the criteria as set out above and as determined by the EDB; or
 - b. in case of any missing or incomplete documentation or information.
 - c. The Beneficiary is in breach of any applicable law.

10. False or Misleading Declaration

It is an offence under section 39 (2) of the Economic Development Board Act, for a person to give information, particulars, or documents or to make any statement which is false or misleading in any material particular. On conviction, an offender shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 500,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years.

In addition, notwithstanding any other action that the EDB may choose to take, in case of a false or misleading declaration:

- a. The applicant will not be eligible for any future rebate under any Scheme administered by the EDB, and
- b. The applicant shall be liable to refund any amount obtained under the Scheme.

Contact person at the EDB:

Mrs [Raifa Bundhun](#) on 203 3897

Mr [Pravin Soburrun](#) on 203 3825

Mrs [Reshma Napaul](#) on 203 2446

Eligible Country

Tanzania