

GHANA FREE ZONES AUTHORITY
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR TAX/DUTY EXEMPTIONS

1.0 PROCEDURES FOR CLEARANCE OF ITEMS FOR FREE ZONE OPERATIONS (IMPORTS AND LOCAL PURCHASE)

1.1 IMPORTS

- Send an import declaration to GFZA MDA through the TradeNet system
- Print a copy of the provisional approval form with the exemption number from your system
- Attach bill of lading or Airway bill, invoice, packing list and other supporting documents to the import declaration form
- Attach a cover letter
- Present the form and all supporting documents to GFZA Secretariat and pay an amount of **\$100 per container** for processing to be done
- Present endorsed and embossed form to Customs at entry point.

1.2 EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF VAT/NHIL, GETFUND LEVIES ON LOCAL PURCHASE

- Purchase **Form 9** from the GFZA Secretariat at a cost of **\$100**.
- Fill the Form 9 indicating the description of goods and value
- Present duly filled form to the GFZA Secretariat with the proforma invoice of goods to be purchased for endorsement.
- GFZA would attach an introduction letter to the Form 9 addressed to the local supplier.
- The goods should be inspected by a Customs officer before being released to the free zone company.

2.0 PROCEDURE FOR SALE INTO THE DOMESTIC MARKET

Purchase **Form 9A** at a cost of **\$50** from GFZA Secretariat

- Fill the Form 9A indicating the description of goods, Consignee's Address and the CIF Value of the goods.
- Attach the Invoice of goods to be sold into the domestic economy valued in US Dollars to the Form 9A.
- Present the duly filled form and Sales Invoice to the GFZA Secretariat for endorsement

- The endorsed documents should then be sent to the appropriate Customs office for tax assessment on the goods
- The Customs officer inspects the goods to ensure that they tally with what has been indicated on the form 9A and invoice before released onto the local economy.

3.0 EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF TAX ON UTILITIES

- Purchase **Form 9B** at a cost of **\$400** from the GFZA Secretariat.
- The form should be filled clearly indicating utility meter number and payment point (electricity, water and telephone).
- GFZA then forwards the Application to Domestic Tax Division of GRA to exempt the FZE from the payment of VAT/NHIL, GETFUND levies on the utility
- The exemption is granted annually

4.0 VEHICLE EXEMPTION

- Present an application letter and an invoice from the Supplier of the vehicle to GFZB for approval
- When approved, you purchase **Form 9D** from the GFZA Secretariat
 - Vehicles up to 2000cc (Eg. Forklift, Trailer etc.) - **US\$200.00**
 - Pick-Ups, Trucks and Mini Buses - **US\$1,500.00**
 - 4x4 Vehicles - **US\$3,000.00**
 - Registration of Vehicle fee - **US\$600.00**

NB. There is no more exemptions for Salon Cars

- The form should be filled clearly indicating the type of vehicle and chassis number.
- Present duly filled form with necessary supporting documents to the GFZA Secretariat for endorsement.
- Present endorsed form to Customs at entry point.

5.0 EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF VAT ON SERVICES

- Purchase **Form 9E** from the GFZA Secretariat at a cost of **\$50**.
- Fill the Form 9E indicating the description of services and value
- Present duly filled form to the GFZA Secretariat with the proforma invoice of services to be purchased for endorsement.

- GFZA would attach an introduction letter to the Form 9E addressed to the service provider.

6.0 EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF DUTIES/TAXES ON TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN FREE ZONES ENTERPRISES

- Purchase a **Form 9F** from the GFZA Secretariat at a cost of **\$50**. (The Free Zone Enterprise purchasing the goods buys the Form)
- Fill the Form 9F indicating the description of goods/services and value.
- Present duly filled form to the GFZA Secretariat with all necessary documents for endorsement.
- Present endorsed documents to the resident/assigned Customs officer for endorsement.
- Ensure that the goods are escorted from and to the Free Zone.

7.0. RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMIT (First Time Applicants)

- Purchase Form 11 at the cost of **US\$450** from the GFZA Secretariat
- Pick immigration application form from the GFZA Secretariat
- Present duly filled forms with the following attachments to the GFZA Secretariat
 - i. Passport of applicant
 - ii. Two (2) supporting letters from the company addressed to the Ag. Executive Secretary (GFZA) and the Director (Ghana Immigration Service)
 - iii. Copy of Companies Code/Regulations
 - iv. Copy of Certificate to Commence Business
 - v. Copy of Certificate of Incorporation
 - vi. Copy of Free Zone Licence
 - vii. Curriculum Vitae of applicant and
 - viii. Appointment letter
- Collect passport from GFZA Secretariat after two (2) weeks

Fees for subsequent years: (Form 11)

3rd and 4th year: US \$800.00 per annum
 5th year and beyond: US \$1,500.00 per annum