

Bilateral Trade Agreements with Arab Countries

Agreement Articles	Lebanon	Syria	Morocco	Tunisia	Libya	Jordan	Iraq
Type of Agreement	Executive Program	Preferential trade agreement	Free Trade Agreement	Free Trade Agreement	Tariffs Agreement	Free Trade Agreement	Free Trade Agreement
Duration	Article 4 of this Agreement stipulates that the agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party through diplomatic channels at least six months prior to the termination date.	Article 11 of this Agreement stipulates for its one-year validity that is automatically renewable for a similar period unless either party expresses its desire to terminate the agreement at least three months prior to the termination date.	Article 25 of this Agreement stipulates that the agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party through diplomatic channels. Parties are to be notified at least six months in advance of termination.	Article 23 of this Agreement stipulates that the agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party through diplomatic channels. Parties are to be notified at least six months in advance of termination.	The agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party through diplomatic channels. The agreement will remain in force after its termination for the commercial contracts which were concluded before the agreement termination by at least 6 months	Article 24 of this Agreement stipulates that the agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party through diplomatic channels. Parties are to be notified at least six months in advance of termination.	Article 20 of this Agreement stipulates that the agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party through diplomatic channels. Parties are to be notified at least six months in advance of termination
Entry into Force	This Agreement entered into force on 15/3/1999	This Agreement entered into force on 1/12/1991	This Agreement entered into force on 28/4/1999	This Agreement entered into force on 26/4/2007	This Agreement entered into force on 18/6/1991	This Agreement entered into force on 21/12/1999	This Agreement entered into force on 8/7/2001

<p>Most Important Articles</p>	<p>-Unless applicable to the following lists, products originating in Egypt or Lebanon shall be mutually allowed free of all customs duties as well as any other duties or charges having equivalent effect:</p> <p>- List 1 shall include imports of products originating in Egypt not allowed duty-free treatment.</p> <p>- List 2 shall include imports of products originating in Lebanon not allowed duty-free treatment.</p> <p>- List 3 shall include agricultural imports of products originating in Egypt allowed duty-free and for export exclusively within specific periods.</p> <p>- List 4 shall include agricultural imports of products originating in Lebanon to be allowed duty-free and for export exclusively within specific periods.</p> <p>- List 5 shall contain imports of products</p>	<p>- List A shall include imports of products originating in Syria that are allowed free of customs duties, as well as any other duties and charges having equivalent effect.</p> <p>- All applicable customs duties and any other duties or charges having equivalent effect shall be abolished for imports of products originating in Egypt and included in List B.</p>	<p>-A 100% reduction of customs duties and any other duties and charges having equivalent effect shall be applicable on imports of products originating in Egypt and Morocco set out in Lists 1 and 2 respectively.</p> <p>-A gradual phase-out shall be applicable for industrial products with tariff rates (from zero to 25%) with regard to Table 3 of imports of products originating in Egypt and Table 4 of imports of products originating in Morocco deemed to reach 100% tariff reduction five years after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.</p> <p>- A gradual phase-out shall be applicable to industrial products with tariff rates above 25% in relation to Table 3 inclusive of imports of products originating in Egypt and Table 4 of imports of products originating in Morocco deemed to reach a 25% tariff ceiling five years after the date of entry into</p>	<p>- the abolition of all customs duties and charges that have equivalent effect in all products .</p> <p>- trade remedies articles .</p> <p>- protection of intellectual, industrial and commercial property rights .</p> <p>- establishment of dispute settlement unit .</p> <p>- a separate article that stipulates the necessity of clarifying the products origin in such a way that could not be suspected or deleted .</p>	<p>- All industrial and agricultural commodities and natural resources subject to trade exchange between Egypt and Libya shall be allowed duty-free.</p> <p>- A Free Trade Agreement was signed between the two countries on 12/8/2003; however it is not yet in force. It includes the following important articles:</p> <p>1- Non-tariff barriers shall be eliminated.</p> <p>2- Any other duties or charges having equivalent effect shall be eliminated as well.</p> <p>3- A text on remedies of subsidy, dumping and safeguard cases.</p> <p>4- Establishment of a dispute-settlement mechanism between the two countries.</p>	<p>- A gradual reduction of customs duties and any other duties and charges having equivalent effect on products exchanged between Egypt and Jordan is expected to mutually reach 100% by 2005, according to the schedule cited in Article 2 of the Agreement.</p> <p>- Trade in agricultural products within the framework of the Executive Program of the Arab League Trade Facilitation and Promotion Agreement.</p> <p>- An additional protocol to reduce the negative list on 28/10/2002 involving the list in goods with delayed liberalization as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Vehicles * Mineral water * Tomato paste * Table salt <p>since these products, like others, were included as part of the gradual phase-out process.</p>	<p>- All applicable customs duties and any other duties or charges having equivalent effect on all products subject to trade between the two countries shall be abolished.</p>
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	<p>originating in Egypt not allowed for export to Lebanon.</p> <p>- List 6 shall contain products traded between Egypt and Lebanon and subject to tariff phase-out amounting to 100% by 2003.</p> <p>- List 7 shall include imports of products originating in Egypt subject to pre-import license alongside their duty-free access.</p>		<p>force of this Agreement, provided the Joint Trade Committee develops a program for the liberalization of the remaining 25% on a 7-year phase-out ceiling basis as of the sixth year of the entry into force of this Agreement.</p> <p>- List 5 of imports of products originating in Egypt and List 6 of imports of products originating in Morocco shall be inclusive of products subject to delayed liberalization.</p> <p>- In conjunction with provisions cited in Article 3 of this Agreement, the study on trade in agricultural goods in terms of the Harmonized System referred to in chapters 1-24, shall be postponed.</p>				
Major Egyptian Exports	Construction steel bars, sanitary towels and baby diapers, whitened rice, potatoes, tar and asphalt, wooden furniture and lubricant oils.	Whitened rice, white Portland cement, dry beans, tea and black powder.	Steel and steel products, coke, carbon, molasses, aluminum wires and foodstuffs.	Carbon, unmixed aluminum, green beans and sanitary paper.	Whitened rice, steel bars, ordinary Portland cement and pottery.	Rice, dry beans, medicines and ammonia nitrates.	Medicine, hydrated vegetative fats and oils, detergents, agricultural and horticultural irrigation equipment, new rubber tires and toilet soap bars.
Major	Fresh apples, Kamar	Lentils, dry figs,	Meal of animal offal,	Contraceptives and	Hot rolled iron, iron	Aluminum fluorides,	

Egyptian Imports	El Din (apricot paste), polymer plates and sheets, books and other publications.	cumin seeds, apricot paste, tobacco leaves, polyurethanes and fresh apples.	mechanical wood pulp, frozen fish, food stuff, hot rolled iron and pure lead.	cardiopathy medications, blocks and granules of polyethylene, other wires of iron, sodium triphosphates.	angles and shapes and other hot rolled coils.	veterinary medicaments and cumin seeds.	
Duty-free Egyptian Exports	<p><u>Duty-free products during specific time periods:</u> Potatoes, garlic, salt and water melon.</p> <p><u>All year duty –free products:</u> Guava, mango, and dates.</p> <p>Products allowed complete duty-free access by 2003: Dairy products, pineapple, kiwi fruit, avocado, papaya, passion fruit, mineral water, carbonated water, varnish, paints, frozen vegetables, processed vegetables, jams and fruit juices.</p> <p><u>Duty-free products subject to import license:</u> Natural and artificial cement, white cement, plasters, lime and electric and telephone wires.</p>	Glucose, powder or cube soups, medicaments for human use, inks for writing or printing, cotton yarn not prepared for retail trade, aromatic oils, aluminum plates and sheets, tires, saws, razors, shaving tools, handles, aluminum foils, automobile filters, powder, plastic syringes, buttons, dyes and finishing materials for the textile industry, slide fasteners and aluminum containers for gas filling.	White cement, ammonium nitrate, sodium sulphate, seeds of anise, fennel, caraway and juniper, tomato paste and ketchup, kaolin, coke, food and artificial gelatin, ceramic bricks, flat rolled products of iron and steel sheets, unmixed iron and steel bars, raw aluminum, aluminum powder, foils, plates and sheets, pitons, pumps and air conditioners.	Dried legumes, spices, rice, sugar molasses, caraway, medicaments for human and veterinary use, movies, tires, raw cotton, ceramic bricks, flat glass, aluminum, school books, spinning and weaving machines, washing machines, pipes, dry batteries, electronic spare parts, railway cars, musical instruments, fans, medical and surgery furniture and upholstery, photocopiers, machines and tractors.	All Egyptian exports are enjoying duty free access , provided that they satisfy the rules of origin determined by the GAFTA agreement.	Plant products, minerals and mineral products, chemical industry products and related industries.	

<p>Duty-Free Egyptian Imports</p>	<p><u>Duty-free products during specific time periods:</u> Apples, grapes and pears.</p> <p><u>All year duty –free products:</u> Cherries.</p> <p><u>Duty-free products subject to import license:</u> All products stated above as exports of products originating in Egypt shall be deemed duty-free.</p>	<p>Sheep, potato seeds, lentils, salted viscera, fruit tree transplants, castor seeds, bran, seed cakes, salt, cement clinkers, asbestos, human medicaments, raw and washed wool, cotton lint, cotton yarn not prepared for retail sale, filters for the cement industry, printing machines and gear boxes for tractors.</p>	<p>Iron ores, copper ores, lead and zinc ores, vaccines, fish products, whole powder milk, white beans, lentils, kidney beans, hayseeds, prepared anchovy, table margarines, infant milk, tomato paste, fish powder, natural graphite, sugar manufacturing waste (such as bagasse), barium sulphates, salt, cork, fibers, piston sets and clutches.</p>	<p>Olive oil, tomato paste, paper paste, child nutrition preparations, fungicides and pesticides for agricultural purposes, tires, paper, raw wool, crystals and glass, steel wires and cables, pipes and hoses, agriculture spraying machines, cold storage rooms, ploughs, cement (concrete) mixers, poultry breeding equipment, electric wires and fixtures, medical and surgery upholstery and automobile spare parts.</p>	<p>All Egyptian imports are enjoying duty free access , provided that they satisfy the rules of origin determined by the GAFTA agreement.</p>	<p>Transport equipment and metal products.</p>	
<p>Egyptian imports excepted from tariff reduction</p>	<p>Textiles, ready-made garments, automobiles, tobacco, alcoholic beverages and liquors, fowl meat, cement, wires and cables.</p>		<p>Powder and explosives, ferrochrome products, textiles, ready-made garments, automobiles, tires, and iron or steel bars.</p>	<p>Textile products, ready-made garments (except cotton yarn stated under item 5205), shoes and shoe parts, ceramics, automobiles and lorries.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Ready-made garments, tobacco and its substitutes and products and reinforced iron and steel.</p>	
<p>Egyptian Exports excepted from tariff reduction</p>	<p>Ceramic tiles and cubes, ceramic sanitary wares, home furnishings, upholstery, its supports and all related items stated under item 9404, tap manufacturing items, tobacco and its substitutes, bulbs and cut flowers, prepared poultry and fowl meat.</p>		<p>Poultry products, alcoholic beverages, tobacco and its products, textiles and ready-made garments, automobiles and iron or steel bars.</p> <p>-- In conjunction with provisions cited in Article 3 of this Agreement, the study on trade in agricultural goods</p>	<p>Alcoholic beverages and liquors, tobacco and its products, textiles and ready-made garments and automobiles.</p> <p>-- In conjunction with provisions cited in Article 3 of this Agreement, the study on trade in agricultural goods according to the</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Ready-made garments, tobacco and its substitutes and products and reinforcing steel bars.</p>	

			according to the Harmonized System referred to in chapters 1-24 shall be postponed.	Harmonized System referred to in chapters 1-24 shall be postponed.			
Objectives of Bilateral Agreements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- To enhance Arab intra-trade through the elimination of customs duties and other duties or charges having equivalent effect, as well as non-tariff barriers. 2- To speed completion of the necessary arrangements and procedures slated to establish a Common Arab Market ensuring the protection of their resources, the development of their economies, and the realization of Arab economic integration. 3- To establish integrated projects among Arab countries to encourage their comparative advantages. 4- To liberalize trade in services, which will improve services and competitiveness of goods in the region. 5- To contribute to cumulation of origin already reflected in the Agadir agreement (with Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco as signatories) with the European partnership with Arab countries. 6- To contribute to shaping the economic and political entity of Arab countries and pave the way for the formation of economic groupings as exemplified by the establishment of the Gulf Customs Union, the cooperation among Arab Maghreb countries, and the signing of the Agadir Declaration. These three examples provide the best evidence for the possibility of Arab countries to realize their objective of achieving economic integration, establish the Arab Customs Union and the Arab Common Market. 						