

Export checklist: Kenya

Seaway Project Cargo · prepared October 18, 2026

99

U.S. machines shipped here in 2025

\$16,000

Duty and VAT, \$100,000 excavator

Limited

RoRo from the East and Gulf Coast

SHIPPING METHODS

- Container: Booked on request. Container ports: Port of Mombasa. No schedule we track lists a direct call, so the carrier and any transshipment are confirmed at booking.
- Flat rack: Booked on request. For machines too wide or tall for a closed box, on container lines that accept out-of-gauge cargo. Discharge at Port of Mombasa, subject to the terminal taking flat racks.
- RoRo: Limited from the East and Gulf Coast, none from the West Coast. RoRo ports: Port of Mombasa. Carriers call these routes on their schedules; we confirm the next sailing at booking.
- Breakbulk: Liner breakbulk or charter. For cargo too large or heavy for a flat rack, loaded by ship or shore crane. Breakbulk and heavy-lift ports: Port of Mombasa.

DUTY AND TAX

- Import duty: 0% of \$100,000 CIF is \$0 (HS 8429.52, 2023 tariff).
- VAT: 16% of the duty-inclusive \$100,000 is \$16,000 (Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), checked June 2026)
- Total duty and tax: \$16,000, or 16% of CIF.
- Excavators 0% · Wheel loaders 0% · Crawler dozers 0% · Motor graders 0% · Backhoes and other excavating machines 0% · Crawler and rough-terrain cranes 0%

U.S. EXPORT STEPS

- File the EEI in AES before loading (every vehicle, and any Schedule B line over \$2,500) and pass the ITN to the carrier.
- Titled machines: original title and EEI to U.S. Customs at the port at least 72 hours before export.
- Wood packaging and dunnage must be ISPM 15 heat-treated and stamped.
- Check the export classification (EAR99 or an ECCN) before booking.

DOCUMENTS AT DESTINATION

Commercial Invoice · Packing List · Bill of Lading · Certificate of Origin · Import Declaration Form (IDF) · Certificate of Conformity (CoC) · Equipment Specifications

USED-MACHINERY RULES

- Inspection: PVoC Manual Version 15 (19 Feb 2026), clause 5.3, lists the United States as not subject to PVoC. Such goods undergo KEBS destination inspection at 0.6% of customs value (minimum \$300, maximum \$3,500).
- Conformity: PVoC Manual v15, clause 5.5.1: used or second-hand goods qualify only for Route A (consignment inspection and testing) before a Certificate of Conformity is issued against Kenya Standards (Standards Act Cap 496; Legal Notice 78 of 2020).
- Inspection: Mobile equipment (bulldozers, excavators, graders, wheel loaders, cranes) from Japan, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, the UAE or the UK must be inspected by QISJ before shipment and carry a CoC/CoR. Units from Japan and the UAE get a radiation check.
- Documents: Destination inspection needs a Unique Consignment Reference, pro forma invoice, packing list, Import Declaration Form, manufacturer specifications and English/Swahili manuals. Importer pays the fee plus an equal bond. Non-compliant goods are reshipped or destroyed.
- Documents: All Kenyan imports require an Import Declaration Form (IDF), customs entry, a CoC for regulated products, commercial and pro forma invoices, and an ISM code where applicable. Insurance must be placed with Kenya-licensed insurers.

SOURCES

Planning guide, not a customs ruling. Confirm rates and rules with your broker before shipping.

<https://seawayprojectcargo.com/en/countries/shipping-to-kenya> · +1 (888) 996-7619 · sales@seawayprojectcargo.com