

## ▫ QATAR CUSTOMS REGULATORY CHANGES OVERVIEW

In order to align with international standards and enhance trade facilitation for shipments entering Qatar, **Qatar General Authority of Customs (QGAC)** mandated that effective January 1, 2025, the Harmonized System (HS) code standard for Qatar will change from an 8-digit HS code to a 12-digit HS code.

Timeline: The change to the 12-digit HS codes will come into effect on January 1, 2025.

In summary, the change requires that the shipper should provide a valid 12-digit HS code when shipping to Qatar.

1. Business-to-Business (B2B) Import Shipments (for shipments from Rest of World to Qatar)
2. Business-to-Consumer (B2C) Import Shipments (for shipments from Rest of World to Qatar)
3. Consumer-to-Consumer (C2C) Import Shipments (for shipments from Rest of World to Qatar)

## ▫ WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

This means that **shippers should provide a valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code** when shipping to Qatar.

If the Shipper does not provide the **valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code**, this may result in a clearance delay due to the missing **valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code**.

1. **Businesses-to-Business Shipments (B2B)** shipments to Qatar require a valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code.
2. **Businesses-to-Consumer Shipments (B2C)** shipments to Qatar require a valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code.
3. **Consumer-to-Consumer Shipments (C2C)** shipments to Qatar require a valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code.

## **IMPORTANT:**

1. **The shipper must ensure to provide an authentic / valid HS Codes.**
2. **The shipper should provide a valid Qatar 12-digit HS Code.**

## **NOTE:**

- **A valid Qatar 12-digit HS code** should be **provided by the Shipper**.
- If the Shipper does not provide the **valid Qatar 12-digit HS code**, this may result in a clearance delay due to the missing valid Qatar 12-digit harmonized code
- By providing the **valid Qatar 12-digit HS code** at the moment of shipment creation, shippers will avoid clearance delays to their shipments.

<https://www.customs.gov.qa/English/Media/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx#/C-NewsDetails-ID/707>



by Mr. Hussein Ali Al-Mari, Head of the Tariff and Origin Section in the Customs Policies and Procedures Department at the Authority, and was attended by several department directors from the Qatar Chamber.

Participants were informed during the workshop that, according to Amiri Decree No. 98 of 2024, the structure of the Harmonized System (HS) code for customs tariffs will be amended to 12 digits instead of 8 digits, effective January 1, 2025. This change will apply to all Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

It is worth noting that the Harmonized System code is a specialized customs coding system used globally to accurately identify goods and determine their customs duties. The system is organized into chapters, main headings, and subheadings.

<https://www.customs.gov.qa/English/Legislations/Documents/Executive%20Resolutions/2024/decrees%20of%202024.pdf#search=Amiri%20Decree%20No%2E%2098>

**Decree No. (98) of 2024 on  
the Integrated Customs Tariff**

**We, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani,  
Amir of the State of Qatar,**

Having reviewed the Constitution,

Law No. (40) of 2002 on Customs, as amended by Law No. (10) of 2023,

Law No. (41) of 2002 amending the customs tariff rate and repealing certain customs exemptions,

The International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, approved by Decree No. (127) of 2004 for Qatar's accession,

Decree No. (43) of 2022 on the Unified Customs Tariff, as amended by Decree No. (6) of 2024,

The decision of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in its 26<sup>th</sup> session held in Abu Dhabi on December 18-19, 2005, delegating the Financial and Economic Cooperation Committee to amend the lists of exempted goods,

The decision of the Financial and Economic Cooperation Committee of the GCC at its 121<sup>st</sup> meeting held on May 30, 2024, in the State of Qatar, approving the Integrated Customs Tariff Schedule for GCC countries and adopting it as the primary version of the integrated customs tariff for GCC countries, to be implemented by member states starting from January 1, 2025,

The proposal of the Minister of Finance,

The draft decree submitted by the Council of Ministers,

**We hereby decree as follows:**

**Article (1)**

The Integrated Customs Tariff annexed to this decree shall be implemented.

**Article (2)**

Decree No. (43) of 2022, as referenced, is hereby repealed, along with any provision that contradicts the provisions of this decree.

**Article (3)**

All concerned authorities, each within their jurisdiction, shall implement this decree. It shall come into effect as of 01/01/2025 and shall be published in the Official Newspaper.

**Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani**

**Amir of the State of Qatar**

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