

Webinar on the implementation of the Guyana-Brazil International Road Transport Agreement (IRTA)

Speaking Notes: Home Affairs Ministry & the Licensing Process in Guyana

Registration of Transporting Firms (Guyanese companies)

The IRTA is more than a transportation project; it is a strategic platform for economic growth, regional cohesion, sustainable development and improved infrastructure.

Guyanese stakeholders wishing to transport passengers and goods across the international routes must apply to the Home Affairs Ministry to be registered as a Transporting Firm.

Applications must include IRTA Form I and the following:

- Tax Identification Number (TIN) of firm and owner
- Motor vehicle registration, licence & fitness certificate
- International third-party insurance
- Revenue licence for vehicles
- Company registration
- Legal representative in Brazil (full powers for legal and administrative acts)

Approval Process

1. The Ministry reviews the documents, which are then referred to the Commissioner of Customs & Trade Administration (GRA) for final review.

2. If compliant, the Commissioner recommends issuance of an Original Certificate of Competence (original licence).
3. A security check is conducted on the applicant. If clear, the Permanent Secretary registers the applicant as a carrier/transporting company.
4. Original permission is issued to operate international passenger or cargo services.

Only registered buses will be licensed for international routes.

Reciprocity & Validity

- Within 120 days of the issuance of the original permission, companies must apply to Brazil's National Land Transport Agency (ANTT) for Additional Permission to operate there.
- Guyana will reciprocate by recognising Brazilian carriers.
- Permissions (original & additional) are valid for one year and expire December 31.
- Permissions are non-transferable.
- False information/documents will result in the cancellation or denial of permission.

Additional permission for Brazilian companies – Passenger Transport

- Certified copy of the original permission issued by ANTT
- Name, telephone number and legal address of the company's local representative
- Tax compliance documents

- Valid international third-party insurance
- Road transport licence and company registration documents
- Certificate of fitness for each vehicle
- Vehicle description; type, licence plate, chassis, mark, body, seats, year and axles.

Additional permission for Brazilian companies – Cargo Transport

- Certified copy of the original permission issued by ANTT
- Name, telephone number and legal address of the company's local representative
- Tax compliance documents
- Valid international third-party insurance
- Road transport licence and company registration documents
- Details of the transport services to be provided; routes, fleet schedules, vehicle specifications and types of goods to be transported

Compliance & Customs

- Vehicles must meet both Guyanese and Brazilian regulations.
- Carriers must submit advance customs declarations on cargo type and quantity.

Role of the Legal Representative under the IRTA

The legal representative will serve as the official contact point for implementing agencies (ANTT and MOHA), handle official correspondence and compliance requests on behalf of the transport company, and submit required documents or updates to the agencies.

The transport companies need someone locally accountable if the company violates any rules and/or regulations.