



BANK OF MAURITIUS

Guideline on reproduction of Mauritius currency notes and coins

February 2014

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INTRODUCTION

This Guideline lays down the procedures to be followed for the reproduction of Mauritius currency notes and coins.

Purpose

The purpose of this Guideline is to provide the criteria for any reproduction of Mauritius currency as well as the procedures for the submission of an application under Section 43A of the Bank of Mauritius Act 2004 to this effect.

Authority

This Guideline is issued under the authority of Sections 43A and 50 of the Bank of Mauritius Act 2004.

Scope of application

This guideline applies to any person who proposes to make use of a photograph of, or any drawing or design resembling, any Mauritius currency note, bank note or coin issued under Section 35 of the Bank of Mauritius Act, in any advertisement or on any merchandise or product which that person manufactures, sells, circulates or otherwise distributes.

Effective Date

This guideline takes effect as from its date of issue.

Interpretation

In this guideline -

“Act” means the Bank of Mauritius Act 2004;

“application” means an application for the written permission of the Bank under Section 43A of the Bank of Mauritius Act;

“Bank” means the Bank of Mauritius established under the Bank of Mauritius Act 2004;

“coin” includes commemorative coins and gold coins issued by the Bank;

“person” means an individual or a group of persons, whether corporate or unincorporate;

“advertisement” includes advertisement on printed or electronic media;

“Mauritius currency” means any currency bank note or coin issued by the Bank.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

1. The Bank of Mauritius Act was amended in December 2013 and a new Section 43A entitled “Reproduction of currency notes, bank notes or coins” was added thereto.
2. In terms of the new Section 43A, it is an offence for any person to use, in any size, scale or colour, any photograph of, or any drawing or design resembling, any Mauritius currency note, bank note or coin issued under Section 35 of the Bank of Mauritius Act, in any advertisement or on any merchandise or product which that person manufactures, sells, circulates or otherwise distributes, **without the written permission of the Bank.**
3. Any person who wishes to reproduce any Mauritius currency bank note or coin for advertising or on any merchandise or product is, therefore, required to submit a written application to the Bank **before** taking steps to reproduce such note or coin.
4. Any person who is presently making use, in any size, scale or colour, any photograph of, or any drawing or design resembling, any Mauritius currency note, bank note or coin issued under Section 35 of the Bank of Mauritius Act, in any advertisement or on any merchandise or product which that person manufactures, sells, circulates or otherwise distributes, is required to ensure compliance with the present Guideline and seek the written permission of the Bank, within a period of **three months** of the date of issue of this Guideline.
5. Non-compliance with Section 43A of the Act and this Guideline is a criminal offence, which may, on conviction, lead to the imposition of a fine not exceeding Rs500,000.

PROCEDURE

6. The criteria for any currency reproduction as well as the procedures for the submission of an application under Section 43A of the Act are laid down in this Guideline.
7. The written permission of the Bank to reproduce a Mauritius currency is required:
 - (i) whether the front or the back of a Mauritius currency is or will be reproduced;
 - (ii) for reproductions of all Mauritius currency issued by the Bank of Mauritius whether current legal tender or not; and
 - (iii) for all possible reproductions, including modified or distorted reproductions.

8. An application, in the form provided in Annex A, must be filled in and addressed to the Bank at the following address :

The First Deputy Governor
Bank of Mauritius
Sir William Newton St
Port Louis
MAURITIUS
Email : fdg@bom.mu
Fax : +230 212 0313

9. The sample of the Mauritius currency to be reproduced shall be attached with the application letter.
10. The Bank will normally grant its written permission, and issue a permit number, subject to fulfillment of the conditions set out below.
11. Until written permission of the Bank has been given, no person shall reproduce any Mauritius currency even if the conditions set out in this Guideline have been met.
12. A written permission will normally be granted for a period of 12 months or such other period as may be specified in the written permission.
13. Renewals of consents are available by submitting a written request to that effect to the First Deputy Governor at least one month before the expiry of the permission.

CONDITIONS FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS CURRENCY

A. REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS BANK NOTES

14. The Bank shall, subject to paragraph 20, give permission for the reproduction of notes if all of the following criteria are met:

14.1 Printed Media

- (a) The reproduction of any note must not be the same size as the actual note. If it is to be smaller, it must be at most two-thirds as long and two-thirds as wide. If it is to be larger, it must be at least one and a half times as long and at least one and a half times as wide as the original size of the actual note. Any reproduction of a part of a note must meet the same conditions.
- (b) The reproduction must show the note in its original design without any alteration unless specified otherwise in this Guideline.
- (c) The reproduction must not distort any image on the bank note including the image of the dignitary on the bank note (apart from enlargement, reduction or slanting).

- (d) The reproduction must not be printed on watermark paper or other substrates similar to a genuine note.
- (e) The reproduction must not be printed in loose form to avoid giving the impression that the reproduction is a genuine note.
- (f) The reproduction must show the note in its original colour or in black and white.
- (g) The signature of the Governor and the Deputy Governors on the note must be obliterated by folding, over-printing or some other method.
- (h) The reproduction must be printed on one-side only to avoid giving the impression that the reproduction is a genuine note.
- (i) The reproduction may not appear in an offensive or inappropriate context or in such a manner that the Bank, in its sole opinion, believes would undermine the integrity of the currency.
- (j) The reproduction must include the word 'SPECIMEN' which must be boldly printed from the bottom left corner to the top right corner across the face of a single note reproduced. The length of the word 'SPECIMEN' must be not less than one third of the length of the reproduction and the width of such word must be not less than one-eighth of the width of the reproduction.
- (k) The reproduction of overlapping notes is acceptable provided that the word 'SPECIMEN' is printed on the uppermost or on the most prominent note in the manner specified in paragraph (j) above.

14.2 Electronic Media

14.2.1 Film and Television

The reproduction of notes on film and television must meet the conditions specified in paragraph 14.1 (b) and (c).

14.2.2 Other Forms of Electronic Media Including Internet and CD-ROM

- (a) The reproduction of notes on other forms of electronic media including the Internet and CD-ROM must meet the conditions specified in paragraphs 14.1(b), (c), (j) and (k).
- (b) In addition, if the media for the reproduction is the Internet, the visual of such reproduction must be in a standard resolution of 800 x 600 pixels.

14.3 Merchandise

The reproduction of notes on any merchandise or product must meet the conditions specified in paragraph 14.1 (a), (b) and (c).

B. REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS COINS

15. The Bank shall, subject to paragraph 20, give permission for the reproduction of coins in any advertisement or on any merchandise or product if all of the following criteria are met:

- (a) the reproduction must not be printed on any material similar to a genuine coin; and
- (b) the reproduction must be printed on one side only to avoid giving the impression that the reproduction is a genuine coin.

16. For the avoidance of doubt, a coin can be reproduced in its actual size or otherwise with or without the word 'SPECIMEN'.

OTHER CONDITIONS IN THE EVENT OF APPROVAL

17. With respect to reproduction of Mauritius currency on printed media, the permit number issued by the Bank must be printed on the bottom right side of the printed media.

18. The Bank's approval shall be valid for one year from the date of the issue of the written permission.

19. Notwithstanding paragraph 18, the Bank may amend or revoke the approval at any time.

REJECTION OF APPLICATION

20. The Bank reserves the right to reject any application for the reproduction of Mauritius currency if the reproduction is:

- (a) related to or associated with alcohol, cigarettes or other related forms;
- (b) related to or associated with offensive context such as violence or pornography;
- (c) related to or associated with any political content; or
- (d) against public interest.

21. The Bank shall not be obliged to disclose the reasons for withholding its permission.

Bank of Mauritius
5 February 2014

ANNEX A

BOM/BCD 1 Form 1/February 2014

REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS CURRENCY **(APPLICATION FORM)**

Please complete all applicable fields.

Title :

Applicant's Name :

Name of Organisation :

Address :

Telephone & Facsimile :

Email :

Client's Name (if any) :

Purpose :

Media ⁱ :

Brief description of image :

Please check the applicable boxes ☐ $\sqrt{}$ if the conditions below are fulfilled

Size: Not the same size as the actual note ☐

Image: No distortion or addition on the note ☐

Printing: One side only ☐

Not printed on watermark paper or
other substrates/materials similar
to a genuine note ☐

Not in loose form ☐

Colour: Original colour or in black and white ☐

**Governor's and
Deputy Governors'
signatures and
legal tender phrase:** Obliterated ☐

SPECIMEN:

The word 'SPECIMEN' is boldly printed from the bottom left corner to the top right corner across the face of a single note or the most prominent note.



I am aware of and understand my obligations to reproduce Mauritius currency according to the conditions and the general information above. The information I have provided is correct and accurate.

Applicant's Signature: Seal (if any)

Date:

Applications should be addressed to:

**The First Deputy Governor
Bank of Mauritius
Sir William Newton Street
PORT LOUIS
MAURITIUS**

For further information, please contact the Banking and Currency Division at +230 202 3839.

ⁱ Visual of the reproduction must be in standard resolution of 800x600 pixels for electronic media (internet or CD/DVD-ROM)

For printed media, the permit number issued by Bank of Mauritius must be printed at the bottom right side of printed visual.