



BANK OF MAURITIUS

Guideline on reproduction of Mauritius currency notes and coins

April 2017

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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, except for educational or informational purposes, proposes 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 form or for any purpose whatsoever.

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;

“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 to include a new Section 43A with regard to the “Reproduction of currency notes, bank notes or coins”. The new Section 43A was, however, amended by the Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act of August 2016, to broadly allow the reproduction of currency notes, bank notes or coins, for educational or informational purposes.
2. In terms of the new Section 43A as amended, it is an offence for any person to use, except for educational or informational purposes, 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 form or for any purpose whatsoever, without the written permission of the Bank.
3. Accordingly, a person who is willing to use any Mauritius currency bank note or coin in the manner specified in paragraph 2 above, is required to submit a written application to that effect to the Bank for approval. The application, in terms of Regulations made by the Bank with the approval of the Honourable Minister and published in the Government Gazette No. 19 on 18 February 2017 in Government Notice No. 33 of 2017, should be accompanied with a non-refundable processing fee of 10,000 rupees .
4. Non-compliance with Section 43A of the Act is a criminal offence, which may, on conviction, lead to a fine not exceeding Rs500,000. Non-compliance with this Guideline also is a criminal offence which, on conviction, may lead to a fine not exceeding Rs500,000 and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years.

PROCEDURE

5. The criteria for any Mauritius currency reproduction as well as the procedures for the submission of an application under Section 43A of the Act are as laid down below.
6. 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.

7. 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
8. The application should be duly accompanied by the sample of the Mauritius currency to be reproduced.
9. Where the Bank grants its written permission for the reproduction of a Mauritius currency, it will issue the applicant with a permit bearing a permit number.
10. **Unless and until the written permission of the Bank has been granted, no person shall reproduce any Mauritius currency even if the conditions set out in this Guideline have been met.**
11. Renewals of permissions may be made by submitting a written request to that effect to the First Deputy Governor at least one month before the expiry of the existing permission. Applications for renewal should also be accompanied by the non-refundable processing fee of 10,000 rupees, mentioned in paragraph 3 above.

CONDITIONS FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS CURRENCY

A. REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS BANK NOTES

12. The Bank may, subject to paragraph 18, grant permission for the reproduction of currency notes if all of the following criteria are met:

12.1 Printed Media

- (a) The reproduction of any note must not be of 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 otherwise specified 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 must 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 may be made provided that the word 'SPECIMEN' is printed on the uppermost or on the most prominent note in the manner specified in paragraph (j) above.

12.2 Electronic Media

12.2.1 Film and Television

The reproduction of notes on film and television must meet the conditions specified in paragraph 12.1 (b) and (c).

12.2.2 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 12.1(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.

12.3 Merchandise

The reproduction of notes on any merchandise or product must meet the conditions specified in paragraph 12.1 (a), (b) and (c).

B. REPRODUCTION OF MAURITIUS COINS

13. The Bank may, subject to paragraph 18, grant permission for the reproduction of coins, 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.
14. A coin may be reproduced in its actual size or otherwise with or without the word 'SPECIMEN'.

VALIDITY AND OTHER CONDITIONS TO BE MET FOLLOWING APPROVAL

15. 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.
16. The Bank's approval shall be valid for a period of 12 months or such other period as may be specified in the written permission from the date of its issue.
17. Notwithstanding paragraph 16, the Bank may amend or revoke the approval at any time.

REJECTION OF APPLICATION

18. 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.
19. The Bank shall not be obliged to disclose the reasons for withholding its permission.

ANNEX A

BOM/BCD 1A/ Form 1/April 2017

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 :
Mediaⁱ :
Brief description of image :

Please check the applicable boxes if the conditions below are fulfilled

Size:	Not the same size as the actual note	<input type="checkbox"/>
Image:	No distortion or addition on the note	<input type="checkbox"/>
Printing:	One side only	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not printed on watermark paper or other substrates/materials similar to a genuine note	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not in loose form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Colour:	Original colour or in black and white	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governor's and Deputy Governors' signatures and legal tender phrase:	Obliterated	<input type="checkbox"/>

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.

Payment of non-refundable processing fee of Rs10,000:

(i) I attach herewith a cheque for 10,000 rupees drawn to the order of Bank of Mauritius.

(ii) I have effected payment through (Bank).....
by MACSS transfer in favour of Bank of Mauritius.

I am aware of and understand my obligations with regard to the reproduction of 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.