

## Chamber of Commerce & Industry Aruba

As the official representative body of trade and industry in Aruba, it is the Aruba Chamber's responsibility to stimulate and support entrepreneurship in order to promote sustainable development in Aruba.

In addition, the Chamber administers and supervises two public registers, the Trade Registry and the Foundations Registry. The Chamber is also an advisory body to the Minister of Economic Affairs with regard to general matters as well as on business licenses.

The Chamber complies with these responsibilities, by providing reliable, bona fide information to the business community, government and the general public.

### Registration in the Trade Registry

All businesses operating in Aruba are required to be registered in the Trade Registry according to article 1 of the Ordinance of the Trade Registry. Consequently, they are subject to paying a registration fee upon registration and an annual contribution in the years following. According to article 15 business owner(s) is (are) responsible for complying with the annual contribution. In case the company is a legal entity (NV, VBA or AVV), the director(s) is (are) responsible for compliance with the annual contribution.

The obligation to pay is linked to the fact that the company is registered and not to whether the company is operating or not. The registration fee and annual contribution are based on the total amount of capital invested in the business.

For the annual contribution this is the investment as appearing in the Chamber's records on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each following year. Whenever a company ceases to operate, it is recommended to cancel the business at the Chamber before December 31 in order to stop payment obligations towards the Chamber.

## Principle of the annual contribution

The levies of the Chamber finance its general operations as per its tasks, such as administering the Trade Registry, establishing legal security (rechtszekerheid) for businesses and consumers alike as well as representing the general interest of the business community. Additional services available to the public at large, such as an extract, are available at minimum cost.

The annual contribution is determined per calendar year and is due each year before April 1<sup>st</sup>. The applicable fee is stipulated according to a sliding scale, which can be viewed on the next page and is drawn up in article 15 of the Trade Registry Ordinance.

### Reporting investment upon and after registration

Upon registration, the person registering the business has the obligation to state the correct capital invested in the business, regardless of its chosen form, for the Trade Registry to determine the applicable registration fee.

Businesses registered at the Chamber are legally required to keep their company data up-to-date. This results in reliable, bona fide data in the Trade Registry that protect both the enterprises and consumers in legal transactions.

Likewise, the registered amount of invested capital should be based on the company's financial statement of the previous book year, whether it is a profit or a loss, as shown beneath. All companies are responsible for reporting necessary changes. For the N.V. and A.V.V., the total investment includes the paid up part of the issued capital.

equity  
reserves +  
Profit or loss sharing loans +  
capital loss -  
**Total investment capital**

## Authority of the Chamber

According to article 15, the Chamber is authorized to move a registered business to a higher scale when there is reasonable doubt that the indicated investment amount is not correct, or when no invested capital has been filed. If there is no consensus on the level of the invested capital, the Trade Registry can request proper proof of this.

### The Chamber can reclassify a company when:

1. A new business registers;
2. An updated assessment is filed;
3. A company neglects to file its invested capital

If the Chamber perceives a higher investment, it will automatically adapt and rank the business' capital in the applicable higher category according to the Chamber's perception of its true capital. In cases 1 and 2 this needs to be done within 8 days after filing, in case 3 this can occur at anytime.

### Right to object

The Chamber's decision to reclassify is of administrative order and is subject to stipulations according to the Ordinance on Administrative Justice (LAR). In return, a company maintains the right to object to the Chamber's decision to reclassify in accordance to the LAR.

Flyers on the procedure and legal timeframe are available at the Aruba Chamber or can be downloaded from the Chamber's website, [www.arubachamber.com](http://www.arubachamber.com).

Article 19 of the Trade Registry Ordinance states that the Secretary of the Chamber has the authority to supervise that the Trade Registry Ordinance is being adhered accordingly. It includes the authority to have the company make its records, such as financial statements, fiscal filings and shareholder registry available to the Chamber's Secretary.

## Contact the Chamber for more information

In order to avoid any misunderstandings, the Chamber kindly requests all businesses to cooperate and to provide the Chamber with the correct information. Please contact the Chamber for more information regarding its levies and the capital invested in the company .

## Benefits of correctly registered data

Keeping company data up-to-date, results in the following benefits:

1. increase reliability of the data in the Trade Registry;
2. prevents unnecessary liabilities due to incorrect data;
3. the Chamber can get a better insight of the businesses active in Aruba;
4. greater understanding of the Aruban economic landscape;
5. improved services to stimulate and support the Aruban business community.

## Registration fee & annual contribution

Invested capital	Registration fee	Annual contribution
• 5,000	96	96
> 5,000 – 10,000	96	96
> 10,000 – 25,000	96	96
> 25,000 – 50,000	120	120
>50,000 – 100,000	165	156
> 100,000 – 200,000	210	175
> 200,000 – 500,000	350	245
> 500,000 – 1,000,000	700	280
> 1,000,000 – 2,000,000	1,500	600
> 2,000,000 – 3,000,000	1,500	750
> 3,000,000 – 4,000,000	1,500	900
> 4,000,000. – 5,000,000	1,500	1,125
> 5,000,000	1,500	1,275

For more information on our services or products, please contact:  
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This flyer contains only limited information and does not cover all aspects of the subject. If you need more information, please contact Business Information & Support at the Aruba Chamber.

## Aruba Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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# The Aruba Chamber's Registration fee and Annual contribution



**Aruba Chamber of Commerce  
& Industry**