



After your marriage performed in Nigeria: entry in the Swiss civil status register

11.04.2022

Documents to submit

For the Nigerian fiancé/e:

- Marriage Certificate issued by the Marriage Registry
- Birth documents
 - If birth was registered before the 18th birthday:
 - Certificate of Birth issued by a National Population Commission (NPC)
 - If birth was **not** registered before the 18th birthday:
 - Declaration of Age (**) sworn by a parent at a High Court or Magistrate Court, not older than 6 months (*mention names + first names of both parents!*)
 - and**
 - Attestation of Birth issued by the National Population Commission (NPC), not older than 6 months
- ⇒ **The Declaration of Age and the Attestation of Birth have to be issued in the same state**
- Certificate of bachelor-/spinsterhood, issued by the City/Town Local Government of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months
 - or**
 - Affidavit of bachelor-/spinsterhood (**), sworn by the applicant at the High Court or Magistrate Court of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months
- ⇒ *if the person is already married, the document has to state that the applicant has been a spinster/bachelor until the .. (date of the marriage), when the marriage with ... (name of spouse) took place*
- ⇒ *if applicant is living abroad: sworn by a parent*
- Certificate of Address, issued by the City/Town Local Government of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months
 - or**
 - Affidavit of Address (**), sworn by the applicant at the High Court or Magistrate Court of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months
- ⇒ *if applicant is living abroad: sworn by a parent*
- Certificate of Origin, issued by the City/Town Local Government of the applicant's place of origin, not older than 6 months
 - or**
 - Affidavit of Origin (**), indicating the applicant's name, date of birth, the community, local government, State of Origin and name of parents, not older than 6 months
- Copy of valid Nigerian passport; if living abroad also valid residence permit

If the applicant is divorced:

- Divorce Decree (Decree Nisi & Certificate of Decree Nisi having become absolute) issued by the High Court with the date of validity
- If marriage was celebrated under Customary law, an "Enrolment of Judgement" issued by the High Court must be submitted

If the applicant is a widow/er:

- Marriage Certificate of former marriage
- Death Certificate of the former spouse

For the Swiss or foreign fiancé/e residing in Switzerland:

- Copy of Swiss passport or ID card / Copy of foreign passport and copy of Swiss Residence Permit
- Certificate of residence (*Wohnsitzbestätigung/Certificat de domicile*)
- Certificate of civil status (*Zivilstandsbestätigung/Personenstandsausweis/Certificat d'état civil*)

(**) Declarations + Affidavits from **Benin City (Edo State)** have to be issued for “**International Purposes**” (cost per document NGN 500, must hold signatures of Commissioner of Oath and Deputy Chief Registrar)

The original documents are submitted to the civil status authority concerned in Switzerland. They will not be returned. Photocopies are not accepted. Additional documents may be required if necessary.

Thorough verification

As a rule, foreign civil status documents to be submitted must undergo a thorough verification of their authenticity by an approved law firm mandated. To this end, please submit the following to the Swiss representation:

- declaration form concerning voluntary verification of foreign civil status documents, duly dated and signed
- questionnaire for the verification of civil status documents

Please contact the Embassy of Switzerland in Abuja to find out about the actual fees for the verification of the documents through the Embassy's lawyer.

Additional documents may be required, depending on the conclusions of a lawyer's expert advice or the requirements of the authorities concerned in Switzerland.

The verification of the documents through the lawyer may take several months. The conclusions of the firm's advice are not binding on the civil status authority concerned.

Fees

The fees for this procedure vary (depending on the exchange rate). Please contact the Embassy of Switzerland in Abuja to enquire about the actual fees.