



Civil status documents for marriage registration/preparation in Switzerland

Nigeria

Please check the following website:

<https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/nigeria/en/home/services/civil-status/marriage.html>

In order to register civil status events with the Swiss authorities, the following documents (**one original and one copy**) must be submitted to the Embassy of Switzerland in Abuja for legalisation and translation:

(**) 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)

From the Nigerian Spouse/Fiancé/e

- Marriage Certificate issued by the Marriage Registry **not older than 6 months**
=> if the *Marriage Certificate* is older than 6 months, the issuing authority has to provide you with a certified copy of the original
- Birth documents **not older than 6 months** (if married, the birth documents need to be issued with the maiden name)
Born until 31.12.1988
- Declaration of Age (**) sworn by a parent at a High Court or Magistrate Court (*mention names + first names of both parents!*)
and
- Attestation of Birth issued by the National Population Commission (NPC)
=> **The Declaration of Age and the Attestation of Birth HAVE TO BE ISSUED IN THE SAME STATE**
Born from 01.01.1989
- Certificate of Birth issued by a National Population Commission (NPC)
=> if you are in possession of a *Certificate of Birth* from NPC that is older than 6 months, please provide a certified copy of the original *Birth Certificate* – the certified copy must be issued by the same NPC as the original document
=> if the birth has not been registered before the 18th birthday, a “Declaration of Age” and an “Attestation of Birth” have to be provided
- Certificate of Address **not older than 6 months** issued by the City/Town Local Government of the (former) place of residence
or
Affidavit of Address (**) **not older than 6 months** sworn by the applicant (*if applicant is living abroad - sworn by a parent of the applicant*) at the High Court or Magistrate Court of the (former) place of residence
- 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**
or
Certificate of Origin **not older than 6 months** issued by the City/Town Local Government of the applicant’s place of origin
- Certificate of bachelor-/spinsterhood **not older than 6 months** issued by the City/Town Local Government of the (former) place of residence
or
Affidavit of bachelor-/spinsterhood (**), sworn by the applicant (*if applicant is living abroad: sworn by a parent*) 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
- Valid Nigerian passport (*if living abroad: valid residence permit*)
- Police Character Certificate, issued by the Central Criminal Registry in Lagos **not older than 6 months**
- Questionnaire for verification of civil status documents (*can be downloaded from the Embassy website*)
- Application for marriage registration (*can be downloaded from the Embassy website*)

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:

- Death Certificate of the former spouse

From the Swiss or foreign Spouse/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/Certificat d'état civil*)
- If originally from Nigeria-Questionnaire for verification of civil status documents (*can be downloaded from the Embassy website*)

For a **visa request** please check the following website: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/nigeria/en/home/visa/entry-ch/more-90-days.html>

The Embassy reserves the right to request additional documents. **The spouse/s has/have to come to the Embassy in person; we do not accept documents from third persons.** If the spouse/s is/are not in Nigeria, the documents must be submitted where they are presently and legally residing (i.e. Switzerland). **Incomplete files are not accepted.** The legalisation procedure can take up to **5 months** and is subject to a fee (approx. CHF 900.00) payable in Naira or CHF in advance. **Original documents submitted to the Embassy will not be returned to the client.**