



## After a marriage celebrated in Nigeria

### Entry in the Swiss civil status register & Family reunion for the spouse

#### Documents to submit

The original documents (except Marriage Certificate and Birth Certificate) will be submitted to the responsible civil status authority concerned in Switzerland. They will not be returned. Copies are not accepted. Additional documents may be required if necessary.

#### For the Nigerian spouse:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Marriage Certificate</b>	issued by the Marriage Registry where the marriage took place
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Birth documents</b>	<p><u>If birth was registered before the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Certificate of Birth, issued by a National Population Commission (NPC)</li> </ul> <p><u>If birth was <b>not</b> registered before the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Declaration of Age (**) sworn by a <u>parent</u> at a High Court or Magistrate Court, not older than 6 months (<i>mention names + first names of both parents!</i>)</li> <li><b>and</b></li> <li>➤ Attestation of Birth issued by the National Population Commission (NPC), not older than 6 months</li> </ul> <p>⇒ <b>The Declaration of Age and the Attestation of Birth have to be issued in the same state.</b></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Certificate of bachelor/spinsterhood</b> <b>or</b> <b>Affidavit (**) of bachelor/spinsterhood</b>	<p>issued by the City/Town Local Government of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months</p> <p>sworn by the applicant at the High Court or Magistrate Court of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months</p> <p>⇒ <i>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.</i></p> <p>⇒ <i>if applicant is living abroad: sworn by a parent.</i></p> <p><b>If the applicant is divorced:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Divorce Decree (Decree Nisi &amp; Certificate of Decree Nisi having become absolute) issued by the High Court with the date of validity</li> <li>➤ If marriage was celebrated under Customary law, an “Enrolment of Judgement” issued by the High Court must be submitted</li> </ul> <p><b>If the applicant is a widow/er:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Marriage Certificate of former marriage</li> <li>➤ Death Certificate of the former spouse</li> </ul>

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Certificate of Address</b> <i>or</i> <b>Affidavit (**) of Address</b>	issued by the City/Town Local Government of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months.  sworn by the applicant at the High Court or Magistrate Court of the (former) place of residence, not older than 6 months ⇒ <i>if applicant is living abroad: sworn by a parent</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Certificate of Origin</b> <i>or</i> <b>Affidavit (**) of Origin</b>	issued by the City/Town Local Government of the applicant's place of origin, not older than 6 months.  indicating the applicant's name, date of birth, the community local government, State of Origin and name of parents, not older than 6 months.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Police Character Certificate</b>	issued by the Central Criminal Registry in Lagos, not older than 3 months.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>valid Nigerian passport</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Questionnaire for the verification of civil status documents</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Application for marriage registration</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Application forms for a long stay visa D</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Please fill, date and sign three (3) copies of the form.</li> <li>➤ Three (3) recent color passport-sized photos, with white background.</li> </ul>

**(\*\*) Please note that declarations and affidavits issued in Benin City, Edo State, have to be issued for international purposes. The documents have to be signed by the Commissioner of Oaths and the Deputy Chief Registrar of the court.**

**For the Swiss or foreign spouse residing in Switzerland:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Passport copy and Swiss residence permit copy (for non-Swiss citizens)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Copy of Certificate of residence</b>	(Wohnsitzbestätigung/Certificat de domicile)  <i>If available</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Copy of Certificate of civil status</b>	(Zivilstandsbestätigung / Certificat d'état civil / Personenstandsausweis / Familienausweis)  <i>If available</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Questionnaire for the verification of civil status documents</b>	<i>if the person was born in Nigeria</i>

### Thorough verification

Nigerian civil status documents will undergo a thorough verification of their authenticity by a law firm mandated by the Embassy. Additional documents may be required, depending on the result of the verification by the lawyer or the requirements of the authorities concerned in Switzerland.

**The verification of the documents through the lawyer may take up to 4 months.**

### Fees

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