

Visa for Family Reunion for Somali/Eritrean Refugees

The competent authority for visa applications from citizens from Eritrea or Somalia is the German Embassy in **Nairobi**. The German Embassy in Kampala can only accept applications if your usual **abode is in Uganda or South Sudan**. This is usually supposed if you have lived in Uganda or South Sudan for more than 6 months with a valid residence permit. If this is not the case, you are not eligible to apply in Kampala.

Applications must be submitted **in person** and may not be submitted by courier, regular post, fax or E-Mail. The appointment has to be made through our online appointment system. Please ensure that you bring all required documents and duly filled forms.

Documents not issued in English or German: A notarised translation of the original document into German must be obtained. The translation must be submitted in the original with two additional copies.

Please note that each visa application is reviewed individually. Therefore, the requested documents may vary. The German Embassy reserves the right to ask for additional documents. The submission of the mentioned documents does not guarantee the issuance of the visa. Applicants may, at any time, be asked for a personal interview. **Submission of incomplete documentation or refusal to attend the mandatory visa interview will result in a refusal of your visa application.**

It takes approximately three to six months to process the verification and your visa application. We kindly ask that no status requests on the visa application be made during the first three months. We will notify the applicant on any change of status or progress of the application as soon as possible and whenever the need arises.

Upon receiving the visa: Please check visa data for possible mistakes as soon as you receive your passport. Pay particular attention to the visa's validity (start and end dates). Also check the correct spelling of your name as well as the number of entries you were granted. The visa section must be informed of possible mistakes immediately and cannot be held responsible for any problems that occur as a result of incorrect data or a missing signature in the travel document.

PLEASE NOTE: To ensure that applicants may leave Uganda after obtaining a visa, their residence in Uganda must be legal. It is thus strongly recommended that applicants ensure their residence is legal before applying for a visa, either by applying for a residence permit or registering as a refugee. This is the only way to ensure that departure is not delayed after the visa has been issued.

Required documents:

- Two duly completed and signed application forms "Application for national visa" per applicant
- Two Declarations of True and Complete Information in accordance with Section 54(2)8 & 53 Residence Act, signed and dated

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- Two recent biometric passport photos taken against a light background (35mm x 45mm)
- A valid passport plus two copies of the ID pages
- Two copies of passport of the family member in Germany
- Two copies of residence permit of the family member in Germany
- Two copies of current residence registration certificate
- Two copies of notification of recognition from the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) for the family member in Germany, including incontestability notice – called: “Bescheid”
- If represented by someone else, e.g. a lawyer or carer: power of attorney in duplicate required
- 75 Euros (37,50 Euros for minors under the age of 18) (fee payable in Ugandan Shillings ONLY; converted at the current exchange rate used by the Embassy cash office)
- Proof of habitual abode in Uganda (Proof of Registration (POR) from UNHCR or proof of habitual abode in Uganda in the original plus two copies – please note: habitual abode is usually assumed in the case of six months proven residence in Uganda)
- Birth certificate; original plus two copies
- Proof that the application process was started before the deadline –two copies if an initial application was made to meet the deadline (“fristwahrende Anzeige”)
- *Only for Eritrean Citizens:*
 - Baptism certificate; original plus two copies
 - Eritrean ID card plus two copies of both the front and the back
 - Final legislation (Überbeglaubigung) of all Eritrean documents such as birth/death/marriage certificates

a) Subsequent immigration of spouses

- If married at a registry office: original marriage certificate plus two copies
- If married in a religious ceremony or under customary law: proof of religious/customary marriage; original with two copies **AND** original registration of the marriage with two copies

b) Subsequent immigration of children

- Proof of marriage of the parents, as in a)
- Proof of custody, if both parents cannot sign or agree (e.g. death certificate in the original plus two copies **OR** custody order in the original plus two copies.)

c) Subsequent immigration to join a recognised minor refugee

- Proof of marriage, as in a)
- Birth certificate of the child; original plus two copies

Please note: The Embassy reserves the right to demand further documentation, such as certificates, language certificates, DNA reports, age tests, etc.