



ACCESS TO VITAL RECORDS

*Birth, Marriage, Divorce, and Death Certificates
& Police Records*

ANGOLA

About this document

Introduction

Established in 2018, the Vance Center's Keep Families Together (KFT) initiative connects pro bono lawyers abroad with legal service providers and immigration attorneys in the U.S. representing migrant individuals and families. Through this program, volunteer counsel assists in obtaining vital records, police and medical records, and other official documentation from migrants' countries of origin or transit to support the legal and administrative processes that lead to family reunification and long-term immigration relief.

Today, the KFT initiative collaborates with more than 150 law firms, pro bono clearinghouses, non-profit organizations, bar associations, and university legal clinics across five continents. Together, we have supported the legal representation of more than 500 individuals and families, contributing to numerous reunifications and durable forms of immigration relief.

As the immigration policy landscape in the U.S. continues to shift, legal service providers must adapt to address their clients' needs, and tools that can support overburdened and under-resourced service providers are more important than ever.

In 2025 alone, KFT received more than 186 requests for assistance. Looking ahead, we anticipate sustained demand for these services. As cases have increased, our team has noted that immigration attorneys frequently encounter some of the same questions and procedural barriers, many of them related to the essential vital records their clients need for their cases. These questions include: **how to obtain birth, marriage, and divorce certificates; how to secure death certificates; and how to access police records.**

The relevant information about how to access these documents is often fragmented, difficult to navigate, or not immediately accessible to practitioners, who have limited time to devote to these proceedings. This information gap has critical consequences – we know that delays or uncertainty in obtaining such documentation can materially affect the pace and outcome of immigration proceedings.

In response to this gap, the Vance Center has developed this practical reference tool covering an initial group of 31 jurisdictions for which we frequently receive requests. The guide includes countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean. The chapters for three countries (Brazil, India, and Mexico) include sub-sections with state-level information for a selection of states. This guide complements the Vance Center's previously published resource, [*Accessing Vital and Official Records in Latin America: A Guide for Immigration Practitioners*](#), published in March 2026. While that guide focused on 14 jurisdictions in Latin America and covered a broader range of procedures related to obtaining and correcting official records, this new version expands the geographic scope significantly and narrows the focus to the official documents most frequently requested in immigration matters.



The Guide covers:

- **Procedures to request and obtain birth, marriage, divorce, and death certificates**
- **Locating and obtaining criminal, police, or arrest records**

Each country chapter includes information about the appropriate authorities or agencies responsible for these records, the processes to request them, timing and associated costs, and other relevant information. When applicable, it also includes information about available digital or remote procedures that can enable practitioners to more efficiently assist migrant clients.

Access to these documents is often essential to ensure immigration processes can move forward. By providing more clarity around cross-border procedures, services, associated costs, and digital options, we hope this Guide will support immigration service providers to offer more timely, informed, and effective legal representation to their clients.

Note

This Guide is based on information compiled in early 2026. This information is for general reference only and is not legal advice. Requirements, fees, and procedures may change over time and may vary within regions of each country. Whenever available, we have included references to official sources so that attorneys may verify and obtain the most up-to-date information directly. Accordingly, this Guide should be used as a general reference tool, with the understanding that local regulations and administrative practices may evolve at any time.

This chapter covers Angola

The full Guide with information on all 31 countries is available [here](#).

Acknowledgments

The Vance Center is grateful to White & Case LLP, which led and compiled the research that formed the foundation of this extensive guide, and coordinated production of this final work product. We are grateful to the individual attorneys and volunteers who supported the research that went into creating this Guide. Their contributions were essential in gathering accurate information, identifying current procedures in each jurisdiction, and ensuring that this Guide is useful and accessible to practitioners.



ANGOLA

Birth certificate

What is the government authority or agency responsible for issuing this document?	DNRN – Conservatória do Registo Civil.
Can the document be obtained online?	No
Please provide the link.	Unclear from available sources.
Please provide a brief description of the process.	• Parents must go to the Conservatória do Registo Civil (Civil Registry Office) with the required documents. • Present required documents at the Civil Registry Office. • Documents will be checked and a payment slip will be issued. • Payment is made at the bank and proof of payment is returned to the registry. • Information is recorded and the birth certificate is issued to the citizen.
Must the application be done in person?	Yes
Can a third party apply on behalf of the person?	Based exclusively on the information found in non-official public sources, it is lawful for persons to be represented by an attorney-in-fact, provided that the attorney-in-fact is granted special powers for the act. Source: https://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Angola-codigo-do-registo-civil-decreto-lei-no-47-678-de-5-de-maio-de-1967-1996.pdf Note: Current status of effectiveness of the law could not be confirmed.
Must the third party be a lawyer or have a notarized power of attorney (POA)?	Based exclusively on the information found in the non-official public sources, the law would not require the proxy to be a lawyer; any person can act as a proxy if properly authorized. The power of attorney may be granted by public instrument or by a written document signed by the represented person,

	with in-person recognition of the handwriting and signature (i.e., notarization).
What are the typical documents or information required to request this certificate?	• Identity card (each must be presented if the parents are not married; if married, the identity cards must be endorsed and only one spouse needs to be present, accompanied by the partner's original identity card). • Passport or residence card of the parents, if foreign. • Godparents or witnesses (no more than two) must bring their original identity card (optional). <i>Note:</i> The Civil Registry Office integrated into SIAC Talatona only processes registrations for minors aged zero to 11 years. <i>Source:</i> https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/dnirn-rc
Is there a fee to obtain the certificate?	Not if it is the first certificate.
If so, how much is it?	• If it is not the first certificate: AOA 3.828,00. • If urgent: AOA 6.675,00. • If very urgent: AOA 13.350,00. <i>Source:</i> https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/uniformizacao-e-simplificacao-das-tabelas-emolumentares-301a-19a.html#a26
What is the average time it takes to receive the document?	Execution time: 72 hours. Requirements: Unclear from available sources. <i>Source:</i> https://www.sepe.gov.ao/ao/catalogo/mais-servicos/pessoa-familia-e-sociedade/passagem-de-certidoes-e-cedulas-pessoais/
Is the certificate provided digitally, by mail or must it be picked up in person?	Unclear from available sources.
Is the issuance centralized at the national level or is it handled locally (e.g., by municipality or state)?	Issued locally by the relevant registry office.
Please describe how to identify the appropriate local office.	Registration is made in one of the offices or other departments. One must identify the local civil registry office

	(Conservatória do Registo Civil), registration shop (Loja de Registo), SIAC center, or municipal registration post in the provincial capital or municipal seat. Maternity hospitals may also register births.
Are there any known challenges to accessing this document (e.g., bureaucratic delays, corruption, limited online access)?	There is an outdated study (from 2016) publicly available on the matter. https://www.anthrologica.com/application/files/7116/7884/7384/Anthrologica_Registo_de_nascimento_em_Angola.PT.pdf According to a study from 2016, challenges include poor infrastructure, bureaucratic complexity, inconsistent procedures, lack of staff training, limited decentralization, hidden costs (e.g., facilitation fees), unreliable technology and limited online access—especially outside urban centers. Source: https://www.anthrologica.com/application/files/7116/7884/7384/Anthrologica_Registo_de_nascimento_em_Angola.PT.pdf
Please list any methods for contacting the relevant agencies and organizations (e.g., WhatsApp, email, online contact form, telephone numbers, postal address, etc.).	SIAC (Sistema Integrado de Atendimento ao Cidadão, which translates to Integrated Citizen Service System) centers, a form of one-stop shops where Angolan citizens can access various government and administrative services, including civil registration, vehicle inspection and more, all aimed at improving convenience, efficiency and service quality, have been established. Contact information: Telephone numbers: +244 222 691 904 / +244 923 619 156 / +244 990 619 156 / +244 222 691 904 Emails: info@siac.gov.ao / siac@siac.gv.ao / faleconnosco@siac.gv.ao
Please share any additional information that may be helpful.	Online services and information may be available at: https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/siac-online

Marriage certificate

What is the government authority or agency responsible for issuing this document?	DNRN – Conservatória do Registo Civil.
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Can the document be obtained online?	No
Please provide the link.	Unclear from available sources.
Please provide a brief description of the process.	• Visit the Civil Registry Office and present documents for review. • If everything is in order, the couple receives a payment slip and pays the required fee at the bank, returning with proof of payment. • The registry office then opens a marriage process file, which is reviewed by a registrar for any issues. • If approved, the couple is informed and a wedding date is scheduled. • A few days before the ceremony, the couple pays a preparation fee and submits proof of payment. • On the wedding day, the registrar records the marriage, the couple and witnesses sign the marriage book, and the official marriage certificate is issued to the couple. • If there are any problems with documents or payments at any stage, the couple is informed and must resolve them before proceeding.
Must the application be done in person?	Yes
Can a third party apply on behalf of the person?	Based exclusively on the information found in non-official public sources, it is lawful for a person to be represented by an attorney-in-fact, provided that only one of the spouses may be represented by a proxy, and the power of attorney must specifically identify the other spouse and the type of marriage. Source: https://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Angola-codigo-do-registo-civil-decreto-lei-no-47-678-de-5-de-maio-de-1967-1996.pdf Note: Current status of effectiveness of the law is unclear from available sources.

Must the third party be a lawyer or have a notarized power of attorney (POA)?	Based exclusively on the information found in the non-official public sources, the law would not require the proxy to be a lawyer; any person can act as a proxy if properly authorized. The power of attorney may be granted by public instrument or by a written document signed by the represented person, with in-person recognition of the handwriting and signature (i.e., notarization).
What are the typical documents or information required to request this certificate?	National citizens: • Birth certificate. • Photocopy of identity card. • Residence certificate. • Stamps. • Military declaration (for male citizens up to 30 years). • In case of minors, consent form for minors. Foreign citizens: • Birth certificate. • Residence certificate. • Passport or notarized photocopy. • Certificate of marital capacity. <i>Note:</i> Documents issued by foreign institutions must be processed by the Angolan consulate in the country of origin. <i>Source:</i> https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/dnirn-rc
Is there a fee to obtain the certificate?	Yes
How much is the fee?	• AOA 4.828,00. • If urgent: AOA 6.675,00. • If very urgent: AOA 13.350,00. <i>Source:</i> https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/uniformizacao-e-simplificacao-das-tabelas-emolumentares-301a-19a.html#a26
What is the average time it takes to receive the document?	Execution time: 72 hours. Requirements: Unclear from available sources.

	Source: https://www.sepe.gov.ao/ao/catalogo/mais-servicos/pessoa-familia-e-sociedade/passagem-de-certidoes-e-cedulas-pessoais/
Is the certificate provided digitally, by mail or must it be picked up in person?	Unclear from available sources.
Is the issuance centralized at the national level or is it handled locally (e.g., by municipality or state)?	From available sources, issued locally by the relevant registry office.
Please describe how to identify the appropriate local office.	One must identify the local civil registry office (Conservatória do Registo Civil)
Are there any known challenges to accessing this document (e.g., bureaucratic delays, corruption, limited online access)?	Unclear from available sources.
Please list any methods for contacting the relevant agencies and organizations (e.g., WhatsApp, email, online contact form, telephone numbers, postal address, etc.).	SIAC (Sistema Integrado de Atendimento ao Cidadão, which translates to Integrated Citizen Service System) centers, a form of one-stop shops where Angolan citizens can access various government and administrative services, including civil registration, vehicle inspection and more, all aimed at improving convenience, efficiency and service quality, have been established. SIAC contact information Telephone numbers: • +244 222 691 904 • +244 923 619 156 • +244 990 619 156 • +244 222 691 904 Emails: • info@siac.gov.ao • siac@siac.gv.ao • faleconnosco@siac.gv.ao
Please share any additional information that may be helpful.	Online services and information may be available at https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/siac-online

Divorce certificate

What is the government authority or agency responsible for issuing this document?	DNRN – Conservatória do Registo Civil.
Can the document be obtained online?	No
Please provide the link.	Unclear from available sources.
Please provide a brief description of the process.	• Divorce certificate applicants (by mutual agreement), go to the Civil Registry Office. • Present the required documents. • The documents are checked, and if correct, a payment slip is issued. • The applicant pays the fee at the bank and returns with proof of payment. • The registry office then processes the request, prepares the certificate, and informs the applicant when it will be ready for pickup. • The certificate is stamped, signed by the registrar, and kept at the office until the applicant collects it. • After receiving the divorce certificate, the citizen must record the divorce annotation at the civil registry office where the marriage was registered.
Must the application be done in person?	Yes
Can a third party apply on behalf of the person?	Based exclusively on the information found in non-official public sources, it is lawful for persons to be represented by an attorney-in-fact, provided that the attorney-in-fact is granted special powers for the act. Source https://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Angola-codigo-do-registo-civil-decreto-lei-no-47-678-de-5-de-maio-de-1967-1996.pdf) Note: Current status of effectiveness of the law is unclear from available sources.

Must the third party be a lawyer or have a notarized power of attorney (POA)?	Based exclusively on the information found in the non-official public sources, the law would not require the proxy to be a lawyer; any person can act as a proxy if properly authorized. The power of attorney may be granted by public instrument or by a written document signed by the represented person, with in-person recognition of the handwriting and signature (i.e., notarization)
What are the typical documents or information required to request this certificate?	• Application with signature notarized by a notary. • Marriage certificate. • Birth certificate (of the spouses). • Residence certificate (of one of the spouses). • Identity card of the spouses (original and photocopy). <i>Note:</i> If spouses have assets, they must present the agreement for the division of assets. If the spouses have minor children, they must present the certificate of parental authority issued by the Provincial Court of Luanda (Family Division). Source: https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/dnirn-rc
Is there a fee to obtain the certificate?	Yes
How much is the fee?	AOA 2.847,00. Source: https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/uniformizacao-e-simplificacao-das-tabelas-emolumentares-301a-19a.html#a26
What is the average time it takes to receive the document?	Execution time: 72 hours. Requirements: Unclear from available sources. Source: https://www.sepe.gov.ao/ao/catalogo/mais-servicos/pessoa-familia-e-sociedade/passagem-de-certidoes-e-cedulas-pessoais/
Is the certificate provided digitally, by mail or must it be picked up in person?	Unclear from available sources.
Is the issuance centralized at the national level or is it handled	Issued locally by the relevant registry office.

locally (e.g., by municipality or state)?	
Please describe how to identify the appropriate local office.	• Identify the local civil registry office (Conservatória do Registo Civil). • After receiving the divorce certificate, the applicant must record the divorce annotation at the civil registry office where the marriage was registered.
Are there any known challenges to accessing this document (e.g., bureaucratic delays, corruption, limited online access)?	Unclear from available sources.
Please list any methods for contacting the relevant agencies and organizations (e.g., WhatsApp, email, online contact form, telephone numbers, postal address, etc.).	SIAC (Sistema Integrado de Atendimento ao Cidadão, which translates to Integrated Citizen Service System) centers, a form of one-stop shops where Angolan citizens can access various government and administrative services, including civil registration, vehicle inspection and more, all aimed at improving convenience, efficiency and service quality, have been established. Contact information Telephone numbers: • +244 222 691 904 • +244 923 619 156 • +244 990 619 156 • +244 222 691 904 Emails: • info@siac.gov.ao • siac@siac.gv.ao • faleconnosco@siac.gv.ao
Please share any additional information that may be helpful.	Online services and information may be available at https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/siac-online

Death certificate

What is the government authority or agency responsible for issuing this document?	DNRN – Conservatória do Registo Civil.
Can the document be obtained online?	No
Please provide the link.	Unclear from available sources.
Please provide a brief description of the process.	• The applicant goes to the Civil Registry Office and takes a service number. • At the counter, required documents are presented, which are checked for accuracy. • If the documents are correct, the applicant receives a payment slip and pays the fee at the bank. • After returning to the registry office with proof of payment, the official registers the death in the registry book and prepares the death certificate. • The applicant is then given the death certificate to complete the process.
Must the application be done in person?	Yes
Can a third party apply on behalf of the person?	Based exclusively on the information found in non-official public sources, it is lawful for persons to be represented by an attorney-in-fact, provided that the attorney-in-fact is granted special powers for the act. Source: https://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Angola-codigo-do-registo-civil-decreto-lei-no-47-678-de-5-de-maio-de-1967-1996.pdf Note: Current status of effectiveness of the law is unclear from available sources.
Must the third party be a lawyer or have a notarized power of attorney (POA)?	Based exclusively on the information found in the non-official public sources, the law would not require the proxy to be a lawyer; any person can act as a proxy if properly authorized. The power of attorney may be granted by public instrument or by a written document signed by the represented person,

	with in-person recognition of the handwriting and signature (i.e., notarization).
What are the typical documents or information required to request this certificate?	• Identity card, personal certificate or birth certificate of the deceased. • Death certificate issued by the doctor. • Identification document of the applicant (identity card, personal certificate or driver's license). • Stamps. Source: https://www.siac.qv.ao/pt/dnirn-rc
Is there a fee to obtain the certificate?	Yes
How much is the fee?	• AOA 3.828,00. • If urgent: AOA 6.675,00. • If very urgent: AOA 13.350,00. Source: https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/uniformizacao-e-simplificacao-das-tabelas-emolumentares-301a-19a.html#a26
What is the average time it takes to receive the document?	Execution time: 72 hours. Requirements: Unclear from available sources. Source: https://www.sepe.gov.ao/ao/catalogo/mais-servicos/pessoa-familia-e-sociedade/passagem-de-certidoes-e-cedulas-pessoais/
Is the certificate provided digitally, by mail or must it be picked up in person?	Unclear from available sources.
Is the issuance centralized at the national level or is it handled locally (e.g., by municipality or state)?	Issued locally by the relevant registry office.
Please describe how to identify the appropriate local office.	One must identify the local civil registry office (Conservatória do Registo Civil).
Are there any known challenges to accessing this document (e.g.,	Unclear from available sources.

bureaucratic delays, corruption, limited online access)?	
Please list any methods for contacting the relevant agencies and organizations (e.g., WhatsApp, email, online contact form, telephone numbers, postal address, etc.).	SIAC (Sistema Integrado de Atendimento ao Cidadão, which translates to Integrated Citizen Service System) centers, a form of one-stop shops where Angolan citizens can access various government and administrative services, including civil registration, vehicle inspection and more, all aimed at improving convenience, efficiency and service quality, have been established. Contact information Telephone numbers: • +244 222 691 904 • +244 923 619 156 • +244 990 619 156 • +244 222 691 904 Emails: • info@siac.gov.ao • siac@siac.gv.ao • faleconnosco@siac.gv.ao
Please share any additional information that may be helpful.	Online services and information may be available at https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/siac-online

Police record

What is the government authority or agency responsible for issuing this document?	DNAICC – Dir. Nac. Arquivo de Identificação Civil e Criminal.
Can the document be obtained online?	No
Please provide the link.	Unclear from available sources.
Please provide a brief description of the process.	Issuance of criminal record certificate to certify the citizen's criminal identification status. Product: Criminal record certificate. Requirements:

	• Must have ten kwanza stamps to request the service. • Applicant goes to the SIAC service desk and submits a completed application form along with their valid identity card. • The documents are checked for accuracy, and if correct, the applicant receives a receipt and is informed when the certificate will be ready. • The request is processed and sent to the National Department of Criminal Records, where the applicant's criminal history is reviewed. • If there are no relevant records, a certificate stating this is issued; if there are records, the details are included as appropriate. • The completed certificate is returned to the service desk, where the applicant can collect it.
Must the application be done in person?	Yes
Can a third party apply on behalf of the person?	Based exclusively on the information found in non-official public sources, it is lawful for persons to be represented by an attorney-in-fact, provided that the attorney-in-fact is granted special powers for the act. Source: https://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Angola-codigo-do-registo-civil-decreto-lei-no-47-678-de-5-de-maio-de-1967-1996.pdf Note: Current status of effectiveness of the law is unclear from available sources.
Must the third party be a lawyer or have a notarized power of attorney (POA)?	Based exclusively on the information found in the non-official public sources, the law would not require the proxy to be a lawyer; any person can act as a proxy if properly authorized. The power of attorney may be granted by public instrument or by a written document signed by the represented person, with in-person recognition of the handwriting and signature (i.e., notarization)
What are the typical documents or information required to request this certificate?	• Original identity card. • Proof of payment of the fee issued by BPC - SIAC. • Presence of the applicant.

	• Passport (in the case of a foreigner, and a document proving foreign parentage). • Power of attorney (when the applicant is not present). Source: https://www.siac.qv.ao/pt/dnirn
Is there a fee to obtain the certificate?	Yes, but it depends on the purpose.
How much is the fee(s)?	• Public reasons: AOA 450,00. • Private reasons: AOA 5.720,00. • Labor reasons: AOA 7.480,00. • Diplomacy reasons: AOA 7.480,00. • Use of weapons (fire): AOA 120.000,00. • Use of weapons (hunt): AOA 74.800,00. Source: https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/uniformizacao-e-simplificacao-das-tabelas-emolumentares-301a-19a.html#a26
What is the average time it takes to receive the document?	Execution period: 72 hours from the date the process is entered into SIAC. Source: https://www.sepe.gov.ao/ao/catalogo/mais-servicos/direito-e-legislacao/pedido-de-certificado-de-registo-criminal/
Is the certificate provided digitally, by mail or must it be picked up in person?	Unclear from available sources.
Is the issuance centralized at the national level or is it handled locally (e.g., by municipality or state)?	The actual verification and issuance of the criminal record certificate is handled by the Departamento Nacional de Registo Criminal (National Department of Criminal Records), which operates under the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. Local submission and collection: • Applicants submit their requests and collect their certificates at local SIAC service desks or designated registry offices.

	These local offices forward the application to the national department for processing and receive the finalized certificate for delivery to the applicant.
Please describe how to identify the appropriate local office.	The primary service points for criminal record certificates are SIAC (Sistema Integrado de Atendimento ao Cidadão) centers. These are integrated citizen service centers located in major cities and provincial capitals across Angola.
Are there any known challenges to accessing this document (e.g., bureaucratic delays, corruption, limited online access)?	Unclear from available sources.
Please list any methods for contacting the relevant agencies and organizations (e.g., WhatsApp, email, online contact form, telephone numbers, postal address, etc.).	SIAC centers (Sistema Integrado de Atendimento ao Cidadão, which translates to Integrated Citizen Service System), a form of one-stop shops where Angolan citizens can access various government and administrative services, including civil registration, vehicle inspection, and more, all aimed at improving convenience, efficiency, and service quality, have been established. Contact information Telephone numbers: +244 222 691 904 +244 923 619 156 +244 990 619 156 +244 222 691 904 Emails: info@siac.gov.ao siac@siac.gv.ao faleconnosco@siac.gv.ao
Please share any additional information that may be helpful.	Online services and information may be available at https://www.siac.gv.ao/pt/siac-online