

## RENUNCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENSHIP

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to your enquiry and wish to inform you that a South African citizen who intends to acquire the citizenship or nationality of another country, or who also has the citizenship or nationality of another country, may renounce his/ her South African citizenship by submitting the following documents:

- [Form BI-246](#) to be fully completed **in duplicate**, **in block letters and in black ink** (attached)

**NOTE:**

- *Applicants are only requested to fully complete the first page.*
- *The second page ('Registration of Declaration') is for official use and must not be completed by the applicant.*
- *Questions that are not applicable should be marked as 'n/a'.*

- [Form BI-529](#) to be fully completed **in block letters and in black ink** (attached);

**NOTE:**

- *Applicants are kindly requested to fully complete all parts of this form.*
- *Questions 9, 10, 11 of Part A are of particular importance.*
- *Questions that are not applicable should be marked as 'n/a'; if answers to certain questions are not known, they should be marked as 'Do not know'.*
- *'Identity number' refers only to South African 13-digit identity numbers and should therefore not be completed, if it is unavailable or unknown.*
- *Applicants should include a valid mobile phone number and email address under Part E.*

- original or certified copy of South African passport including the passport page with the valid residence permit for Germany or chip card foreigner's ID, if applicable;
- original or certified copy of South African identity document, if available – in the case of a lost or stolen identity document, a signed declaration confirming this must be submitted;
- original or certified copy of South African unabridged birth certificate;
- naturalisation assurance (*Einbürgerungszusicherung*) from the relevant German authorities **accompanied by an English translation by a sworn translator (*beeidigter Übersetzer*)**;
- a self-addressed A4-size envelope franked with postage stamps to the value of €3,60 (*per Einschreiben*) to mail the issued document and any personal original documents; alternatively, an applicant may collect the issued document in person from our office;

Should you require clarification on completing the application forms or have any further enquiries about the application process, please contact our office at your convenience.

Kind regards  
Consular Section  
Embassy of the Republic of South Africa  
Tiergartenstr. 18  
10785 Berlin

Fax: 030 22073 202  
Email: [berlin.consular@foreign.gov.za](mailto:berlin.consular@foreign.gov.za)  
Website: [www.suedafrika.org](http://www.suedafrika.org)

**NOTE (Please read carefully):**

- There is no application fee for the renunciation of South African citizenship.
- The applicant shall cease to be a South African citizen from the moment the declaration is registered at the Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria.
- The minor children under 18 years of a person who has renounced his or her South African citizenship shall also cease to be South African citizens, unless the other parent remains a South African citizen.
- A former South African citizen by birth or descent would automatically retain his or her right to permanent residence in South Africa, after he or she has renounced his or her South African citizenship.
- Applicants are advised that applications submitted at our office are referred to the Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria, where the documents are issued, with the diplomatic freight bag once a month. Applicants may however opt to organise and pay for a courier service to collect their applications from our office and have it delivered directly to the Department in Pretoria – applicants who would like to make use of this option should confirm this in writing when submitting their application.
- Unfortunately the intra-departmental movement of the application and tracing of original records in the register held by the Department of Home Affairs is a time consuming task, with the result that these applications may take up to six (6) months to process.
- Applicants would be immediately notified as soon as the issued document has been received by our office from Pretoria, and are kindly requested not to contact our office unnecessarily for progress reports. Applicants may however contact our office in the event of the application taking longer than six (6) months.
- Due to the long-term nature of such applications, applicants are kindly requested to keep our office informed of any change of address during the processing period.
- On receipt of the renunciation declaration from Pretoria, the applicant would be requested to return his or her current South African passport and identity document.
- A complete application may be either mailed to our office, or submitted personally during the consular opening hours: Mon-Fri; 09:00-12:00.
- **Application forms should not be folded**, and applications that are submitted by post should be mailed in an A4-size envelope.
- Only applicants who reside in the following German Federal States (Bundesländer) may submit their applications at the Embassy in Berlin: Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Hessen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Niedersachsen, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Rheinland-Pfalz, Saarland, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Schleswig-Holstein, Thüringen.
- Applicants who reside in Bavaria and Baden-Wuerttemberg must submit their applications to the South African Consulate-General in Munich:

South African Consulate-General  
Sendlinger-Tor-Platz 5  
80336 Munich

Fax: 089 23 11 63 53

Email: [munich.consular@foreign.gov.za](mailto:munich.consular@foreign.gov.za)