



Uganda: Guidelines for AGOA Visa Application and Processing

First stage: A firm visits or writes to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives expressing interest to export under the AGOA.

Second stage: The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives representatives are required to verify that the products intended for exports do originate from Uganda. Ministry representatives conduct firm visits.

Third stage: On confirmation of originality of the products, the exporter is included in the list of exporters and becomes eligible for an AGOA visa certificate.

Fourth stage - The exporter is then required to submit three documents (with four copies each) as part of the process to apply for the AGOA visa. The documents include,

- 1) An AGOA Visa certificate application form
- 2) An invoice with details of the exporter, the importer, the product quantities and values
- 3) A packaging list indicating the specifics of the products to be exported

Fifth stage: If the documents are accurately filled, an AGOA visa certificate is issued to the exporter within a period of at most three days. Normally it is issued on the same day (24 hours).

The exporter ships the products with the certificate and declares it to the U.S Customs seeking to be considered under the AGOA.

Cost: An AGOA visa application process is free.

Validity period: An AGOA visa is valid for 6 months.

Helpful information:

- An AGOA visa is issued for each consignment/invoice
- If an exporter is shipping two different consignments using one invoice, the Ministry of Trade will issue one AGOA visa
- If an exporter is shipping two different consignments using two different invoices, the Ministry of Trade will issue two AGOA Visas
- If an order or invoice changes, the exporter must apply for a new AGOA visa