

MEDIA INFORMATION

Luanda, 20 February 2025

VFS Global's UK Application Centre inaugurated in Angola

His Majesty's Ambassador to Angola and São Tomé e Príncipe, Mr. Bharat Joshi, inaugurated the VFS Global UK Visa Application Centre in Luanda, Angola, in a formal ceremony on 20 February 2025.

Commenting at the launch of the new UK Visa Application Centre in Luanda, **His Majesty's Ambassador to Angola and São Tomé e Príncipe, Mr. Bharat Joshi**, said: *"Our Commercial Partners are the shop window of the UK for the vast majority of people that want to visit, study or work there. I am excited to inaugurate this new UK Visa Application Centre to provide high-quality visa services and improve the visa application experience in Angola, including with a range of value-added services. The partnership between VFS Global and UK Visas and Immigration reflects our ongoing commitment to strengthening ties between the UK and Angola and ensuring that the UKVI services are open to all."*

Mr. Alok Singhal, Head-Sub-Saharan Africa, VFS Global, added, *"We are excited to embark on this new journey with UK Visas and Immigration here in Luanda. We have enjoyed a long-standing partnership with UK Visas and Immigration since 2003 and look forward to now bringing travellers from Angola our best-in-class services."*

In the African region, VFS Global will also provide Visa Application Centres for the UK in 31 countries.

The centre opened its doors to UK travellers on 19 November 2024, under the mandate awarded to VFS Global to provide UK visa services in 142 countries worldwide, including Angola. UK visa customers can now choose from optional services offered by VFS Global, to provide enhanced comfort and convenience. These include document upload assistance, SMS notifications, and courier return of the passport once a decision has been made. VFS Global's Keep My Passport While Applying service allows customers to keep their passports once their application is submitted and biometrics have been enrolled. Customers will only need to re-submit their passports when a decision is reached.

Customers in Angola can also opt for the UKVI's Priority Visa service for visit, work or student applications. This will ensure that visa decision-makers give priority to the application at every stage of the process. UK Visas and Immigration aims to make a decision on a Priority Visa application and contact applicants for passport collection within 5 working days from submission of their biometric information.

The services can be booked in advance at <https://visa.vfsglobal.com/ago/en/gbr> or the Visa Application Centre at the time of the appointment. These services are completely optional and have no bearing on the processing timeline and outcomes of visa applications.

As a partner to UK Visas and Immigration since 2003, VFS Global offered visa services in 58 countries before the new contract and has now been awarded the contract to provide UK visa services in 142 countries worldwide.

UK Visa Application Centre in Angola

Luanda: Rua 28 de Maio, Edifício Kende, 1 andar F – Maianga - Luanda

Website: <https://visa.vfsglobal.com/ago/en/gbr>

Business hours: 8 AM to 5 PM (Mon, Wed and Fri, except public holidays)

Passport collection: 12 PM to 3 PM (Mon, Wed and Fri, except public holidays)

*Please note that a pre-booked appointment is mandatory only for submission of applications. Appointments are not required for passport collection.

About VFS Global

As the world's leading outsourcing and technology service specialist, VFS Global embraces technological innovation including Generative AI to support governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. The company manages non-judgmental and administrative tasks related to applications for visa, passport, and consular services for its client governments, increasing productivity and enabling them to focus entirely on the critical task of assessment.

With a responsible approach to technology development, adoption and integration, the company prioritizes ethical practices and sustainability while serving as the trusted partner to 68 client governments. Operating over 3,500 Application Centres in 153 countries, VFS Global has efficiently processed more than 305 million applications since 2001.

Headquartered in Zurich and majority owned through investment funds managed by Blackstone Inc, along with the Swiss-based Kuoni and Hugentobler Foundation and EQT, VFS Global is committed to creating value for all stakeholders and leading in responsible, innovative solutions making government services more effective and efficient.

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