Factsheet - Death in the Cook Islands

To register a death with this Embassy and the authorities in Switzerland, you will need to submit the following documents:

- Death Certificate *
- Swiss passport and/or ID card of the deceased (for cancellation purposes)
- Prepaid, trackable, self-addressed international courier bag for the safe return of the cancelled passport. Please note that the death certificate will be sent to the Swiss authorities for registration and cannot be returned to you.

and, if applicable

- if the place of origin (“Heimatort”) of the deceased was in the Canton of Vaud (VD), the Death Certificate additionally needs to be certified with a so-called “Apostille” * (Death Certificates for the Canton of Vaud submitted without Apostille will be returned to the sender).

* Important: the Death Certificate (and, if applicable, the Apostille) must be the actual documents (no photocopies or scans!). They must have been issued within the last six months. If a document is older, a new one must be reissued.

Where to obtain the documents?

Death Certificate:

- Ministry of Justice, Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages
- Website www.justice.gov.ck, Email offices@justice.gov.ck
- or the Cook Islands High Commission in Wellington for application forms
- Phone: +64 4 497 5126 or Email: cookislands@cookhicom.org.nz

Apostille:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration, PO Box 105, 2nd Floor, Cold Store Building, Avarua, Rarotonga (Cook Islands)
- Website: www.mfai.gov.ck, Email secfa@mfai.cookislands.gov.ck
- Phone: (682) 29 347 or Fax: (682) 21 247

Where to send the documents?

Did you tick all the applicable boxes above?

If so, please send everything to the Embassy of Switzerland in Wellington (see address below).

Wellington, 18.03.2016