



Divorce in the Cook Islands: How to update the Swiss civil status register

14.04.2022

Documents to submit

- Divorcer order with Apostille**
 - Original order dissolving marriage/civil union or an original certified copy, issued within the last 6 months by the Court which granted the order (will not be returned to you)
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - with mention of date order made and date order sealed
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted

- Form “[Additional information to register a Divorce/Dissolution of Civil Union](#)”, signed by both parties within the last 6 months (with place and date)**

- If applicable: Custody order for your children with Apostille**
 - Original “Custody order” or an original certified copy, issued within the last 6 months by the Court which granted the order (will not be returned to you)
 - issued within the last 6 months. If the document is older, a new document must be ordered
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - with mention of date order made and date order sealed
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted

- If any document has not been issued by the Cook Islands authorities, please contact this representation.** We will then inform you about the criteria required for the non-Cook Islands documents. Additional documents and/or an advance payment may be required for the verification process, which can take several months.

Fees

Registration of the divorce/dissolution of partnership abroad in the Swiss civil status register is free of charge.

Translation

Documents that are not in a Swiss national language or in English must be translated.

See next page for further information

Further information

Where to obtain the documents?

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

Where to obtain the Apostille?

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration

P.O. Box 105, 2nd Floor, Cold Store Building, Avarua, Rarotonga (Cook Islands)

Website: www.mfai.gov.ck, Email secfa@mfai.gov.ck

Phone: +682 29 347

Where to send the documents?

Embassy of Switzerland

Level 12, 10 Customhouse Quay, Wellington 6011

PO Box 25004, Wellington 6140

New Zealand

Upon receipt of the relevant documents, the Embassy will translate and legalise the documents and forward them to the appropriate authority in Switzerland, so that the family details can be updated in the Swiss civil status register (Infostar); this takes on average 3-4 months.

The civil registrar authorities in Switzerland may request additional documents / information.