Embassy Spotlight: FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE

The U.S. Commercial Service at Embassy Luanda assists U.S. businesses interested in exporting goods and services to Angola. The five-person office is part of a global network of trade specialists dedicated to assisting U.S. companies enter markets worldwide and serves as the primary contact for U.S. exporters. For U.S. companies looking to start or expand their business in Angola, the Commercial Service offers trade counseling, market intelligence, business matchmaking, and commercial diplomacy. The Angola Country Commercial Guide that the Commercial Service puts together each year describes Angola’s market conditions, opportunities, regulations, and business customs and can be an invaluable resource.

Angola ranks as the third largest economy in Sub-Saharan Africa. As Angolan imports decreased from 2014 to 2016, U.S. exports to Angola fell by 34 percent, to $1.25 billion. Despite this decline, Angola remains the United States’ third largest export market in Sub-Saharan Africa. Aircraft, energy generation equipment, frozen chicken, railroad locomotives, and oil and gas equipment were the main categories of U.S. exports to Angola in 2016.

Angola offers a large market, a high rate of importation, relative safety, and a strong interest in U.S. technology, equipment, and solutions. The U.S. Commercial Service’s list of best prospects for U.S. export to Angola in 2017 includes agriculture, energy, health, fisheries and ports, and aviation and rail. To learn more, contact the Commercial Service at Office.Luanda@trade.gov.
What is a CRBA?

A child born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or parents may acquire U.S. citizenship at birth, depending on factors like how much time the parent has spent in the United States. If you have a child born in Angola who may qualify, learn more at the State Department CRBA page or contact the Consulate to learn about applying for a Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (CRBA) to document that the child is a U.S. citizen. If it is determined that the child acquired U.S. citizenship at birth, a consular officer will approve the CRBA application and the Department of State will issue a CRBA, also called a Form FS-240, in your child’s name.

A CRBA is proof of U.S. citizenship and may be used to obtain a U.S. passport and register for school, among other purposes. When you apply for a CRBA for your child, we recommend you also apply for a U.S. passport for him or her. Apply for a CRBA and passport for your child as soon as possible. Failure to promptly document a child who meets the requirements for acquiring U.S. citizenship at birth may cause problems when you attempt to establish your child’s U.S. citizenship later. By law, U.S. citizens, including dual nationals, must use a U.S. passport to enter and leave the United States.
Consular Contact Information
ConsularLuanda@state.gov
https://ao.usembassy.gov/
New address, update your bookmarks!
(244) 222-641-000 (business hours)
(244) 923-404-209 (after-hours emergencies)
Our American Citizen Services hours are 14:00 to 16:30, Monday through Thursday.
For notaries and non-emergency passport services, please make an appointment by going to: https://ao.usembassy.gov/.

STEP on It!
The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) registers you with the American Embassy during your time overseas. It allows us to contact you in case someone back home asks us to, or in case of a larger emergency or other announcement. You can go into the STEP system and specify what country you’ll be in on any given date. Please keep your and your family’s information updated -- it may be the only way we can find you in an emergency. You can enroll and edit your information online at: https://step.state.gov/step/.
You may also come in to the Consular Section and update your information during normal American Citizen Services hours.

Embassy Closure Dates
October 9   Columbus Day
November 2  Angolan Memorial Day
November 10  Veterans’ Day
November 23  Thanksgiving

Got an Idea?
This newsletter is for American citizens in Angola. What topics would you like to be informed about? How can we make this forum as useful as possible? Please send your comments and suggestions to: ACSLuanda@state.gov.