



## Refusal of a visa and appeal

A visa applicant can appeal against the refusal of his/her visa application either personally or through an authorized third person. The written appeal must be submitted within the stipulated deadline. Please note that we can only communicate with the applicant or an authorized third party during the appeal procedure. The appeal procedure is free of charge.

### Deadlines

For **Schengen visa**, the appeal must be submitted not later than 1 month starting from the date on the refusal letter.

For **national visa**, if the refusal letter contains no advice on applicable legal option, the appeal can be submitted not later than 1 year after the applicant has been notified of the refusal. For refusal letters with advice on applicable legal option, the deadline is 1 month. Applicants are deemed to be notified starting from the third day after a notification of refusal has been sent either via postal service or email.

A fresh application will be required after the expiration of the above stated deadlines.

### Form, content and language of your appeal

The appeal must be in written form and contain the following:

- First Name, surname and date of birth of the applicant
- Date and the reference number on the refusal letter
- Complete address and email address of the applicant
- An appeal letter signed personally by the applicant
- A power of attorney signed by the applicant if the appeal letter is written and signed by a third party
- New documents, which can refute the reasons for the refusal of your application, can be included. There is no need to resubmit documents that had already been submitted along with the application in the first instance.
- a prepaid courier service-envelope which is addressed to applicant so that we can return the passport and original documents (kindly ensure that the address on the envelope is legible to enable delivery).The Consulate General is unable to cover the postage fee.

Appeal against the refusal of Schengen visa application can be written in German or English language.

However, appeals against the refusal of a national visa application **must be written in German language** because some German authorities would have to be involved in the appeal procedure.

### **How to send the appeal**

The appeal can be sent to either of the following addresses:

Postal service:                      Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany  
   15, Walter Carrington Crescent  
   Victoria Island, Lagos  
   Federal Republic of Nigeria

**OR:**

E-Mail (as PDF Attachment):        [info@lago.auswaertiges-amt.de](mailto:info@lago.auswaertiges-amt.de)

### **Notification**

The appeal procedure can take up to several weeks. Please note that we are unable to respond to update requests.

If the Consulate General reaches the conclusion that the visa application can be granted after re-assessing the appeal, the applicant will be notified appropriately.

If the visa application remains denied after the re-assessment, a formal notification to that effect will be sent to the applicant. The notification will also contain advice on applicable legal option. The applicant can take legal action against the decision at the competent Administrative Court in Berlin.

The applicant can reapply afresh if the application is also refused during the appeal procedure.