



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COOPERATIVES

PRESS RELEASE

NEW TRADE LICENSING GUIDELINES FOR NON CITIZENS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014

In today's heavily liberalized, privatized and decentralized economic environment, very strong global, regional and domestic forces impact frequently, rapidly and diversely on the trade Sector. This has very serious Policy and Legal implications that are contained in our domestic, regional and multilateral trade agreements and has a bearing on private sector competitiveness and performance.

The National Trade Policy charges Government with the primary role of liberalizing trade while taking cognizance of the possible negative effects on employment and trade as a development tool among others. This position is reiterated in the National Development Plan which recognizes trade as a complementary sector and a major employer for Ugandans in all value chains. Government is committed to take deliberate interventions in areas related to trade regulations by eliminating trade distorting practices such as anti competitive practices posed by dominance of value chains.

In order to regulate these growing trade distorting practices and to ensure compliance with domestic, regional and multilateral trade obligations, this Ministry has issued the following new guidelines;

- i. In accordance with Section 10 (5) of the Uganda Investment Code Act, a Certificate of Approval for Non Citizens to conduct trading only in Uganda, will be issued by this Ministry with commencement from Calendar Year 2014.

- ii. In accordance with Section 5 and 29 of the Trade (Licensing) act Cap 101, no Trading Licensee shall be issued to non-citizens prior to presentation of the above Certificate. All Local and Urban Authorities, Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) are directed to demand for the above Certificate from non-citizens applying for a Trading License for Calendar Year 2014.
- iii. All non-citizens applying for Class D (Business and Trade) Entry Permit as provided for in the Fourth Schedule of the Uganda Citizenship and Immigration Control Act Cap 66 must present this Certificate. This Procedure will be to ensure compliance with Uganda's commitments in the East African Community, Common Market Protocol Annex V and the World Trade Organization trade in services Agreement.
- iv. Application and Certificates of Approval shall be processed within 48 hours.

Application forms for this Certificate can be obtained from Room 320, Plot 6/8 Farmers' House, Parliament, Kampala or downloaded from the Ministry's Website at www.mtic.go.ug

This communication serves to inform all Local and Urban Authorities, KCCA and Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control of these guidelines and request you to ensure compliance in your respective areas of jurisdiction.

Amelia Kyambadde (MP)
MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COOPERATIVES

1st November, 2013