

## REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN Apostille Questionnaire 2021

The responses are reflected as provided by Contracting Parties subject to minor typographical corrections.

Joining the Apostille Convention	
1. Did you join the Convention after 2010?	[a] Yes.
<i>For Parties that joined the Convention after 2010.</i> 1.1. Did you require implementing legislation to give the Apostille Convention the force of law?	Yes. <i>Law of Republic of Uzbekistan On the accession of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization of Foreign Official Documents (The Hague, October 5, 1961) (04.04.2011)</i> <a href="https://lex.uz/docs/1765612">https://lex.uz/docs/1765612</a>
2. Are foreign public documents exempted from legalisation by virtue of your internal law, practice, or any bilateral / multilateral agreements (excluding the Apostille Convention)?	[b] Yes, under bilateral / multilateral agreements. <i>Convention on legal assistance and legal relations in civil, family and criminal cases (Kishinev, 7th of October 2002)</i>
Competent Authorities	
3. How many Competent Authorities have you designated under the Apostille Convention? <i>If unknown, please specify the reason for this and provide an approximate number.</i>	5 different official bodies (General Attorney`s Office, Supreme Court, Justice Departments (14), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Inspect on monitoring the quality of education)
4. Do your diplomatic missions abroad play a role in the Apostille issuance process?	[d] No.
Substantive Scope	
5. Is the concept of 'public document' defined in your internal law?	[a] Yes. <i>Law on administrative procedures</i>  <i>Administrative act - a measure of influence of an administrative body aimed at creating, changing or terminating public legal relations and giving rise to certain legal consequences for individual individuals or legal entities or a group of persons, distinguished according to certain individual characteristics;</i> <i>The administrative act should be in writing form.</i> <i>A written administrative act is signed by an authorized official of the administrative body or members of a collegial body and sealed with the seal of the administrative body.</i>
6. Have you experienced any difficulties in characterising a 'public document' for the purposes of the Apostille Convention?	[b] No.
7. Has the exclusion of 'documents executed by diplomatic or consular agents' (Art. 1(3)(a)) from the scope of the Apostille Convention given rise to any difficulties?	[c] No.
8. Do you think this Art. 1(3)(a) exclusion is justified in the context of the modern operation of the Convention?	[a] Yes.

9.	Has the exclusion of 'administrative documents dealing directly with commercial or customs operations' (Art. 1(3)(b)) from the scope of the Apostille Convention given rise to any difficulties?	[c] No.		
10.	Do you think this Art. 1(3)(b) exclusion is justified in the context of the modern operation of the Convention?	[a] Yes.		
11.	Do you issue (outgoing) or accept (incoming) Apostilles for any of the following categories of document?		Issue	Accept
		Certificates of origin		
		Export licences		
		Import licences		
		Health and safety certificates issued by the relevant government authorities or agencies	X	X
		Certificates of products registration		
		Certificates of conformity		
		End user certificates (i.e. documents certifying that the buyer is the end user of acquired goods)		
	Commercial invoices			
<b>Apostille Process</b>				
<b>Certification of Public Documents</b>				
12.	Do any of your public documents require some other intermediate certification before the issuance of an Apostille?	[a] Yes, an intermediate certification is required for some categories of public documents.		
<i>For Parties that answered yes to Q12.</i>		Category of public document	Why certification is required	
12.1. What categories of public document require intermediate certification and why?		Translation of some documents should be notarized	For Apostille issuance needs/legalisation, and sending them abroad then.	
<b>Requesting an Apostille (Outgoing)</b>				
13.	How can an Apostille be requested?	[a]	In person.	X
		[b]	By post.	
		[c]	By email.	
		[d]	Through a website.	
		[e]	Other.	
14.	When issuing an Apostille, do you enquire about the State of destination?	[a] Yes, in the application form.		

15. How long does it take for an Apostille to be issued?	In-person request (paper Apostille)	Other requests (from the time of receipt) (paper Apostille)	e-Apostille requests
	Within five working days		
16. Does your Competent Authority impose a fee for issuing an Apostille?	<p>[b] Yes, but the price is dependent on, for example, the category of public document(s), the Competent Authority, or the type of application.</p> <p>4.6\$ - for education documents and documents, issued from official bodies of MoJ.</p> <p>2.3\$ - for other documents</p>		
<b>Issuing an Apostille (Outgoing)</b>			
17. How is the origin of a public document verified for the purpose of issuing an Apostille (i.e. verification of the authenticity of the signature, the capacity of the signer, and the identity of the seal / stamp (Art. 5(2)))?	<p>[b] Multiple Competent Authorities.</p> <p>[iii] Multiple separate databases of sample signatures / seals / stamps, all in paper form.</p>		
18. How does a Competent Authority address situations where it is unable to verify the origin of the public document?	<p>[b] The Competent Authority will contact the issuing authority to confirm authenticity but will not issue the Apostille until the new signature, stamp or seal is added to the database.</p>		
19. In what language(s) are the 10 standard items of your Apostilles available?	<p>[b] In two languages.</p> <p>English, Uzbek</p>		
20. In what language(s) are the blank fields of your Apostilles filled in?	<p>[b] In two languages.</p> <p>English, Uzbek</p>		
21. How are the blank fields of your Apostilles filled in?	<p>[a] By hand.</p>		
<b>Apostille Registers</b>			
22. How is your Apostille register, required by Article 7, maintained?	<p>[b] Multiple Competent Authorities.</p> <p>[vi] Other.</p> <p>A separate register for each Competent Authority, all in paper form.</p>		
23. What particulars are contained in your Apostille register?	[a] Number and date of the Apostille (required).		X
	[b] Name and capacity of the person signing the document and / or the name of authority whose seal or stamp is affixed (required).		X
	[c] Name and / or type of underlying document.		X
	[d] Description of the contents of underlying document.		
	[e] Name of the applicant.		
	[f] State of destination.		X
	[g] Copy of the Apostille.		
	[h] Copy of the underlying document.		
	[i] Other.		
24. Is there a limit to how long records can be retained on the Apostille register?	<p>[d] No.</p>		

25. If your register is <i>not</i> publicly accessible, how frequently do your Competent Authorities receive requests to verify an Apostille they have issued in the register?	[f] Unknown.																																		
<b>Technology &amp; the e-APP</b>																																			
26. Under your internal law, do you recognise electronic / digital signatures as functionally equivalent to handwritten signatures (i.e. can a public document be signed electronically)?	[a] Yes. <i>Law on ELECTRONIC DIGITAL SIGNATURE</i> <a href="https://www.lex.uz/acts/64424">https://www.lex.uz/acts/64424</a>																																		
27. Under your internal law, are public documents executed, or able to be executed, in electronic form (whether or not they are to be used abroad under the Convention)?	[a] Yes.																																		
<p><i>For Parties that answered yes to Q27.</i></p> <p>27.1. What categories of public documents are executed, or able to be executed, in electronic form (whether or not they are to be used abroad under the Convention)?</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 640 1366 689">[a] All public documents.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 640 1442 689"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 698 1366 792">[b] Civil status documents (e.g. birth, death and marriage certificates) and certificates of non-impediment.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 698 1442 792"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 801 1366 896">[c] Other administrative documents (including decisions from administrative tribunals or decision-making bodies).</td> <td data-bbox="1372 801 1442 896" style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 904 1366 972">[d] Extracts from commercial registers and other registers.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 904 1442 972" style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 981 1366 1030">[e] Notarial authentications of signatures.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 981 1442 1030"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1039 1366 1088">[f] Other notarial acts.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1039 1442 1088"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1097 1366 1164">[g] Diplomas and other education documents.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1097 1442 1164"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1173 1366 1223">[h] Court documents, including judgments.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1173 1442 1223"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1232 1366 1299">[i] Patents or other documents pertaining to intellectual property rights.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1232 1442 1299"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1308 1366 1357">[j] Documents relating to adoptions.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1308 1442 1357"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1366 1366 1415">[k] Translations.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1366 1442 1415"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1424 1366 1473">[l] Medical or health certificates.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1424 1442 1473"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1482 1366 1532">[m] Criminal records.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1482 1442 1532" style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1541 1366 1590">[n] Import or export licences.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1541 1442 1590" style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1599 1366 1648">[o] Certificates of origin.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1599 1442 1648"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1657 1366 1706">[p] Certificates of conformity.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1657 1442 1706"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="810 1715 1366 1765">[q] Other.</td> <td data-bbox="1372 1715 1442 1765"></td> </tr> </table>	[a] All public documents.		[b] Civil status documents (e.g. birth, death and marriage certificates) and certificates of non-impediment.		[c] Other administrative documents (including decisions from administrative tribunals or decision-making bodies).	X	[d] Extracts from commercial registers and other registers.	X	[e] Notarial authentications of signatures.		[f] Other notarial acts.		[g] Diplomas and other education documents.		[h] Court documents, including judgments.		[i] Patents or other documents pertaining to intellectual property rights.		[j] Documents relating to adoptions.		[k] Translations.		[l] Medical or health certificates.		[m] Criminal records.	X	[n] Import or export licences.	X	[o] Certificates of origin.		[p] Certificates of conformity.		[q] Other.	
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<p><i>For Parties that answered yes to Q27.</i></p> <p>27.2. Approximately what percentage of your public documents are originally executed in electronic form (whether or not they are to be used abroad under the Convention)?</p>	26%																																		

28. Do you issue e-Apostilles?	<p>[b] No.</p> <p>[i] We are studying the use of e-Apostilles and plan to implement the e-Apostille component.  <i>Drafts of legal document were prepared and sent to the Government.</i>  <i>We are waiting for adoption now and working on technical aspects of automated data system.</i></p>	
<p><i>For Parties that answered no to Q28.</i></p> <p>28.1. What challenges are you facing that may prevent you from implementing the e-Apostille?</p>	[a] Internal law limitations.	
	[b] Judicial or administrative structure.	
	[c] Implementation challenges (e.g. lack of resources, lack of infrastructure).	
	[d] Cost.	
	[e] System interoperability / compatibility.	
	[f] Security concerns.	
	<p>[g] Other.  <i>Drafts of legal document were prepared and sent to the Government.</i>  <i>We are waiting for adoption now and working on technical aspects of automated data system.</i></p>	X
<p><i>For Parties that answered no to Q28.</i></p> <p>28.2. How do you issue an Apostille for a public document executed in electronic form?</p>	<p>[c] Other.  <i>Documents should be signed and stamped by official bodies</i></p>	
29. Are your authorities equipped to accept incoming e-Apostilles?	[a] Yes, all e-Apostilles can be processed.	
30. Do you maintain an e-Register?	<p>[b] No.</p> <p>[i] We are studying the use of an e-Register and plan to implement the e-Register component.  <i>Drafts of legal document were prepared and sent to the Government.</i>  <i>We are waiting for adoption now and working on technical aspects of automated data system.</i></p>	
<p><i>For Parties that answered no to Q30.</i></p> <p>30.1. What challenges are you facing that may prevent you from implementing the e-Register?</p>	[a] Internal law limitations.	
	[b] Judicial or administrative structure.	
	[c] Implementation challenges (e.g. lack of resources, lack of infrastructure).	
	[d] Cost.	
	[e] System interoperability / compatibility.	
	[f] Security concerns.	
	<p>[g] Other.  <i>Drafts of legal document were prepared and sent to the Government.</i>  <i>We are waiting for adoption now and working on technical aspects of automated data system.</i></p>	X
31. Have you been in contact with other Competent Authorities that operate an e-APP component and exchanged information and / or relevant experience?	<p>[a] Yes.  <i>Georgia</i></p>	

Issues with Apostilles			
32. Has an Apostille <i>issued</i> by your Competent Authority ever been refused by the authorities of another Contracting Party on the following grounds:	[a]	Form requirements (e.g. square-shaped, sides of at least nine centimetres, border, ink, etc).	
	[b]	The manner in which the Apostille was affixed / attached to the underlying document.	
	[c]	The Apostille was not signed.	
	[d]	One or more of the standard informational items were not filled in.	
	[e]	The Apostille was in electronic form ( <i>an e-Apostille</i> ).	
	[f]	The underlying public document was in electronic form.	
	[g]	The underlying public document had expired / was not issued within a certain timeframe.	
	[h]	The underlying document was not a public document under the law of the destination.	
	[i]	Other.	
	[j]	Unknown.	X
	[k]	No / Not applicable.	
33. Has your Competent Authority ever been requested by external Competent Authorities to certify or confirm your procedure for issuing Apostilles?	[a]	Yes.	
34. Has an Apostille <i>received</i> by your authorities ever been refused on the following grounds:	[a]	The issuing State was not a Contracting Party to the Apostille Convention.	
	[b]	Form requirements (e.g. square-shaped, sides of at least nine centimetres, border, ink, etc).	
	[c]	The manner in which the Apostille was affixed / attached to the underlying document.	
	[d]	The Apostille was not signed.	
	[e]	One or more of the standard informational items were not filled in.	
	[f]	The Apostille was in electronic form ( <i>an e-Apostille</i> ).	
	[g]	The underlying public document was in electronic form.	

	[h] The underlying public document had expired / was not issued within a certain timeframe.	
	[i] The underlying document was not a public document under the law of the destination.	
	[j] Other.	
	[k] Unknown.	
	[l] No / Not applicable.	X
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
35. Would you be interested in attending the 2021 meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the Apostille Convention?	[b] Yes, via videoconference.	
36. Have you encountered any persistent difficulties, issues, or challenges in the operation of the Apostille Convention that you would like discussed at the 2021 Special Commission? <i>If yes, would you like your answer to this question to be published without reference to your authority or State?</i>	[b] No.	
37. Do you have any suggestions that could assist in the promotion, implementation, or operation of the Apostille Convention? <i>If yes, would you like your answer to this question to be published without reference to your authority or State?</i>	[b] No.	
38. Would you be interested in attending the 12 <sup>th</sup> International Forum on the e-APP (to be held in conjunction with the meeting of the Special Commission)?	[a] Yes, if possible, in person.	