UK — AO CONNECT The UK-Angola Chamber of Commerce

UK-AO CONNECT · BUSINESS GUIDE

Opening a Company in Angola

A step-by-step guide to incorporating and registering your business, for local entrepreneurs and foreign investors.

TYPICAL TIMEFRAME	LEAD AUTHORITY	MOST COMMON FORM
3-10 business days	Guiché Único da Empresa	Sociedade por Quotas (Lda)

Angola has consolidated company formation into a single one-stop shop, the Guiché Único da Empresa (GUE). This guide walks you through each step, from reserving your name to obtaining your operating licence, and flags the additional requirements that apply to foreign investors.

1 Choose your business structure

Sociedade por Quotas LDA

The most common form. One or more partners; capital freely set; liability limited to contributions. Ideal for SMEs and joint ventures.

Sociedade Anónima S.A.

For larger ventures. Capital divided into shares, board governance, broader shareholder base.

Empresário em Nome Individual

Sole trader, the simplest route, but with unlimited personal liability.

Sucursal / Representação

A branch or representative office of an existing foreign company operating in Angola.

TIP

Most UK investors entering Angola incorporate a **Sociedade por Quotas (Lda)**, frequently as a joint venture with a trusted local partner.

2 The incorporation steps

1 Reserve your company name

Apply for the **Certificado de Admissibilidade** (name approval) through the GUE. Have two or three name options ready in case your first choice is taken.

2 Prepare the Articles of Association

Define the partners, corporate object, share capital and management in the **Pacto Social**. Standard companies use a simplified template; bespoke structures require a public deed (**Escritura Pública**) before a notary.

3 Constitute the company at the GUE

Submit in person or online via the GUE portal. Standard companies can be formed the same day under **"Empresa na Hora"**. The GUE consolidates the notarial, registration and publication acts.

4 Obtain the company NIF

Your **Número de Identificação Fiscal** (taxpayer number) is issued through the GUE flow and is required for every step that follows.

5 Deposit the share capital

Open a corporate account at a commercial bank and deposit the subscribed capital where your chosen structure requires it.

6 Commercial registration & publication

Registration at the Conservatória do Registo Comercial and official publication of the incorporation are completed within the GUE process.

7 Register for tax (Início de Actividade)

Declare the start of activity with the **AGT** (tax authority). Register for VAT (IVA) if turnover is expected to exceed the mandatory threshold.

8 Register with social security (INSS)

Enrol the company and its employees with the **INSS** before hiring.

9 Obtain your operating licence

Apply for the commercial licence (**Alvará**) and any activity-specific permits your sector requires.

3 For foreign investors: AIPEX & the Private Investment Law

Basic company formation does **not** require AIPEX. However, registering your investment with **AIPEX**, our institutional partner and Angola's Private Investment & Export Promotion Agency, unlocks important benefits:

- A **Certificado de Registo de Investimento Privado (CRIP)**, your legal title to the investment.
- The right to **repatriate dividends and profits** abroad.
- Access to **tax and customs incentives** by sector and development zone.

MEMBER PERK

We open the right doors

Beyond the paperwork, UK-AO Connect makes warm introductions to vetted local partners, lawyers and accountants, and liaises with our partner **AIPEX** on your behalf, so you incorporate with the right people around you.

NOTE

AIPEX filing is **mandatory** for projects seeking incentives or above the statutory investment threshold. Foreign individual shareholders need a passport with a valid visa (or residence permit) and an Angolan NIF to be named in the company.

4 Documents checklist

- Identity documents (BI / passport) of all partners and managers
- Angolan NIF for each partner and for the company
- Approved name certificate (Certificado de Admissibilidade)
- Articles of Association (Pacto Social)
- Proof of registered office address
- Bank proof of share-capital deposit (where applicable)
- Foreign investors: AIPEX filing / CRIP (where incentives are sought)

5 Key authorities

GUE, Guiché Único da Empresa

Company formation one-stop shop

gue.gov.ao

AGT, Administração Geral Tributária

Tax registration & NIF

AIPEX

Private investment & incentives, our institutional partner

INSS

Social-security registration for employees

THE CHAMBER IS YOUR SAFE SPACE

One trusted network, the right people, properly introduced

UK-AO Connect is a neutral, members-only forum where you meet vetted professional service providers and our institutional partners under one roof. No cold calls and no guesswork: we make warm, relevant introductions so you can build your business on solid ground, in either market.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER **AIPEX · Private Investment & Export Promotion Agency**

& we engage with government, trade & diplomatic bodies across both markets

Legal & Regulatory Law firms, compliance	**Tax & Accounting** Accountants, auditors	**Banking & Finance** Corporate banks, FX
Insurance & Risk Cover, bonds, guarantees	**Real Estate & Workspace** Offices, industrial, land	**Market-Entry Consulting** Strategy, due diligence
Logistics & Customs Freight, brokers, warehousing	**HR, Payroll & Recruitment** Hiring & employment	**Translation & Liaison** Interpreting, local fixers
Technology & Telecoms IT & connectivity	**Construction & Engineering** Projects & EPC	**Travel & Relocation** Visas, accommodation

Tell us what you need and we will introduce you to the right member partner, **info@ukaoconnect.com**.

This guide is provided by UK-AO Connect for general information only and does not constitute legal, tax or immigration advice. Procedures, thresholds, fees and rules change frequently. Always confirm current requirements with the relevant authority or a qualified adviser before acting.

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