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Company Registration in the DRC

The Complete Checklist & Cost Guide for Foreign Investors (2026)

Foreign ownership	Up to 100% (equal treatment)	**Authority**	GUCE (single window)
Timeline	~2-4 weeks end-to-end	**Legal framework**	OHADA
Corporate tax	~30% (VAT 16%)	**Min. capital**	None for SARL / SAS

1. Before you start

- [ ] Choose your OHADA structure: SARL (most foreign SMEs), SAS (multi-investor), SA (large / capital-raising)
- [ ] For a short-term or regulated-sector presence, consider a branch or representative office (max 2 years)
- [ ] Confirm shareholders and directors (a director need not reside in the DRC)
- [ ] Secure a registered physical business address in the DRC
- [ ] Note: 100% foreign ownership is allowed; no minimum capital for SARL / SAS (SA from ~USD 20,000)
- [ ] Check whether your sector is regulated (mining, hydrocarbons, banking, insurance, telecoms)

2. Name & Articles of Association

- [ ] Prepare 3 preferred company names and check availability
- [ ] Draft OHADA-compliant Articles of Association (objectives, capital, governance, shareholder rights)
- [ ] Have the Articles notarised by a licensed DRC notary (typically 4 copies)
- [ ] Open a local bank capital account and obtain proof of the capital contribution

3. Documents to prepare

- [ ] Notarised Articles of Association
- [ ] Copies of directors' and shareholders' passports / IDs
- [ ] Passport-sized photographs of all directors and shareholders
- [ ] Postal, physical and email addresses, phone numbers and occupations of all parties
- [ ] Share apportionment (allocation of shares among shareholders)
- [ ] Branch/rep office (extra): notarised board/General Assembly resolution approving the DRC office

4. Register with the GUCE (single window)

- ☐ Submit the request letter, notarised Articles, IDs and proof of capital to the GUCE
- ☐ Receive your RCCM (Trade & Personal Property Credit Register) number
- ☐ Receive your IDN (National Identification Number)
- ☐ Receive your Numero Impot (tax number) from the Directorate General of Taxes (DGI)
- ☐ Targeted processing ~3 days; corporate filing cost ~USD 80

5. After registration

- ☐ Register with the CNSS (social security); register with ONEM if you will hire staff
- ☐ Declare foreign capital contributions to the Central Bank of Congo (for repatriation)
- ☐ Open a corporate bank account with your Certificate of Registration
- ☐ Obtain any sector-specific licences (mining / telecoms / banking / energy)
- ☐ File annual financial statements and tax returns (audited accounts for an SA)
- ☐ Arrange a residence permit / visa for any resident foreign director

6. Foreign investors - don't forget

- ☐ 100% foreign ownership and equal treatment to nationals under the Investment Code
- ☐ Profits and dividends can be repatriated freely once capital is declared to the Central Bank
- ☐ ANAPI approval unlocks tax/customs incentives - indicative min. investment ~USD 200,000
- ☐ A branch (Succursale) is capped at 2 years - plan a subsidiary for long-term operations
- ☐ Regulated sectors (mining, hydrocarbons, banking, insurance, telecoms) need separate approvals
- ☐ DRC is a member of the EAC, COMESA, SADC and ECCAS - a large combined regional market

Let Afrisetup register your DRC company - remotely, from anywhere.
We handle Articles & notarisation, GUCE filing, CNSS/ONEM, ANAPI incentives and compliance.
Get your fixed all-in quote at afrisetup.com/drc/contact-us

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