

Is your business looking to set up a branch or subsidiary in the UK? The Representative of an Overseas Business Visa (also known as Sole Representative) is the perfect route for Ghanaian companies and organisations seeking to establish or expand their business in the UK.

This visa route allows your business to send a Senior Employee, together with their family, to the UK to set up a registered UK branch or a wholly owned subsidiary. The category is open to all industry types and is also suitable for an Employee of a Newspaper, News Agency or Broadcasting Organisation posted on a long-term assignment to the UK.

### **Eligibility**

To qualify for this route, your business must not already have an active branch, subsidiary or representative in the UK. Your business must have been actively trading in Ghana or a country other than the UK for over a year and must intend to continue to have its headquarters and principal place of business outside the UK.

The UK Home Office has the following requirements for the REPRESENTATIVE OF AN OVERSEAS BUSINESS visa – the Sole Representative must:

- Be a genuine representative of the Overseas Business
- Have been recruited and employed outside the UK by the Overseas Business they intend to represent
- Intend to work full-time as a Representative of that Overseas Business only
- Have the skills, experience and knowledge to perform the role
- Hold a senior position within the Overseas Company (but not own or control the majority of it) and have full authority to make decisions on the Company's behalf
- Have enough funds to support themselves and their family in the UK without recourse to public funds
- Have a level of English Language equivalent to level A1 or above of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework for Language Learning (CEFR)
- Intend to establish the Overseas Company's first commercial presence in the UK, either as a registered branch or a wholly owned subsidiary
- Provide a valid Tuberculosis (TB) certificate if they are residing within a country listed in **Appendix T** of the **Immigration Rules**, for 6 months immediately before the date of Application.

If the Application for a Representative of an Overseas Business Visa is successful, the representative of your business will be granted with an initial 3-year period of leave. Following this, they may apply for an Extension for further leave to remain in the UK for 2 years. After 5 years of continuous residence in the UK, they will be eligible to apply for Settlement (Indefinite Leave to Remain) and then Naturalisation as a British Citizen a year later.

If you would like us to assist you with your application for a REPRESENTATIVE OF AN OVERSEAS BUSINESS visa, kindly visit our website [www.garthcoates.com](http://www.garthcoates.com) to leave us an enquiry or email us at [info@garthcoates.com](mailto:info@garthcoates.com). Alternatively, we can be reached via telephone at (00 44) (0)20 7799 1600 from 9:30AM – 5:30PM (UTC+00.00 London) every Monday to Friday.

Established in 2008, Garth Coates Solicitors is a leading Law Firm in Immigration, which provides professional legal advice to ensure that your Application satisfies the strict requirements of the *Immigration Rules*.

Our team of experienced legal professionals offer comprehensive and considered advice to enable our clients to make informed choices. We strongly believe that our clients deserve the best; we take our responsibilities very seriously and ensure that client satisfaction is achieved by providing a professional yet friendly legal service. We aim to resolve all immigration matters brought to us by working diligently and together with the client, keeping them informed of the progress of their case at all stages. Our outstanding success rate is maintained thanks to the high standard of our work.