Births Deaths and Marriages (BDM)/home affairs are now selectively refusing to provide a certified copy of their “certificate of live birth/information of birth/birth registration statement”/”application for citizenship” (which are the precusor document to the birth certificate/citizenship cerificate).

What the parasite gatekeepers don’t understand is all they have done is make our lives easier!

So still follow the process and ask them to certify it in the first instance, BUT if you get a letter back saying they wont do it, then don’t get agitated, simply include that letter as part of your package, because that is your remedy, and it then removes the need to get it authenticated.

This is because the authentication process is the department of foreign affairs and trade (DFAT) looking at the signature of the person certifying from BDM/home affairs that the document is a true, complete and correct copy and then DFAT matches that signature against a signature that they already hold on their own records to confirm it’s the same.

If they don’t certify the copy at BDM/home affairs it means that DFAT cannot do the authentication, it simply takes that step out of the equation, and also saves you the extra $50 odd to have it certified as a true copy from BDM/home affairs and the extra $110 to have it authenticated by DFAT.

Just ensure to add the following paragraph into the “Notice for Clarification”, only leaving in the actual title of the document where you have to alter this bit live birth/information of birth/birth registration statement/application for citizenship :

“For your Notice, although One sometimes refers within the documents herein to the live birth/information of birth/birth registration statement/application for citizenship as being authenticated, unfortunately Births Deaths and Marriages refused to provide their service of certifying the copy as true, complete and correct as per the included document with whateverdate written by whoever, and One cannot be compelled to do the impossible; however One holds the legitimate expectation that the chain of custody has remained unbroken and One hereby makes claim that it is the equivalent of the original in evidence and as such is thereby an authenticated copy in effect.”

And then just include a photocopy of the live birth/information of birth/birth registration statement/application for citizenship and include a photocopy of the statement from bdm/home affairs (keeping the originals for your records).