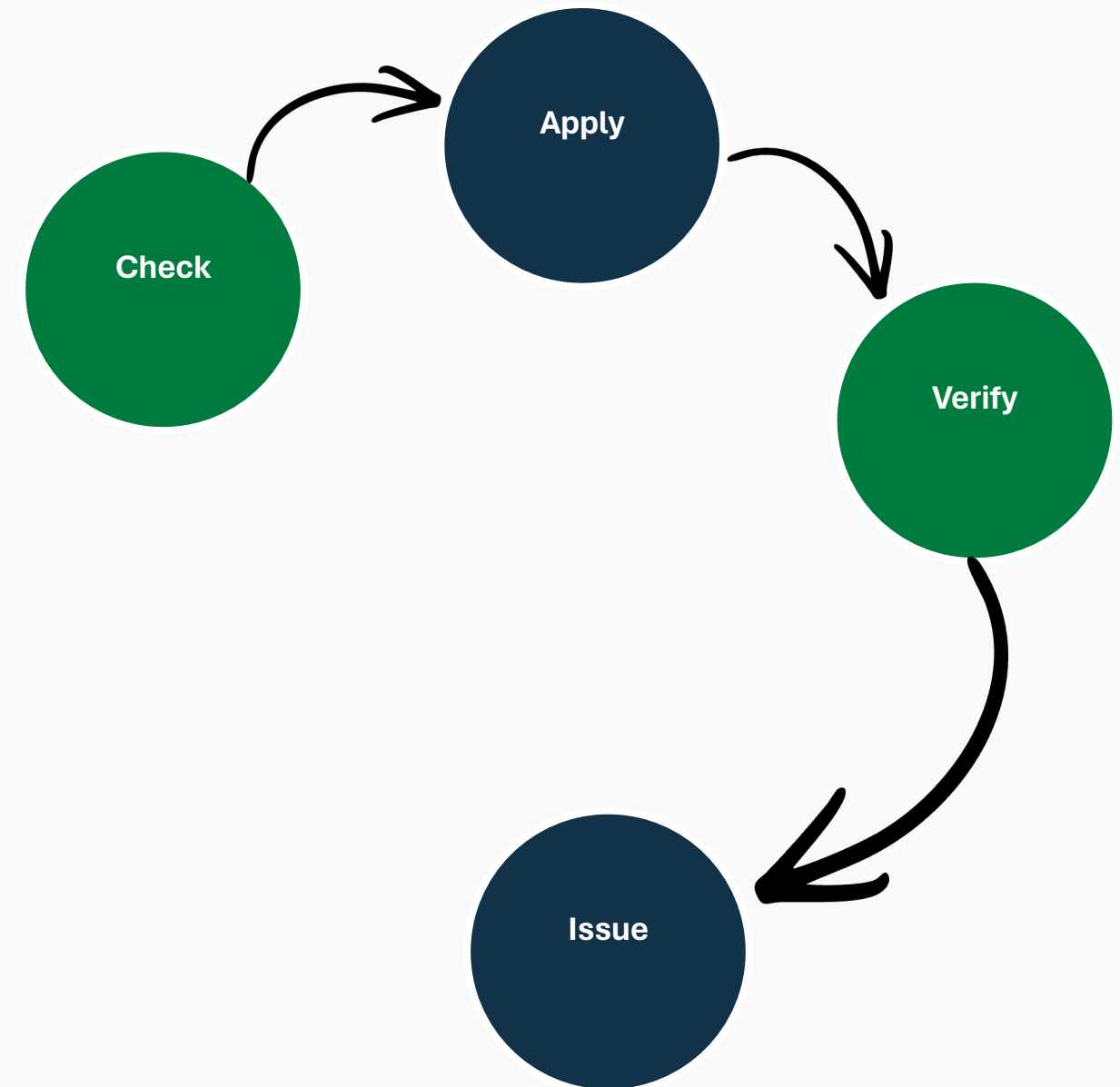




AfCFTA Origin Certification Procedure

From origin qualification to certificate issuance



Rules of origin turn tariff preference into controlled, lawful trade.



Step 1: Confirm that the product meets AfCFTA origin criteria

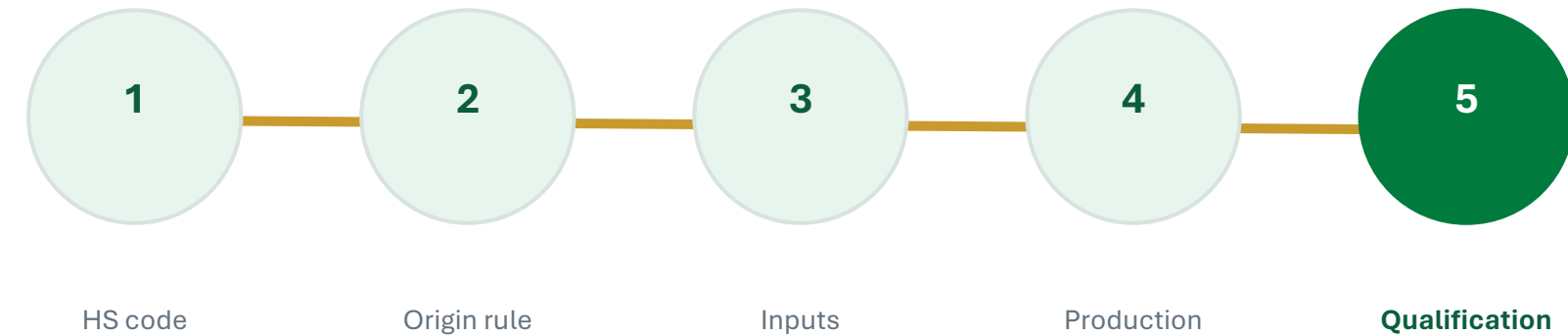
Exporter pre-check

Start with the product, not the paperwork.

A certificate should only be requested after the exporter has a reasonable basis to claim AfCFTA origin.

Origin test

- Identify the correct HS code of the final product.
- Check the applicable AfCFTA product-specific rule.
- Confirm whether the goods are wholly obtained or sufficiently worked in Nigeria.
- Map imported inputs against the origin rule, including value, classification and processing.



Practical point

When the origin position is unclear, seek an advance ruling on origin or prepare stronger production and costing evidence before shipment.



Step 2: Confirm destination market readiness and tariff commitment

Market access check

AfCFTA preference also depends on the importing country.

Use the AfCFTA tariff portal to confirm whether the destination country is ready to trade the product under its commitments.

tariff.au-afcfta.org/mapsearch

Importing country

Product HS code

Tariff offer

What to confirm

- The destination country is an AfCFTA State Party ready to trade in goods under the arrangement.
- The product is covered by the importing country's tariff schedule or specific commitment.
- The preferential rate gives a real benefit compared with the normal import duty.
- Any staging, exclusion or sensitive-list treatment has been checked before shipment.

No confirmed commitment, no safe claim for AfCFTA preference.



Step 3: Confirm export and destination regulatory requirements

Standards, SPS and TBT

Origin does not replace product compliance.

AfCFTA harmonization is gradual, so exporters must still check the importing country's current requirements.

Standards	product standards, conformity assessment, labelling and packaging
Food safety	SPS permits, health certificates, inspection and shelf-life requirements
Export controls	sector approvals, prohibited or restricted goods, quality certification
Documentation	licences, certificates, test reports and destination-specific forms

A valid origin claim may still fail commercially if standards, SPS or destination import requirements are not met.

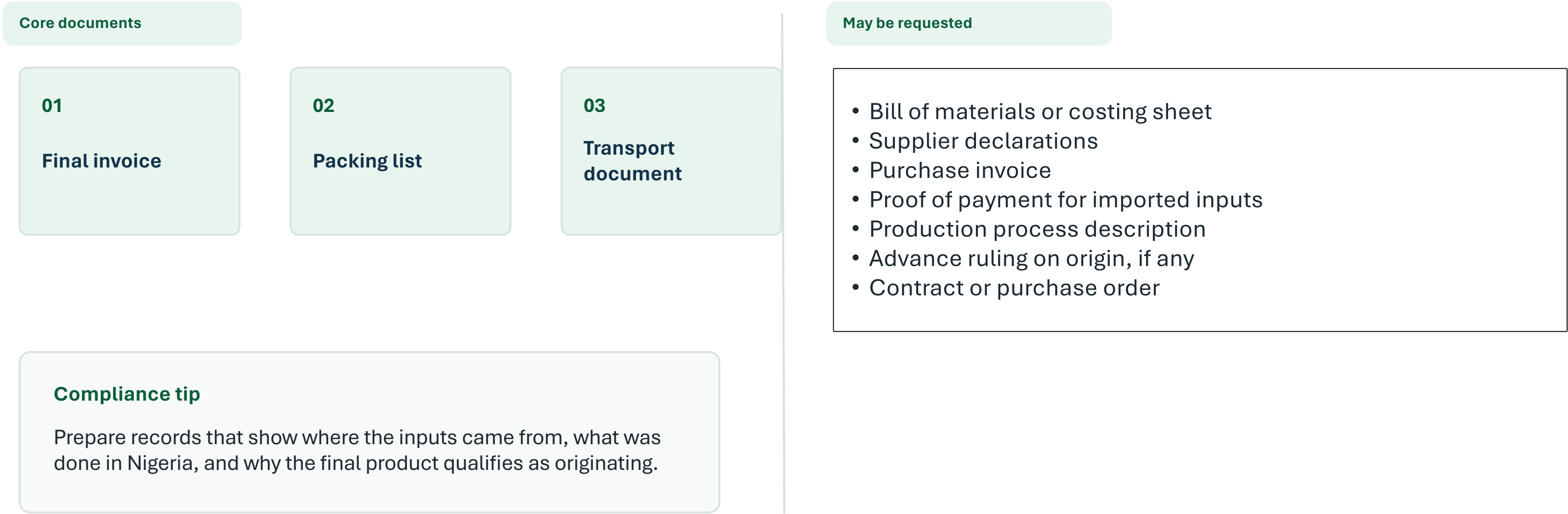


Step 4: Prepare the evidence file before applying

Document readiness

The quality of the evidence determines the speed of review.

Keep documents consistent across description, HS code, quantity, value, buyer, seller and shipment details.





Step 5: Submit the certificate request online

Application portal

Apply through the Nigeria Trade Hub Certificate of Origin portal

coo.nigeriatraderhub.gov.ng

Certificate of Origin Request

Log in or register

1

Complete exporter, consignee and shipment details

2

Select the relevant certificate type and product information

3

Attach all required and supporting documents

4

Submit the request and respond promptly to queries

Do not ship on assumption. Submit with a clear origin basis and a complete evidence trail.



Once compliance is confirmed, the certificate of origin is issued.

Current process

- NCS issues the certificate after satisfactory review.
- The exporter or representative presently collects the certificate at NCS Headquarters.
- This manual pickup arrangement is temporary.

Transition under way

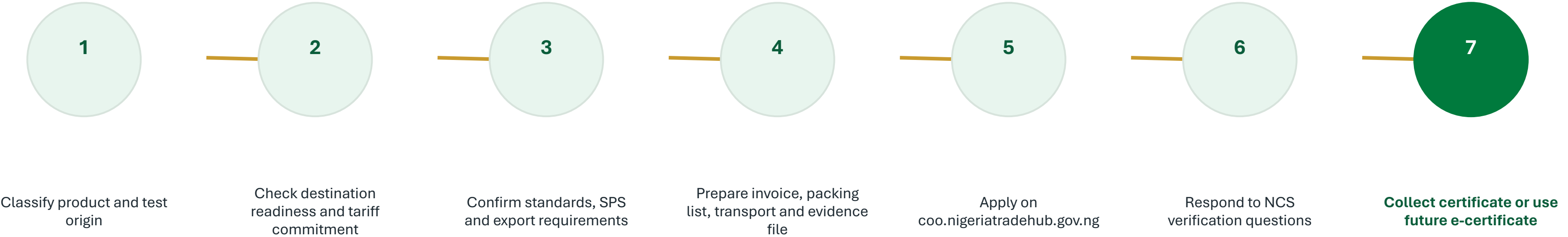
- AfCFTA e-certificate of origin implementation is at an advanced stage.
- Full implementation will reduce physical movement and improve verification between customs administrations.
- Exporters should prepare to keep clearer electronic records.



End-to-end AfCFTA origin certification flow

Process view

A simple sequence exporters can follow before shipment.



Exporter discipline before submission reduces delay during Customs verification.



Exporter checklist before requesting an AfCFTA certificate

Practical close

Use this checklist before logging into the portal.



Origin

HS code confirmed, origin rule checked, inputs and production records ready



Market access

Importing country readiness, tariff commitment and preference checked



Regulatory

Standards, food safety, permits and destination requirements reviewed



Documents

Final invoice, packing list and transport document prepared



Evidence

BOM, costing sheet, supplier declarations and imported input evidence available



Portal

Application completed on coo.nigeriatraderhub.gov.ng with clear attachments

Final rule: never treat the certificate as a formality. Treat it as an origin compliance file.



Reference points for further verification

Sources

Core reference sources

AfCFTA e-Tariff Book and map search	tariff.au-afcfta.org/mapsearch
Nigeria Trade Hub Certificate of Origin portal	coo.nigeriatradehub.gov.ng
AfCFTA Rules of Origin Manual	African Union official document on AfCFTA Rules of Origin
WCO Practical Guide for AfCFTA Rules of Origin	World Customs Organization guidance for implementation
AfCFTA Agreement, Protocol on Trade in Goods, Annex 2	Legal basis for Rules of Origin and proof of origin
Nigeria AfCFTA Coordination Office	ngrafta.gov.ng

This presentation reflects the operational procedure described for Nigerian exporters, with current manual collection pending full e-certificate implementation.