



Immigration News Highlights

2022-42, 18 October 2022



The KPMG team regularly monitors recent developments across the globe in the Immigration space and publishes them as Immigration News Highlights. Please find the key developments that occurred over the last week enumerated below. [Click here to find all issues of the Immigration News Highlights on the GMS Flash Alert: Immigration page.](#)



Americas

Brazil

[EU Commission Recognizes COVID-19 Certificates Issued by Brazil](#)

The EU Commission announced that from 15 October 2022, digital COVID certificates issued by Brazil shall be recognized by the EU Member countries. Digital COVID certificates issued by the EU shall also be acceptable in Brazil. [Read more.](#)

United States

[DHS to Supplement H-2B Cap with Nearly 65,000 Additional Visas for Fiscal Year 2023](#)

The Department of Homeland Security announced that apart from the standard 66,000 H-2B temporary non-agricultural worker visas, an additional 64,716 visas in the same category shall be available for FY 2023. This measure was taken considering the growing demand for seasonal workers. [Read more.](#)

United States

[CBP imposes arrival restrictions on travelers from Uganda](#)

The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) imposed new restrictions on arrivals from Uganda, amid an Ebola outbreak in the country. Travelers from Uganda, or those who have been in Uganda within 21 days of intended arrival to the US must enter the country through designated airports. [Read more.](#)

United States

[American embassy in Qatar to limit its services due to the FIFA World Cup](#)

The US embassy in Qatar announced closure of its routine services for American citizens during the period of 13 November 2022 to 2 January 2023, due to the FIFA World Cup being held in the country. The embassy shall not be processing any passport renewals for those travelling for tourism purposes during the World Cup. [Read more.](#)

United States

[US ICE extends I-9 flexible measures through July 31](#)

The US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced the extension of temporary form I-9 flexibilities, first introduced at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The temporary measures, which had been scheduled to expire on 31 October 2022, shall now be valid till 31 July 2023. [Read more.](#)

Malaysia**[Malaysia Launches New Social Visit Pass](#)**

Malaysian authorities announced the launch of a new social visit pass named PLS@XPATS, allowing holders visiting the country to work there for up to 30 days. However, it shall only be allowed in selected sectors like education, construction, or manufacturing, and shall be granted only for critical or urgent work purposes. [Read more](#)

Malaysia**[Malaysia suspends online visa facility for Indian citizens](#)**

The Malaysian authorities suspended issuing online visas for travelers from India from 11 October 2022. Visa applications shall now be directly processed by the Malaysian consulates in the Indian cities of Mumbai, Chennai and New Delhi, and shall take up to 6 days to be completely processed. [Read more](#)

New Zealand**[New median wage to apply from February 2023](#)**

The government of New Zealand increased the minimum wage threshold, beginning from 27 February, 2023. The median wage shall be increased to NZD 29.66 per hour, as compared to the current rate of NZD 27.76 per hour. The median wage requirements shall be applicable to foreign nationals employed under the Accredited Employer Visa (AEWV) category. [Read more](#)

New Zealand**[Skilled Migrant Category reopening](#)**

New Zealand authorities announced the reopening of selections of expressions of interest (EOIs) for the Skilled Migrant Category Resident Visa from 9 November 2022. Previously submitted EOIs can be edited or withdrawn by the applicant before 9 November 2022, if required. [Read more](#)

European Union**[EU Commission Proposes to Fully Suspend Visa Waiver Agreement With Vanuatu](#)**

The Commission of the European Union proposed complete suspension of the visa waiver agreement with Vanuatu. This was done in response to the increasing systems risk concerns with the country's golden passports. [Read more](#)

France**[France to Issue Visas Only to Vietnamese Passports Including Birthplace Info From Oct. 17](#)**

From 17 October 2022, the French Embassy in Hanoi will stop accepting Vietnamese passports with the birthplace omitted. However, previously filed applications shall be processed normally, even for passports without the place of birth information. [Read more](#)

Namibia**[Namibia launches Digital Nomad Visa](#)**

The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board introduced a new Digital Nomad Visa to attract remote-working professionals in an effort to support the recovering tourism industry. Applicants would have to provide proof of income, health and travel insurance, along with paying the visa fees, for qualifying for the visa. [Read more](#)



Thomas Wolf
Head of KPMG's Global
Immigration Network
T: +49 30 530199-300
E: twolf@kpmg-law.com

social.kpmg



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