



Immigration News Highlights

2023-23, 6 June 2023



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](#)

[Asia Pacific](#)

[Europe and Africa](#)



Americas

Canada

Canada launches new process to welcome skilled newcomers with work experience in priority jobs as permanent residents

The government of Canada announced plans to launch an immigration system that will follow a category-based selection procedure for Express Entry applicants. Individuals having a strong proficiency in the French language, and a prior work experience in agriculture, healthcare, STEM professions, transportation and trades shall be given preference for Express Entry.

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Canada

Quebec is planning to make French mandatory for all new immigrants

Quebec authorities are planning to introduce changes to the economic immigration criteria in the region, as a part of the new permanent immigration program for skilled workers in Quebec. Applicants would be required to have basic oral proficiency in both professional and social French. The measure is being taken in order to promote Francophone economic immigration in Quebec.

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United States

Document submission to KCC suspended for DV-2024 and onward

The US State Department announced that those selected for the Diversity Visa 2024 would no longer be required to submit their supporting documents through the Kentucky Consular Center (KCC). Instead, individuals would only be required to submit their DS-260 visa application form at the KCC for themselves and any accompanying dependents.

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United States

US to open diplomatic station in Arctic Norway

The US Secretary of State announced the opening of a US diplomatic station in the Norwegian Arctic town of Tromsø. The station would be staffed with one US diplomat and would be open for operations later this year.

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Uruguay

Uruguay to launch digital nomad visa

Uruguayan authorities are to launch a digital nomad visa for foreign individuals wishing to work remotely in the country. Applicants would be required to fill an online form on the official website and pay an application fee of US\$11. The visa would grant the holder a permit for 180 days, extendable up to a year, provided the individual has no prior criminal record, is self employed or is employed at a foreign company.

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Asia Pacific

Indonesia

Indonesia to roll out golden visa program to attract foreigners

Indonesian authorities announced their plans to roll out a golden visa scheme, allowing foreigners to stay in the country for up to 10 years. The initiative is being taken in a bid to boost economic growth in the country. Detailed requirements for eligibility to the programme are yet to be released.

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Kuwait

Kuwait to allow travelers to skip fingerprinting on departure

The Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior announced that travelers would no longer be required to submit their fingerprints while leaving Kuwait, provided the procedure has been completed upon their return to the country. In order to complete the procedure, Kuwaiti citizens would have to book

an appointment through the Matta platform, while foreign visitors can do the same via the Ministry's website.

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United Arab Emirates

Dubai scraps 10-day visit visa grace period for tourists

Dubai authorities have discontinued the offer of a 10-day grace period to visitors on an expired tourist visa. Earlier, holders of an expired tourist visa were permitted to stay in the country for 10 additional days post the date of expiry, before being subject to fines. However, the same will be applicable no more, and individuals would be fined AED50 for each day of their stay post the date of expiry of their visa.

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United Arab Emirates

Tourists can extend their stay without exiting the country

The Emirati authorities have confirmed that tourists staying in the country on a visit visa shall now be permitted to extend their stay while staying within UAE. The tourist must enter the country within 60 days of issuance of the extension. The entry permit shall be valid for a period of 60 or 30 days, depending on the visa type. Upon expiry of the validity, the tourist must leave UAE, or face the imposition of fines.

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United Arab Emirates

UAE introduces new guidelines for Dubai residency visas

The UAE Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship, Customs and Ports Security (ICP) issued a clarification regarding re-entry permits for Dubai residents staying outside the UAE. Individuals would have to apply for a re-entry permit via an agent, and would not be able to do so directly through the official website. In case the individual is sponsored by a company or a personal sponsor, the application would have to be submitted by the sponsoring agent.

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Europe and Africa

Denmark

Denmark makes it mandatory to use online application forms for several types of applications

The Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) has made it mandatory for individuals to submit online forms for specific immigration applications. The AR1 online, PHD1 online, MF1 online, PR1/3 online, XG 1, BF1/2 applications shall only be accepted if submitted online on the official portal, and submissions made any other way shall be rejected.

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Egypt

Departure fee for Egyptians leaving the country to be increased

The government of Egypt approved several legislative amendments, one of which shall increase the departure fee levied on Egyptian residents leaving the country. The earlier fee of EGP50 has been doubled to EGP100. However, the departure fee for foreigners visiting the governorates of Red Sea, South Sinai, Luxor, Aswan, and Marsa Matrouh remains the same at EGP50.

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United Kingdom

Worker protection deals signed with Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan

The British Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority announced the signing of agreements with the governments of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan as an effort to strengthen the protection measures in place for seasonal workers arriving from these countries to the UK. The agreements establish exchange of information regarding recruiting agencies and monitoring of the recruitment process in order to ensure the workers do not face any risk of exploitation.

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