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Guidance on migration issues for foreigners during the coronavirus infection (COVID-19) outbreak

UPDATED



Movement restrictions within the country

On 2 April 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan adopted a Decree "On additional measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan" ("Decree").

The Decree has introduced new rules and restrictions for movement of individuals within the country as of 5 April 2020 to 20 April 2020. These restrictions apply also to foreigners and stateless persons living and residing in the country ("Foreigners").

Visiting workplaces

Foreigners who need to visit their workplaces may do so once information on them is entered by their employers into the portal www.icaze.e-gov.az. It should be noted that only employers carrying out their activities in certain areas are allowed to obtain permits for their employees to visit workplaces. Such areas include, inter alia:

- logistics services;
- telecommunications and communication services;
- · production of oil equipment and facilities;
- production, refining, storage and sale of oil and gas;
- oil and gas transmission through pipelines;
- production of food products and raw materials for them, supply, storage and wholesale of food products;
- production of daily care and hygiene products;
- production of chemical products; etc.



Personal visits

Prior to leaving a place of stay for personal reasons, a foreigner shall send an SMS to 8103 in order to obtain a permit. The SMS must contain:

- 1. the relevant index number (1, 2 or 3) related to the ground for leave, where:
- 1 stands for urgent medical necessity and receiving scheduled treatment;
- 2 stands for purchase of food and other daily necessities, as well as medicines, usage of banking and postal services;
- 3 stands for attending the funeral of a close relative.
- 2. information confirming the identity of the foreigner as stated below:
- · for temporary or permanent residents the series and number of the temporary or permanent residence permit (MYİ (DYİ)1111111);
 - · for those whose temporary stay has been extended the series and number of the decision on extension of the temporary stay period (MOM1111111);
 - for those registered at the place of stay the number of the notification on registration at the place of stay (OYQ11111111).

Foreigners registered at the place of stay, as well as those who have extended the period of temporary stay, can use the e-service "tracking applications" (https://eservice.migratior gov.az/public/application-track) on the official website of the State Migration Service to obtain the number of the above mentioned documents.

In order to use this service, passport number, date of birth and citizenship information shall be inserted into the system.

Foreigners who have been issued a temporary or permanent residence permit, but are unable to collect hard copies of the permits from ASAN Service, will be sent the serial number of the relevant permit to their e-mail addresses upon payment of the state fee as provided in the legislation. Depending on the validity term of the permit, the state fee may be AZN 120, 60 or 30, accordingly.

Considering the above instructions, the following are examples of SMS texts to be sent to 8103 by foreigners depending on the

- purpose of leaving the place of stay: • 1(2,3)OYQ11111111
- 1(2,3)MOM1111111
- 1(2,3)MYI1111111 • 1(2,3)DYI1111111

- There should be no spaces between numbers and letters.
- Only one of the indexes (1, 2 and 3) can be indicated.
- · The sequence of information shall not be changed.



Issuance/Extension of temporary residence/work permits

According to the information published by the Public Relations Department of the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the requirements of the Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, obtaining/ extension of temporary residence and work permits is currently carried out only electronically via https://eservice.migration.gov.az. Thus, the applicants shall upload the necessary documents and submit them with the State Migration Service by creating their accounts through the provided link.



Application for visa and border crossing state

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According to the decision of the Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 12 March 2020, issuance of visas upon arrival to the international airports of the Republic of Azerbaijan and electronic visas via "ASAN Visa" portals has been suspended for a period of 45 days.

Foreign citizens intending to visit the Republic of Azerbaijan are requested to apply to the relevant embassies and consulates of the Republic of Azerbaijan for obtaining relevant visas.

Citizens of countries where the COVID-19 virus has been widespread according to the list provided by the World Health Organization will be required to provide a medical certificate on passing the COVID-19 test when applying for a visa. This requirement will also be applicable to other foreign nationals who have visited those countries within the last 14

Subject to individual medical indications, foreign nationals visiting Azerbaijan Republic may be placed in quarantine for 14 days, or may be required to adhere to a 14-days individual quarantine regime at their homes. In addition, foreign nationals can be tested for COVID-19.

In fact, currently all the borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan have been temporarily closed until 20 April 2020. According to the verbal information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, no applications for visas are considered and flights for foreign citizens wishing to enter Azerbaijan Republic are currently being suspended.



Extension of a temporary stay in the Republic of Azerbaijan

According to the information published by the Public Relations Department of the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 24 March 2020, the need to apply for an extension of the temporary stay of foreigners currently remaining in the country and unable to leave the country has been eliminated. Applications of foreigners whose stay in the country expires within the period from 24 March 2020 to 30 April 2020 are considered accepted by the State Migration Service and the validity of their stay in the country will be subject to payment of the state duty as provided under the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On State Duty":

- extension for 30 days AZN 15 for minors, AZN 30 for others,
- extension for 60 days AZN 30 for minors, AZN 60 for others.

In order to extend the period of temporary stay in the country, it is necessary to pay a state fee. Payment can be made electronically through the Government Payment Portal, the "ASAN payment" system and through Expresspay terminals by obtaining a payment number through the "Follow the application" section on the website of the State Migration

There is no need to collect hard copies of decisions on extension of the stay.

According to the information provided by the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 31 March 2020, considering the special quarantine regime applied within the country due to coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, electronic application for foreigners and stateless persons has been simplified.

Thus, until 30 April 2020, during electronic applications with the State Migration Service on obtaining/extension of work, temporary and permanent residence permits, documents of the applicants who are unable to arrange for notarial or equivalent certification will be accepted without such certification.

The documents in the required format may be requested later, where necessary.

- · Foreigners who have valid temporary residence permits and are currently outside Azerbaijan may be denied in extension of their temporary residence permits in case they stay outside Azerbaijan for more than 90 days within a 180-days period. Currently, there is no official exemption on this requirement, therefore, foreigners who have valid temporary residence permits are recommended not to stay outside Azerbaijan for more than 90 days within the mentioned period.
- Foreigners who have valid temporary residence permits and are currently outside Azerbaijan will not be able to apply for permit renewal unless they return to the country.

Disclaimer: We would like to draw your attention to the fact that the measures undertaken by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan are constantly changing as the situation

changes rapidly with regard to the spread of COVID-19. Thus, the information mentioned above is relevant only at the time of the release of this guidance. Deloitte Legal specialists are closely monitoring developments in the migration area, and will inform you of the relevant changes. If you require any assistance or have a question, you should feel free to contact one of our specialists:

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