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Indonesia: Recent changes in immigration: Presidential Regulation No. 21 of 2016 concerning Visa-Free Visit

Overview

Effective 10 March 2016, based on Presidential Regulation No. 21 of 2016, the Indonesian Government has exempted nationals from 169 countries from the obligation to obtain a visa to visit Indonesia. This regulation replaces Presidential Regulation No. 69 of 2015 (effective 10 June 2015) and its amendment Presidential Regulation No. 104 of 2015 (September 2015), which granted visa exemption to nationals from 45 countries and 90 countries, respectively. The expansion of the visa exemption facility is expected to increase the number of tourists visiting Indonesia and also provide, in general, benefits for economic development.

Changes

This new regulation adopts the principle of reciprocity and the principle of benefit. Exception is only applied for journalistic activity. Further guidance, relating to the purpose or activities for visiting Indonesia for which the visa exemption can be granted, immigration checkpoints, and the procedure for entering and exiting Indonesian territory, is yet to be stipulated in a Ministerial Regulation. While awaiting the issuance of the Ministerial Regulation, the Directorate General of Immigration has issued a circular letter addressed to the Heads of Regional Offices of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights throughout Indonesia to provide guidance to all immigration officials/officers concerning the purpose of arrival for the recipients of the visa exemption, which include:

- Tourism;
- Family;

- Social;
- Art and Culture;
- Government duties;
- Giving lectures or taking part in seminars;
- Taking part in international exhibitions;
- Attending a meeting held with a head office or representative in Indonesia; and
- In transit to another country.

Below are further details on Presidential Regulation No. 21 of 2016:

| NO | Description | Details |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Types of purpose of arrival for Recipients of Free Visit Visa (<i>Bebas Visa Kunjungan</i>): | Referring to the circular letter from the Directorate General of Immigration mentioned above: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tourism; 2. Family; 3. Social; 4. Art and Culture; 5. Government duties; 6. Giving lectures or taking part in seminars; 7. Taking part in international exhibitions; 8. Attending a meeting held with a head office or representative in Indonesia; and 9. In-transit to another country. <p>Note: This regulation does not apply for conducting journalistic activities and education purposes.</p> |
| 2. | Requirements | It is advisable that the individual's passport has validity of at least six months and that the individual has a return ticket or connecting ticket. |
| 3. | Length of Stay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible to enter and remain in Indonesia without a visa for 30 days. • The visa exemption facility cannot be extended or changed to another type of permit. |

Below is the list of countries eligible for Visa-Free Visit:

| List of Visa-Free Countries Presidential Regulation No. 21 of 2016 | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----|--------------------------|----|------------|-----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Albania | 44 | Egypt | 86 | Madagascar | 128 | San Marino |
| 2 | Algeria | 45 | El Salvador | 87 | Malawi | 129 | Sao Tome and Principe |
| 3 | Andorra | 46 | England (United Kingdom) | 88 | Malaysia | 130 | Senegal |
| 4 | Angola | 47 | Estonia | 89 | Maldives | 131 | Serbia |
| 5 | Antigua and Barbuda | 48 | Fiji | 90 | Mali | 132 | Seychelles |

**List of Visa-Free Countries
Presidential Regulation No. 21 of 2016**

| | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|--------------------------|-----|------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 6 | Argentina | 49 | Finland | 91 | Malta | 133 | Singapore |
| 7 | Armenia | 50 | France | 92 | Marshall Islands | 134 | Saudi Arabia |
| 8 | Australia | 51 | Gabon | 93 | Mauritania | 135 | South Africa |
| 9 | Austria | 52 | Gambia | 94 | Mauritius | 136 | South Korea (Republic) |
| 10 | Azerbaijan | 53 | Georgia | 95 | Mexico | 137 | Solomon Islands |
| 11 | Bahama | 54 | Germany | 96 | Moldova | 138 | Slovakia |
| 12 | Bahrain | 55 | Ghana | 97 | Monaco | 139 | Slovenia |
| 13 | Bangladesh | 56 | Grenada | 98 | Mongolia | 140 | Spain |
| 14 | Barbados | 57 | Greece | 99 | Morocco | 141 | Sri Lanka |
| 15 | Belarus | 58 | Guatemala | 100 | Mozambique | 142 | Suriname |
| 16 | Belgium | 59 | Guyana | 101 | Myanmar | 143 | Swaziland |
| 17 | Belize | 60 | Haiti | 102 | Namibia | 144 | Sweden |
| 18 | Benin | 61 | Honduras | 103 | Nauru | 145 | Switzerland |
| 19 | Bhutan | 62 | Hungary | 104 | Nepal | 146 | Taiwan |
| 20 | Bolivia | 63 | Hong Kong (SAR of China) | 105 | Netherlands | 147 | Tajikistan |
| 21 | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 64 | India | 106 | New Zealand | 148 | Tanzania |
| 22 | Botswana | 65 | Iceland | 107 | Nicaragua | 149 | Thailand |
| 23 | Brazil | 66 | Ireland | 108 | Norway | 150 | Papua New Guinea |
| 24 | Brunei Darussalam | 67 | Italy | 109 | Oman | 151 | Togo |
| 25 | Bulgaria | 68 | Ivory Coast | 110 | Palau | 152 | Tonga |
| 26 | Burkina Faso | 69 | Jamaica | 111 | Palestine | 153 | Trinidad and Tobago |
| 27 | Burundi | 70 | Japan | 112 | Panama | 154 | Tunisia |
| 28 | Cambodia | 71 | Jordan | 113 | Papua New Guinea | 155 | Turkey |
| 29 | Canada | 72 | Kazakhstan | 114 | Paraguay | 156 | Turkmenistan |
| 30 | Cape Verde | 73 | Kenya | 115 | Peru | 157 | Tuvalu |
| 31 | Chad | 74 | Kiribati | 116 | Philippines | 158 | Uganda |
| 32 | Chile | 75 | Kuwait | 117 | Poland | 159 | Ukraine |
| 33 | China | 76 | Kyrgyzstan | 118 | Portugal | 160 | United Arab Emirates |
| 34 | Costa Rica | 77 | Laos | 119 | Puerto Rico | 161 | United States of America |
| 35 | Comoros | 78 | Latvia | 120 | Qatar | 162 | Uruguay |
| 36 | Croatia | 79 | Lebanon | 121 | Romania | 163 | Uzbekistan |
| 37 | Cuba | 80 | Lesotho | 122 | Russia | 164 | Vanuatu |
| 38 | Cyprus | 81 | Liechtenstein | 123 | Rwanda | 165 | Vatican City (Holy See) |

| List of Visa-Free Countries Presidential Regulation No. 21 of 2016 | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----|----------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|-----------|
| 39 | Czech Republic | 82 | Lithuania | 124 | Saint Kitts and Nevis | 166 | Venezuela |
| 40 | Denmark | 83 | Luxemburg | 125 | Saint Lucia | 167 | Vietnam |
| 41 | Commonwealth of Dominica | 84 | Macao (SAR of China) | 126 | Saint Vincent and Grenadines | 168 | Zambia |
| 42 | Dominican Republic | 85 | Macedonia (Republic) | 127 | Samoa | 169 | Zimbabwe |
| 43 | Ecuador | | | | | | |

Deloitte's view

The expansion of the countries eligible for Visa-Free Visit will have positive impact on international relationships and also on Indonesia's economy. Tourism has been an important component of the Indonesian economy and also a significant source of its foreign exchange revenue. The government has been actively promoting tourism to Indonesia. This regulation is expected to help boost the number of visitors to Indonesia and contribute to economic development in Indonesia.

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