

Mobility: Immigration alert

October 2021



Nigeria

The Nigerian Government publishes its list of approved COVID-19 vaccines; removes Brazil, South Africa and Turkey from its red list

Executive summary

Effective 25 October 2021, Brazil, South Africa and Turkey were removed from the Nigerian Government's red list, thereby permitting travelers from these countries to enter Nigeria without first obtaining a waiver from the Nigerian Government. The Government also published a list of approved COVID-19 vaccines and clarified the meaning of the term "fully vaccinated travelers" for purposes of entry into Nigeria.

Background

The Nigerian Government introduced a "red list" on 4 May 2021 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within its borders. Citizens of countries on the red list, individuals traveling from red list countries, and those who were present in red list countries in the 14 days immediately preceding their travel to Nigeria, are generally not permitted to enter the country.

Travel from Brazil, South Africa and Turkey

Effective 25 October 2021, citizens of Brazil, South Africa and Turkey, individuals seeking to travel to Nigeria from these locations, and those who were present in these locations in the 14 days immediately preceding their travel to Nigeria, are permitted to enter the country for business or work purposes, and apply for visas on arrival and Temporary Work Permits, without obtaining a waiver, for the first time since these countries were placed on the red list.

Prior to 25 October 2021, citizens of Brazil, South Africa and Turkey, individuals seeking to travel to Nigeria from these locations, and those who were present in these locations in

the 14 days immediately preceding their travel to Nigeria, were only permitted to enter the country for essential purposes (including critical business meetings that could not be postponed), and only after obtaining a waiver from the Nigerian Presidential Committee on COVID-19. Prior to 25 October 2021, these travelers were only permitted to apply for a visas on arrival and Temporary Work Permits after obtaining the waiver.

Approved COVID-19 vaccine list

The Nigerian Government recently published a list of approved COVID-19 vaccines for purposes of entry into Nigeria. These include the Moderna, AstraZeneca, Pfizer-BioNTech and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccines. The Government also clarified that the term "fully vaccinated travelers" refers to individuals who received the final dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine prior to entering Nigeria. The Government further clarified that travelers who received two doses of different approved COVID-19 vaccines (e.g., one shot each of Moderna and Pfizer) are considered fully vaccinated.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, please contact any of our immigration professionals.

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