

Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2023



Dominican Republic

Extension stamps being issued to eligible individuals in lieu of new passports

Executive summary

Effective 16 January 2023, the Dominican authorities began issuing extension stamps in lieu of new passports to eligible applicants. This measure is in place until further notice.

Background

The Dominican General Passport Directorate recently reported an increase in the number of passport renewal applications, which has led to delays in application processing. This increase, coupled with a reduced availability of appointment dates and passport booklets, has led to the implementation of the new measure.

Key developments

On 16 January 2023, the Dominican authorities started issuing extension stamps that enable qualifying holders of expired passports to continue using these passports for one year from the date of the stamp's issuance. To be eligible to receive extension stamps, individuals must:

- ▶ Submit an application to renew their passport, along with required supporting documents
- ▶ Schedule and attend an appointment with the General Passport Directorate to obtain the stamp

Prior to the expiry of their extension stamps, applicants must apply for and obtain new passports from the General Passport Directorate.

Fast-track passport processing is suspended until further notice. However, applicants who have a demonstrable urgent need to travel may be issued extension stamps or new passports on an expedited basis at the discretion of the authorities.

Impact on employers

This measure is expected to alleviate delays and complications resulting from the recent backlog in application processing while supporting time-sensitive travel, including international business travel.

Key steps

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

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