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Thailand – New Visa Regulations

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On August 13, 2013, the Royal Thai Immigration Bureau issued new regulations¹ on expiring passports that are effective immediately. These regulations include the following provisions:

- For passports valid for less than 1 year, non-immigrant visa extensions will only be granted up to the expiration date.
- Previously, where a non-immigrant visa had been granted for an expiring passport, it could automatically be transferred to the newly-issued one. However, individuals with expiring passports must now reapply for a visa by completing a visa extension application with required documentation and a fee of THB 1,900 (approximately U.S. \$60).
- For dependents, non-immigrant visas will be issued for the same period of duration as the main applicant's visa, regardless of the dependent's passport expiration date.

KPMG Note

Clients should consider these new regulations when renewing their Thai visa. If their passport expires in less than 12 months, they are advised to apply for a new one in order to avoid unnecessary costs and complications.

Footnote:

1 <http://bangkok.immigration.go.th/intro1.html>

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The information contained in this newsletter was submitted by the KPMG International member firm in Thailand. The information contained herein is of a general nature and based on authorities that are subject to change. Applicability of the information to specific situations should be determined through consultation with your tax adviser.

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