



# Regulatory Alert

March 2017

## **Federal Government Introduces New Immigration Regulations & Visa on Arrival Scheme**

On Monday, 20 March, 2017, the Honourable Minister of Interior, Lt. Gen. Abdulrahman Dambazau (Rtd), announced at a press conference the release of the Immigration Regulations, 2017 (the Regulations) effective from 27 February 2017.

The objectives of the Regulations, which supersedes the 1963 Immigration Regulations and the 1963 Immigration (Control of Aliens) Regulations, are to provide a legal framework for the effective implementation of the Immigration Act, 2015 and consolidate existing Immigration Regulations in Nigeria.

Also, as part of the ongoing Government initiatives for improving ease of doing business in Nigeria, it is now possible for business visitors to obtain Visa on Arrival (VOA) in Nigeria with ease. VOA is a short term-visa issued to frequent business travelers at the port of entry in Nigeria and has a maximum validity of 30 days. The scheme was first introduced in 2015 as an incentive to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) into the country and to boost tourism.

**[Click here to read our newsletters on the New Immigration Regulations and the VOA Scheme. You can download the Regulations via this link.](#)**

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