



**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND CITIZEN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL**

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**RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (eTA)**

Following the Presidential directive during the 60<sup>th</sup> Jamhuri Day celebrations on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 that Kenya will be a visa free country from January, 2024, the Directorate of Immigration Services has developed a digital platform [www.etakenya.go.ke](http://www.etakenya.go.ke) to ensure that all travellers to Kenya are identified in advance through an electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) system.

**Henceforth, all travelers coming to Kenya will be required to apply and pay for the electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) prior to travel, with exclusion of the following exempted person;**

1. Holders of valid Kenya Passports or one-way Emergency Certificate issued by Kenya Missions abroad.
2. Holders of Kenya Permanent Residence, valid Work Permits and Passes.
3. Holders of valid United Nation Conventional Travel Document issued by the Government of Kenya.
4. Members of the Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations Accredited to Kenya.
5. Citizens of the East African Partner States; These countries include Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.  
**(Exempted for Six (6) months)**
6. All passengers in transit through Kenya arriving and leaving by the same aircraft or transferring to another aircraft and who do not leave the precincts of Airports in Kenya.
7. All passengers arriving and leaving by the same ship, and who do not leave the ship.
8. Members of crew of any ship, aircraft, train, vehicle or carrier; whose name and particulars are included in the crew manifest of the ship, aircraft, train, vehicle or carrier; and who is proceeding in such ship, aircraft, train, vehicle or carrier to a destination outside Kenya.

9. Owners of private aircraft stopping over for refuelling in Kenya and who do not leave the precincts of the airport.

**Further, the following persons will apply for Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) but are exempted from paying;**

1. Holders of Diplomatic, Official or Service Passports on official duty.
2. Holders of the following Laissez-Passers;
  - i. Holders of United Nations Organization Laissez-Passers whilst on official UN Business,
  - ii. Holders of African Union Laissez-Passers whilst on official A.U. business,
  - iii. Holders of African Development Bank Laissez-Passers, whilst on official A.D.B. business,
  - iv. Holders of Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa Laissez-Passers, whilst on official BADEA business,
  - v. Holders of International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa Laissez-Passers, whilst on official I.R.L.C.O. business.
  - vi. Holders of Desert Locust Control Organization Laissez-Passers, whilst on official D.L.C.O. business,
  - vii. Holders of COMESA Laissez-Passers, whilst on official COMESA business,
  - viii. Holders of International Monetary Fund and World Bank Laissez - Passers whilst on official IMF/World Bank Business,
  - ix. Holders of Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Laissez-Passers whilst on official IGAD business,
  - x. Holders of African Airlines Travel Association (IATA) Laissez-Passers whilst on official business.
  - xi. Holders of Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI) Laissez-Passers whilst on official ELCI business,
  - xii. Holders of Union of Radio, Television Network of Africa (URTNA) Laissez-Passers whilst on official URTNA business,
  - xiii. Holders of International Labour Organization (ILO) Laissez - Passers whilst on official ILO business,
  - xiv. Holders of European Union Laissez - Passers whilst on official European Union business,
  - xv. Holders of CIP (International Potato Centre) Laissez - Passers whilst on official CIP business,
  - xvi. Holders of African Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) Laissez - Passers whilst on official ARC business,
  - xvii. Holders of African Housing Fund (AHF) Laissez - Passers whilst on official AHF business.

Notably, Travelers with already paid and issued visas will continue to use them for entry until the expiry of their validity.

**Evelyn Cheluget, EBS, OGW, 'ndc' (K)**  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL**