



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR & COORDINATION OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

PRESS STATEMENT

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Deadline Extension for Migration to Second Generation e-Passport

The government is progressively phasing out the old ordinary passports as part of Kenya's commitment to migrate to the new-generation e-passport in accordance with ICAO specifications. However, we note with concern that 1.8 million Kenyans, mostly in diaspora, are yet to replace their old passports with the East African Community biometric e-passport.

Due to this, the government hereby extends the deadline for voiding the current dark blue machine-readable passport by 12 months. As such, its holders may continue using it until March 1, 2021 when it will no longer be valid for travelling.

To rationalize the issuance of this travel document, the government has since set up and operationalized four passport control centres in Nakuru, Kisii, Eldoret and Embu, and six others in the diaspora — three in Europe (Berlin, Paris and London), one in the U.S. (Washington DC), another in Johannesburg, South Africa, and one more in Dubai. Plans are also underway to achieve same-day issuance of passports by July 1, 2020.

Considering this is the second extension, the 1.8 million Kenyans still holding the dark blue passport are urged to take full advantage of this period to acquire the EAC-format electronic passports at the earliest opportunity possible, to avoid last minute rush, unnecessary jam-ups at the centres, and travelling inconveniencies.

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