

Global Immigration alert

May 2024



Nigeria

Penalties introduced for companies that do not file expatriate quota returns on time

Executive summary

Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Interior (FMI) recently confirmed, via its designated online portal, that companies that do not file monthly expatriate quota (EQ) returns on time will be subject to penalties effective 10 June 2024.

Background

Nigerian companies are required to obtain EQ approval from the FMI prior to hiring foreign nationals. These companies are also required to submit their EQ returns monthly, via the FMI's designated online platform, within the first 10 days of each month. These online returns provide comprehensive information regarding the EQs granted to companies and their utilization. EQ returns also capture the National Identification Number (NIN) of foreign employees and their Nigerian counterparts.

Key developments

Effective 10 June 2024, companies will be subject to penalties of:

- ▶ NGN 100,000 (approx. USD 65) if they file EQ returns after the 10th day of a month but on or before the 20th day
- ▶ NGN 150,000 (approx. USD 100) if they file EQ returns after the 20th day of a month but on or before the 25th day
- ▶ NGN 250,000 (approx. USD 170) if they file EQ returns after the 25th day of the month

In case of default, companies must pay the applicable penalty before they can file subsequent EQ returns.

Impact on employers

Companies may file all pending returns before 10 June 2024 and continue filing subsequent returns on time to avoid penalties.

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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