

Mobility: Immigration alert

November 2023

Oman

Royal Oman Police revamps visa policies to restrict work visa conversion and ban new visa issuance to Bangladeshi nationals

Executive summary

Tourist visa holders and express visa holders may no longer convert their visas to Omani work visas from within the Sultanate, according to a recent [statement](#) issued by the Royal Oman Police (ROP) through its official X (formerly Twitter) account. The ROP also stated that nationals of Bangladesh are ineligible to obtain new Omani visas of any type effective 31 October 2023 until further notice.

Key developments

The change in policy for tourists and holders of express visas (which is a form of business visa) impacts nationals of all countries and follows a review by the ROP of its visa policies. These visa holders are now required to exit the Sultanate and apply for, and obtain, Omani work visas before re-entering Oman for work.

The ban on issuance of visas to nationals of Bangladesh impacts only individuals seeking to obtain new visas. As reported in the [Oman Daily Observer](#), nationals of Bangladesh who hold existing Omani visas remain eligible to renew these visas.

Impact on employers

Employers may consider updating their internal processes to ensure compliance with the new policies. Organizations that employ nationals of Bangladesh may consider identifying new sources of talent to minimize disruptions to business continuity.

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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