



BDO Tax Alert: The Cabinet has approved a new visa-free requirement effectively discarding the previous 60-day visa free for 93 countries.

On 14 July 2026, the Cabinet agreed in principle to revise Thailand’s visa exemption and visa issuance framework, as announced by Deputy Government spokesperson. The objective of the revised framework is to ensure that travel facilitation measures for foreign visitors remain aligned with current circumstances, while strengthening national security, preventing misuse of immigration privileges, and eliminating overlapping immigration privileges. The revised framework is based on the principle of “one country, one entitlement.”

The key measure is the discontinuation of the existing 60-day visa exemption scheme previously available to nationals of 93 countries and territories. Under the revised framework, nationals of 59 countries and territories will be eligible for visa exemption for tourism purposes for a stay of up to 30 days. The list has been expanded to include India, Croatia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta, and the Maldives.

In addition, nationals of Mauritius and Seychelles will be eligible for visa exemption for tourism purposes for a stay of up to 15 days. This arrangement will be subject to future review based on factors such as tourist arrival statistics and tourism expenditure.

With respect to the Visa on Arrival (VOA) scheme, eligibility will be limited to nationals of Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Serbia. India will no longer be eligible for VOA, as Indian nationals will instead be granted visa exemption status, thereby avoiding overlapping immigration privileges.

Foreign nationals who entered Thailand and were granted immigration privileges under the existing measures before the new notifications take effect will be permitted to remain in Thailand for the remaining period originally granted.

The five notifications of the Ministry of Interior implementing these measures will become effective 15 days after their publication in the Royal Gazette.

The Cabinet has approved the revised framework, however, the measures are not yet effective. Further updates will be provided once the relevant Ministry of Interior notifications are officially issued and published in the Royal Gazette.