

DECREE No. 10188 OF 28 JULY 1962

Regarding the enforcement of the Law of 10 July 1962  
regulating entry into Lebanon, stay and exit

The President of the Lebanese Republic,  
Whereas the Lebanese Constitution,  
Whereas the Law of 10/7/1962, notably its article 5,  
On the proposal of the Minister of the Interior,  
And following the approval of the Council of Ministers,  
Decreases the following :

I - TRANSIT AND STAY VISAS

Article 1

In pursuance of the enforcement of the provisions of the Law of 10 July 1962 a "consular visa" is meant to connote any transit or stay visa granted by representative of Lebanon abroad or by a post of the General Security set up at the border to persons entering Lebanon without visa.

Article 2

The consular visa is gained by mere affixing on the alien's passport of the transit or stay visa.

Article 3

The consular visa is valid as from the day when it was granted and for the period designated in it.

Article 4

The alien may obtain the transit visa from a representative of Lebanon abroad, or on his arrival at the frontier, by one of the General Security posts.

Article 5

The alien who wishes to stay in Lebanon on a temporary basis may obtain a residence visa from a representative of Lebanon abroad, or on his arrival at the frontier, from one of the General Security posts, if he comes from a country where no Lebanese consular representation exists.

Article 6

The consular visa may be issued without reference to the central authorities, to any alien, not included in one of the following categories :

- A - Those whose names are listed as unwanted.
- B - Artists referred to in article 13 of the Law of 10 July 1962.
- C - Aliens wishing to work in Lebanon or to carry on a profession therein.
- D - Bearers of a pass.
- E - Other categories set down by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants.

Article 7

In implementation of the provisions of article 6 of the law of 10 July 1962 a "residence visa for work" is granted to any alien entering Lebanon for work or to carry on a profession.

Article 8

A consular group visa is issued to sports teams, students and tourist delegations and the like; the transit and stay visa shall be affixed on a document bearing the name of the members of the group or the delegation.

Any alien who shall have entered Lebanon under a group visa is not authorised to stray from the group or the delegation except if he has obtained an individual transit or stay visa from the General Security Services.

Article 9

The validity period of the consular visa must expire 30 days at least before the expiry of the passport on which it is affixed.

The alien shall not be entitled, during the 15 days preceding the expiry of the validity of his passport, to take advantage of the visa granted contrary to the provisions of the first paragraph.

Article 10

Any alien who has entered Lebanon with a transit visa who may wish to extend his stay, shall be required to file an application stating this request with the Directorate of the General Security, three days at least before the expiry of the validity of the said transit visa.

In exceptional cases, the application for extension may be received even the very day of the expiry of the validity of the transit visa.

Article 11

Any alien who may wish to extend the period of his temporary stay must, as a matter of principle, file a petition stating this request with the Directorate of the General Security, at least five days before the expiry of the validity period of the stay visa.

In exceptional cases, the application for extension may be received even the very day of the expiry of the validity of the transit visa.

Article 12

The Directorate of the General Security shall issue a residence permit valid for one or several entries into Lebanon for a period of six months or more to any alien residing in Lebanon on a temporary basis and wishing to leave the country, then return thereto.

## II - RESIDENCE CARDS

Article 13

Any alien wishing to stay in Lebanon for over 12 months is required to file and sign an application that he shall file with the Directorate of the General Security at least 30 days before the expiry of the validity period of his permit for temporary stay. This Directorate shall decide on the cases to be approved and shall issue a card for an annual or permanent residence.

On both the application and the permit, mention shall be made of all the particulars whereby the alien can be identified, including his address, the information concerning his passport and the object of his stay.

Article 14

A residence card is delivered to any person of full 15 years of age and to any child who has left his parents' residence even if he has not yet exceeded this age.

The card of each of the spouses shall mention the identity of the other, as well as the name of the children residing with them and who may not have attained full 15 years of age.

Article 15

Application for the renewal of a residence card must be filed with the Directorate of the General Security, at least five days before the expiry of the validity period. In exceptional cases, the application may be received on the very day of expiry of the residence card.

Cards for annual or permanent residence are not renewable if their holders reside outside Lebanon.

Article 16

Cards for annual or permanent residence entitle their bearers to enter Lebanon in the course of their validity period provided they also hold regulation passports authorising them to return to their country.

Article 17

The alien who shall have stayed outside Lebanon a total number of days in excess of six months shall forfeit the right to benefit from the card of annual residence.

If he has stayed outside Lebanon for twelve months at a stretch, or a total number of days in excess of 18 months in the course of three years, he shall forfeit the right to benefit from the card of permanent residence.

Article 18

The terms and conditions governing the release, free of charge, of residence cards to officials of foreign missions in Lebanon and to members of their families, as well as to their

dependants shall be specified by ministerial order from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants.

### III - TRANSIT AND STAY TAXES <sup>(1)</sup>

Article 19 (as modified by Decree No. 7451 of 31 May 1967,  
(Law No. 4/80 of 7 April 1980, Decree-Law No. 31 of 14 June 1983,  
(Law No. 46 of 1 July 1988, Law No. 14 of 20 August 1990,  
(and Law No. 280 of 15 December 1993

Taxes on transit and residence visas are assessed as follows and levied by means of a fiscal stamp which shall be affixed and cancelled on the same page of the visa :

- Tax on transit visa : 25,000 Lebanese pounds; however the transit visa is free of charge if it is granted for 48 hours by a General Security post set up at the border.
- Tax on residence visa :
  - for one travel : 50,000 Lebanese pounds
  - for two travels : 75,000 Lebanese pounds
  - for three travels or more: 100,000 Lebanese pounds

Article 20 (as modified by Decree No. 7451 of 31 May 1967

The group visa is issued for one month and many travels and no tax shall be levied to this effect.

Article 21 (as modified by Decree No. 7451 of 31 May 1967,  
(Decree No. 6722 of 13 November 2001,  
(Decree No. 10955 of 17 September 2003,  
(and Decree No.4186 of 31 May 2010

Are exempted from the tax on transit or stay visa, bearers of diplomatic passports, special and official, as well as service passports and those of United Nations personnel.

The Heads of consular and diplomatic missions and the Director General of the General Security are authorised to grant courtesy visas to clerics, governing or formerly governing personalities, personalities known to be friendly, outstanding personalities of Lebanese origin, members of the diplomatic and consular corps and United Nations officials, as well as their families and all the persons previously designated who do not bear usual passports.

Non-Lebanese military men of every rank, seconded to Lebanese military academies and institutes belonging to the army or to security administrations, are exempted from visa taxes for entry and stay during the whole period of their stay in Lebanon.

The Director General of the General Security may grant courtesy stay permits for three years, renewable, to the following categories :

- The Arab or foreign national whose mother is Lebanese, if he is not working.

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(1) *The amounts of taxes are periodically modified.*

- The wife of a Lebanese, whether Arab or foreign, if she is not working.
- The Arab or foreign national, born in Lebanon of non-Lebanese parents, if he is studying.
- The Arab or foreign national of Lebanese origin who has another nationality and who must therefore obtain a stay permit in Lebanon.
- Diplomats, irrespective of their nationality, who had been appointed in Lebanon and who wish to stay in the country after their retirement.
- The foreign national who has taken to wife a Lebanese national, one year after their marriage, as well as the children of the Lebanese wife of a foreign national, whether they are of age or under age, and whether they are working or not. Any person who is not of Lebanese nationality shall be considered as foreign national, in conformity with article 1 of the law of 10/7/1962 (Law governing the entry and stay in Lebanon as well as the exit).
- Special cases, as the Director General of the General Security may appreciate.

### Article 22

No tax shall be levied on any renewal of a transit or stay visa granted in Lebanon if extension does not exceed the maximum validity of such visa (15 days for the transit visa and 12 months for the residence visa).

Consuls are not empowered to extend the validity period of transit and residence visas; they must renew them against payment of the regulation tax on each renewal.

Article 23 (as modified by Law No. 1/70 of 19 January 1970,  
(Law No. 4/80 of 7 April 1980,  
(and Decree-Law No. 31 of 14 June 1983

The amount of the tax in respect of permanent or annual residence cards is fixed as follows, and shall be levied by means of fiscal stamps affixed and cancelled on the very page which bears the signature of the Director of the General Security or of his Deputy :

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Permanent (3 years)</u>
1 - For destitute persons and members of their families	LL 60	LL 180
2 - For students, low income persons and their families	LL 75	LL 225
3 - Other categories	LL 300	LL 700

The Director General of the General Security shall determine, following enquiry, the bracket to which the applicant belongs.<sup>(1)</sup>

### Article 24

Aliens of under 15 years of age are exempted from the tax on the extension of the validity period of the stay visa and on the permanent or annual residence card.

### Article 25

Syrian nationals are exempted from the obligations deriving from article 23; there shall be levied on the permanent residence cards issued to them the value of a one-pound duty stamp.

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Article 26

The usual tax shall be levied on the stay visa granted to an alien entering Lebanon with a transit visa; it shall be likewise if he enters Lebanon with a stay visa.

A new tax shall be levied on all new residence cards or on any renewal of his card.

Article 27

The regulation tax levied on transit visas and on residence cards may not be refunded.

IV - EXEMPTION FROM THE USE OF PASSPORTS

Article 28

Without prejudice to the current practice and customs regarding the movement and residence of nationals of the Syrian Arab Republic as well as to the provisions of the agreement concluded between the Lebanese State and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan regarding the movement and residence of the nationals of the two countries, or to all other agreements subsequently concluded with other States to regulate this matter, the categories of aliens and persons that the Minister of Interior may exempt by ministerial order from the use of passports in specific cases are listed as under :

- 1 - Palestinian refugees in Lebanon or in the Syrian Arab Republic during their movement between the two countries;
- 2 - Aliens residing in Lebanon or in the Syrian Arab Republic during their movement between the two countries;
- 3 - Sea and air travellers wishing to visit the country while their vessel or aircraft lies at anchor in the harbour or stands at airport, or while awaiting a connection;
- 4 - Tourists, students and athletes, on their arrival, their travelling in groups duly constituted or in delegation;
- 5 - Sea and air crews and their assistants, on their entering Lebanon or the Syrian Arab Republic, either to report to duty on board their vessels and aircraft, or to reach their place or residence;
- 6 - Members of foreign armed forces and the United Nations, on their entry as tourists;
- 7 - In exceptional cases, other persons, as the Minister of the Interior or the Director of the General Security may appreciate.

A ministerial order from the Minister of the Interior shall fix the nature of the documents which shall be used in the cases listed in the preceding subparagraph regarding entry, stay and exit.

Zouk, 28 July 1962  
Signed : Fouad Chehab

By the President of the Republic,  
The President of the Council of Ministers  
Signed : Rachid Karame

The Minister of the Interior  
Signed : Kamal Joumlatt