

1. **NEW ELECTRONIC VISA APPLICATION FORM DS-160 REQUIRED BY MARCH 1, 2010 AT MANY HIGH-VOLUME U.S. CONSULAR POSTS**
2. **MEXICO ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES**

## **1. NEW ELECTRONIC VISA APPLICATION FORM DS-160 REQUIRED BY MARCH 1, 2010 AT MANY HIGH-VOLUME U.S. CONSULAR POSTS**

Many U.S. consulates and embassies, including Paris, London, Chennai, Mumbai, Beijing, Frankfurt, Singapore and Caracas will require the new DS-160 visa application form effective March 1st. A listing of all posts with the March 1st implementation deadline is provided below. All remaining consular posts worldwide must implement the DS-160 by April 30, 2010.

The Form DS-160 replaces both the Form DS-156 and the Form DS-157 visa application forms. The Form DS-160, which is multiple pages when printed, can take up to an hour to complete. Applicants at posts that already require the Form DS-160 have reported difficulty in completing the lengthy form online before the electronic system “times out”, resulting in multiple attempts at completion. Applicants should have their passports, previous travel history, employment history, education history, and travel itineraries nearby when completing the form. As more posts require the DS-160, there will be a much higher volume usage of the electronic visa application system, which is likely to cause some delay in completing the form. Applicants should also save their forms frequently, and in the event of difficulty should contact their FosterQuan immigration attorney. FosterQuan’s experienced staff will be able to assist in the completion of the Form DS-160 prior to the applicant’s review and direct submission of the form electronically.

FosterQuan will continue to monitor changes in visa application procedures and will make future updates available via future Immigration Updates<sup>©</sup> and on [our firm’s website](#).

The following posts must have fully implemented the Form DS-160 no later than March 1, 2010:

Algiers, Algeria	Vienna, Austria	Manama, Bahrain
Minsk, Belarus	Beijing, China	Chengdu, China
Guangzhou, China	Shanghai, China	Shenyang, China
Havana, Cuba	Djibouti, Djibouti	Cairo, Egypt
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Paris, France	Frankfurt, Germany
Chennai, India	Hyderabad, India	Kolkata, India
Mumbai, India	Delhi, India	Jakarta, Indonesia
Surabaya, Indonesia	Tel Aviv, Israel	Jerusalem

Amman, Jordan	Nairobi, Kenya	Kuwait City, Kuwait
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Casablanca, Morocco	Muscat, Oman
Islamabad, Pakistan	Karachi, Pakistan	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	Singapore, Singapore
Khartoum, Sudan	Damascus, Syria	Taiwan
Kyiv, Ukraine	Dubai, UAE	Abu Dhabi, UAE
London, UK	Caracas, Venezuela	Sana'a, Yemen

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## **2. MEXICO ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES**

Mexico's National Migration Institute published its Manual of Criteria and Migration Procedures ("The Manual") on January 29, 2010. The Manual, which is intended to provide guidance and streamline immigration application processing, will go into effect on May 1, 2010. All immigration applications filed before the effective date will be considered based on current procedures and policies.

Major highlights of The Manual include an overhaul of entry procedures at Mexican border points. All travelers to Mexico will be required to complete a new immigration form (Forma Migratoria Múltiple, or FMM) upon entry. For temporary visitors (tourist, business or technical visitors) entering for stays of up to 180 days, this form will replace the FMTTV form currently in use. Visitors who plan to stay in Mexico for more than 180 days will still need to apply for authorization from Mexican immigration authorities.

Further, the physical format and content of Mexican travel documents (FM-2 and FM-3 booklets) will be changed in the coming months. These changes are expected to facilitate travel while change-of-status applications are filed and pending.

The National Migration Institute will be publishing full details on the practical implementation of these new procedures over the next few months. FosterQuan will continue to provide updates as soon as they become available. If you have any questions about how these changes may affect you or an employee, please contact Robert Loughran at [rloughran@fosterquan.com](mailto:rloughran@fosterquan.com).