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# English Translation of New Immigration Laws

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**EXECUTIVE DECREE No. 320  
(Of August 8, 2008)**

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This document is not a legal translation of the changes to the Immigration laws. While I do believe that this is an accurate and correct translation, it should only be used as a reference. Please consult a properly accredited attorney before making any decisions regarding your Immigration status in Panama.

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## **EXECUTIVE DECREE No. 320**

**(Of August 8, 2008)**

**"That regulates the Decree Law No. 3 of February 22, 2008, that creates the Servicio Nacional de Migración (National Service of Immigration) and dictates other dispositions"**

### **CONSIDERING:**

That the Decree Law Nº 3 of February 22, 2008, established the bases so that the National Service of Immigration priest its functions, according to the migratory politics dictated by the Executive Branch and in its article 4 directed that will be regulated for its effective application. That the National Service of Immigration has as purpose to lend a civil service of security, applying the migratory politics that dictate the Executive Organ, administering, supervising and exercising the migratory control of national and foreign, basing on principles of legality, order, efficiency, transparency, professionalism, discipline and simplification of the migratory procedures, with strict I attach to the human rights. That the dispositions of this regulation in accordance with it established in the article 14 of the Decree Law 3 of February 22, 2008, will develop the categories and subcategories migratory, as well as the procedure, the form and the conditions under which the visas will be sent off and the permissions, according to the principles of national security, salubriousness, law and order and protection of rights and liberties of foreigners and nationals. Consequently their dispositions will not be able to be altered or varied by interpretations or practical administrative that contravene these principles and the present regulation. That the public servants adhering to the National Service of Immigration, as well as the foreigners, legal attorneys and other users of the migratory services, they remain subject to it arranged by the Decree Law 3 and by the present regulation in order to protect the rights and the observance of the parties. Their breach will generate administrative sanctions, without lessening of the civil sanctions or penal corresponding.

### **BY DECREE:**

**Article 1.** The Panamanian State by means of the present regulation establishes the assembly of legal precepts that regulate the migratory relations with foreigners that enter Panamanian territory, in order to try common good and the welfare of the associates, developing the concepts expressed in the Decree Law 3 of February 22, 2008, that creates the National Service of Immigration, establishes its faculties and dictates other dispositions, to end favoring the development of politics and the procedures inherent in the national migratory politics, on the base of the application of adequate processes and respect of the legal norms in force.

**TITLE I**  
**GENERALITIES**  
**CHAPTER I**  
**DEFINITIONS**

**Article 2.** For the effects of the present regulation the following terms will be understood as:

- Preventive Shelters: are precincts of short stay to detain foreign offenders of the migratory laws, to a maximum of eighteen (18) months.
- Stateless: Every person who is considered as a national of no State, as a result of conflicts in the criteria of attachment of their nationality, by renunciation of their nationality, judicial sanction, or by dissolution of the State of their nationality.
- Consultative Counsel: A group of consultation and advising for the composed, migratory politics by the public servants detailed in the article 8 Decree Law Not. 3.
- Decree Law: Is the Decree Law No. 3 of February 22, 2008.
- Director: General director of the National Service of Immigration.
- Infractions: Violation or transgressions of the migratory legal dispositions.
- Coercive Jurisdiction: It is the faculty that offers the State to the General Director of the National Service of Immigration, to process the funds derived from the legally imposed sanctions and executed by means of an exceptional judicial procedure, exercised directly by the company without the intervention of the agreement, ordinary civil jurisdiction the Decree Law establishes it and the present regulation.
- Person under age: They are people of less than 18 years.
- Migrant: Is every person that leaves from a country, place or locality to another.
- Regular Migrant: The foreigners that visit or reside legally in the country.
- Irregular Migrant: The foreigners that do not have a visa or permission to remain in the country with some of the migratory categories established in Decree Law and this regulation (illegal aliens).
- Fine: Pecuniary sanction, that applies according to the gravity of the infraction, to the foreigners, national and legal people that infringe the migratory laws established in the Decree Law and the present regulation.
- Even to land (Shore pass): It is the document that emits the National Service of Immigration to request of the representative or agent of ship, for those marine or crew members, that enter to the

national territory, through a ship anchored in territorial water or docked in ports of the Republic of Panama.

- **Permission:** It is the authorization that is offered to a foreigner to remain to the national territory, like resident temporary or resident permanent, by the specific times in the Decree Law.
- **Frontier Permission:** Authorization for the income or temporary exit to national territory of one or another country, to the resident people in the bordering zones.
- **Temporary or permanent residence Permit:** Authorization offered by the National Service of Immigration to the foreigners that comply with the requirements and norms of the Decree Law and this regulation.
- **Migratory checkpoints:** They are those temporary or permanent precincts located in airports, borders, or maritime ports, and any another enabled place for the traffic and migratory control.
- **Registration of Immigration:** Section of the National Service of Immigration responsible for entering the data and information of the foreigners, identifying these with a number of unique identification that will serve for its duty personal identification.
- **Voluntary Return:** It is the authorization that is granted to the migrant irregular to leave the country, subject to payment of the corresponding administrative sanctions and the costs of transfer to the country of destiny.
- **Safe-conduct:** Document of trip that is offered to the foreigners whose countries have no diplomatic representation neither consular, reputable before the Government of the Republic of Panama.
- **Illicit Traffic of migrant:** Illegal entrance of a person to a part of the country of which said person be not national or permanent resident in order to obtain, direct or indirectly, a financial benefit or another benefit of material order.
- **Human Trafficking:** Is the collecting, the transfer, the reception of people, traveling through to the threat or to the use of the force or other forms of compulsion, to the abduction, to the fraud, to the deceit, to the abuse of being able or of a situation of vulnerability or to the concession or reception of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person that have authority on another, with. That exploitation will include, as a minimum, the exploitation of the alien prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced services, the slavery or the analogous practices to slavery, the servants or the extraction of organs.
- **Unit of Attention to the Victim of Human Traffickers:** Administrative unit of the National Service of Immigration, which will attend in an integral way to those regular migrants or irregular that be witnesses or victims of crimes related to human trafficking, especially people under age, in coordination with the competent authorities.

- Visa: It is the authorization that is offered to a foreigner to enter to the national territory, like the non-resident, by a specific term.

## CHAPTER II

### FUNCTIONS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNSEL OF IMMIGRATION

**Article 3.** In accordance with the article 8 of the Decree Law, the Consultative Counsel, will have the following functions:

1. Acting as consultant and advisor of the National Service of Immigration in migratory matters.
2. Designing and suggesting the migratory politics of the State and the measures and necessary actions for its execution, considering the needs for development of the country.
3. Proposing programs, projects, and initiatives in migratory matters.
4. Considering and to suggest modifications to the migratory legislation.
5. Promoting the execution of disciplinary studies, that have incident in migratory matters.
6. Suggesting the collecting of information for the examination of the migratory subject matters and threats that be deciphered on the free movement and assurance of the people.
7. Suggesting strategies of coordination with field offices and the government offices, besides developing politics, laws, models, mechanisms of support, programs of management for migratory activities and programs of technical cooperation.
8. Recommending data updating programs, institutional strengthening, technical training to the public servants and operating systems of security and intelligence according to the existing migratory flows.
9. Approving its internal regulation.

**Article 4.** The meetings or assemblies of the Consultative Counsel will be carried out ordinarily each six (6) months and extraordinarily when they are called for by the Ministro de Gobierno y Justicia (Minister of Government and Justice).

## CHAPTER III

### MIGRATORY FUNCTIONS OF THE DIPLOMATIC PERSONELL AND PANAMANIAN CONSULATE

**Article 5.** The diplomatic Personell and Panamanian Consulates abroad in their functions as migratory authorities have the obligation to obey and to comply with the dispositions of the Decree Law and the

present regulation, as well as the instructions and decisions of the General Director of the National Service of Immigration, with regard to migratory managements.

**Article 6.** The diplomatic Personell and consular Panamanian abroad has the duty to divulge and to orient the users on the migratory state, doing emphasis in the commercial and labor activities that or not to develop in the country.

**Article 7.** The diplomatic Personell and Panamanian Consulates abroad have the obligation to receive the complete documentation, to comply with the procedures, with owed diligence, according to the requirements established in the Decree Law and the present regulation.

**Article 8.** The Department of Foreign Affairs with the assistance of the National Service of Immigration, will devise an instructive manual for the diplomatic Personell and consular in which the procedure will be detailed to continue to exercise its migratory functions, according to the country or region that corresponds.

**Article 9.** The consulate or diplomatic Personell that receive documentation for migratory procedures, will send it through the media required by the National Service of Immigration, subject to payment by the migratory services that establish the present regulation.

**Article 10.** The visas or permissions of non-residents, temporary residents or permanent residents, that will be able to present before the Migratory Authorities abroad are:

1. Visas of short stay;
2. Permanent permission of stockholder withdrawn;
3. Permanent permission of retired or pensioner;
4. Permissions of temporary resident protected by special laws, with exception:
  - a. Headquarters of multinational businesses;
  - b. Panama-Peaceful economic Area;
  - c. City of Knowledge (Ciudad de Saber) foundation(except for the students);
  - d. Authorities of the Panama Canal

**TITLE II**  
**GENERAL PROCEDURES**

**CHAPTER I**

**REQUESTS OF VISAS OR PERMISSIONS**

**Article 11.** The migrant non-residents, temporary residents, permanent resident,s and the foreigners under protection of the Republic of Panama, that enter to the national territory, shall comply with the demands, conditions, and prohibitions indicated in the Decree Law and the present regulation.

**Article 12.** The requests, the forms, and original documents to request visas or permissions in the different migratory categories or subcategories will be presented according to the technological mechanisms that for such effects are established by the National Service of Immigration.

In the event that the offices of the National Service of Immigration do not include such technological systems, the reception of requests, forms and original documents in printed formats will be permitted.

**Article 13.** The non-resident visa requests or permissions of temporary residents as student will be to presentable by them interested personally in the Consulates or Embassies of the Republic of Panama of their country of origin or of residence or by means of legal attorney before the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 14.** The Consulate or Embassy of Panama abroad will be able to offer the temporary resident permission requests as students that are submitted to them. They will be able to offer, subject to presentation of the requirements that be established in the present regulation. If they pass the first permission, the interested will have to request the overtime before the National Service of Immigration personally or by means of legal attorney.

**Article 15.** Every request of visa presented to the Republic of Panama before the National Service of Immigration should be dealt with by a legal attorney properly accredited by the interested.

**TITLE III**  
**MIGRATORY CATEGORY OF NON-RESIDENT**

**CHAPTER I**

**Tourist Visa**

**Article 16.** The migratory authorities of the National Service of Immigration will issues visas for valid tourism by a term not greater than ninety (90) days, if the foreigners comply with the requirements required by this regulation and without damage of what are established by the international agreements ratified by the Republic of Panama and the principles of reciprocity.

**Article 17.** The tourist will be able to request a tourist visa as long as the foreigner complies with the following requirements:

1. Completing the visa application form;
2. Presenting original and complete copy of the passport or document of trip with a minimum of three (3) months of force;
3. Air reservation verified with itinerary of continuation (return)of the trip or electronic ticket;
4. Copies of the ID card or card of residence of the country where the tourist resides;
5. Contributing three (3) photographs;
6. Paying for the migratory services in the sum of fifty balboas (B/.50.00), at the moment of the presentation before the National Service of Immigration;
7. Can show economic reliability for their maintenance and living according to the term of stopover in the country, which will not be able to be lower to five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) and will be shown with some of the following options:
  - a. Check certificate or bank draft to name of the applicant;
  - b. Checks travelers to name of the applicant;
  - c. Banking Certification, with statement of the last three months that reflect available balance;

- d. Credit Card with the statement of the last three months that reflect available balance;
  - e. Tax Return or similar, of the last tax year;
  - f. Anything else that that shows incomes and that be acceptable for the National Service of Immigration.
8. To show the activities the tourist will carry out, such as:
- a. To be a public or private employee of a company: certificate of work with last receipt of salary or accreditation as an independent worker.
  - b. To be a pensioner or retired: documents that show the pension or retirement with its proof of payment;
  - c. To be independent: tax return of the last tax year;
  - d. To be a student: a certification of the educational center that indicates the studies that they are studying and the period of holidays; time of holidays should stipulate the time that was granted him to travel;
  - e. To be a dependent person economically: affidavit of a relative that will be responsible for placement and living during their trip; certification of family ties and the test of economic reliability;
9. Copies of the last permission that was approved for them by the Panamanian migratory authority (if applicable);
10. Reservation of confirmed hotel, (if applicable);
11. Affidavit of person hosting (if applicable) and in whose case will be able to be carried out by:
- A. Temporary or permanent residents or Panamanians from Panama, including the following thing according to the case:
    - a. 1. Authentic ID card from the country of origin;
    - a. 2. Copies of passport information and of the personal ID card of the foreigner;
    - a. 3. Copies of payment receipts for the installment of public utilities, where the location of their residence is evident;
  - B. Legal Representative of public or private companies. In the case it is for a public company, they should present a letter of invitation. To be a private company, should include the following documents:
    - b. 1. Certification of the Public Registration;

- b. 2. Copies of the Notice of Operations;
- b. 3. Copies of the key of operation of the Zona Libre de Colon (if applicable);
- b. 4. Copies of payment receipts for the installment of public utilities, where the location of the business is evident;

12. To be applied the previous numeral, where someone invites and is held responsible, except for public companies, they should accredit economic reliability, through some of the following documents:

- a. Banking Certification;
- b. Tax Return with its Paz and Salvo;
- c. Letter of work with last date on file of the CSS;
- d. To assume the expenses of the guest the host should present affidavit that states they assume commitment to cover the tourist's living expenses during their stopover and their repatriation if necessary.

13. When the request is for a person under age, should be done by one of their parents or legal guardian, presenting birth certificate and affidavit where the applicant offers authorization to leave the country, detailing the term of the visit and the person that will hold responsibility during their stopover in our country, as well as the source of economic living for expenses.

**Article 18.** All the nationals of countries that have not subscribed a visa suppression agreement with the Republic of Panama should be Tourist Visas with the National Service of Immigration or the offices of the Exterior Service, whichever is the most competent authority.

**Article 19.** Those nationals of countries that are exempted from this requirement will be given a Tourist Card which will be valid to remain in the country for no more than ninety (90) days, without damage to the international agreements ratified by the Republic of Panama and the principles of reciprocity. The Tourist Card will give rights as indicated in the Fiscal Code.

**Article 20.** The National Service of Immigration will be able to cancel the Tourist Card or Tourist Visa, when the tourist does not comply with the principles of national security, salubrity, or law and order, and will proceed to take the measures that reckon pertinent to return, to deport or to expel the foreigners in this situation, fulfilling the due process.

## SECTION 1ª

### TOURIST EXTENSION

**Article 21.** The foreigner that enters national territory as a tourist to and offered a visa for less than ninety (90) days, subject to concept of the General Director of the National Service of Immigration, before the expiration of the visa, will be able to request personally or by means of legal attorney their extension up to completing a maximum time of stopover of ninety (90) days.

**Article 22.** For the application of the tourism extension, those interested should present the following documentation:

1. Request of the tourism visa extension;
2. Copies complete of the passport, with a minimum validity of three (3) months;
3. Copies of the full electronic ticket;
4. Reservation of hotel (if applicable);
5. Justification of the motives for the tourism extension;
6. Can show economic reliability for their maintenance and living according to the term of stopover in the country, which will not be able to be lower to five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) and will be shown with some of the following options:
  - a. Check certificate or bank draft to name of the applicant;
  - b. Checks travelers to name of the applicant;
  - c. Banking Certification, with statement of the last three months that reflect available balance;
  - d. Credit Card with the statement of the last three months that reflect available balance;
7. . Affidavit of person hosting (if applicable) and in whose case will be able to be carried out by:
  - A. Temporary or permanent residents or Panamanians from Panama, including the following thing according to the case:
    - a. 1. Authentic ID card from the country of origin;
    - a. 2. Copies of passport information and of the personal ID card of the foreigner;
    - a. 3. Copies of payment receipts for the installment of public utilities, where the location of their residence is evident;

B. Legal Representative of public or private companies. In the case it is for a public company, should present a letter of invitation. To be a private company, should include the following documents:

- b. 1. Certification of the Public Registration;
- b. 2. Copies of the Notice of Operations;
- b. 3. Copies of the key of operation of the Zona Libre de Colon (if applicable);
- b. 4. Copies of payment receipts for the installment of public utilities, where the location of the business is evident;

8. To be applied the previous numeral, where someone invites and is held responsible, except for public companies; they should accredit economic reliability, through some of the following documents:

- a. Banking Certification;
- b. Tax Return with its Paz and Salvo;
- c. Letter of work with last date on file of the CSS;
- d. To assume the expenses of the guest the host should present affidavit that states they assume commitment to cover the tourist's living expenses during their stopover and their repatriation if necessary.

## **SECTION 2ª**

### **REQUEST OF EXTENSION FOR CHANGE OF MIGRATORY CATEGORY**

**Article 23.** With base in the article 17 of the Decree Law, the foreigner that enters to the national territory as a tourist will be able to request an extension, until a term of sixty (60) days, subject to rules of the General Director of the National Service of Immigration, when is justified by their migratory category change. This is only for any request as temporary or permanent resident and they lack some requirement to complete the request. This should be requested by means of legal attorney ten days (10) business days before the expiration of the stopover as the tourist.

**Article 24.** With the request of this extension the foreigner will present copies of the documents that serve as witness to support their petition. To be approved the extension should advance the payment of two hundred fifty balboas (B/.250.00) established in the numeral 4 of the article 28 of the Decree Law and to consign a deposit of guarantee by the sum of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00), both in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 25.** If they present the permission request with all the pertinent documentation in opportune time the deposit of guarantee will be returned. If they do not present the paperwork by the deadline,

the money mentioned in the previous article will not be returned, but will enter to the Fiduciary Fund of Immigration and the foreigner should leave the country immediately.

## CHAPTER II

### EXTENSION FOR PASSENGERS OR CREW MEMBERS IN TRAFFIC

**Article 26.** Unforeseen circumstances, in situations of passengers in travel or crew members, the National Service of Immigration will be able to offer an extension of stopover for seventy-two (72) hours, in whose case will deliver a passenger in traffic card.

Said card will be requested by the international shipping company, under its responsibility to a cost of five balboas (B/.5.00), and should verify that an unforeseen circumstance occurred and to guarantee the exit of the passenger or crew member.

## CHAPTER III

### MARINE VISA

**Article 27.** For faithful compliance of the article 16 numeral 3 of the Decree Law, the National Service of Immigration will approve, through resolutions, the protocols of procedure so that the migratory flow of marines that enter into the national territory as crew members on ships with licenses of international navigation, be carried out in a prompt way in coordination with the associations, businesses and public companies that participate in the activities.

**Article 28.** The National Service of Immigration will create a registration of shipping agencies that operate in the Republic of Panama, in order for them to function as responsible companies before the migratory authority. To enter into the registration they should fill the form that establishes the institution and to comply with the requirements of it.

**Article 29.** The representatives or agents of ships will be responsible for complying with the dispositions of the article 9 of the Law 60 of 1978.

**Article 30.** The special visa for marines can be requested through representatives or agents of the ship, presenting the following documents:

1. Request of visa that includes: generals, charge and license number of the marine, data of the ship that hires them, hotel where they will lodge (if applicable) and date of shipment. Should the marine embark on a ship with the international Panamanian flag, it should be sealed by the Maritime Authority of Panama;
2. Letter of responsibility of the representative or agent of the ship;
3. Copies of the passport in force;

4. Copies of the Contract of enrollment sent off by the shipping business that hires it;
5. Copies of the notebook of shipment, sent off by the competent authority of their country and copy of license of marine (if applicable).
6. Copies of title of suitability in force, sent off by the competent authority of their country. The documents before mentioned will not have to be authenticated neither notary profession, save the letter of responsibility.

**Article 31.** In the case that representatives or agents of ships need a visa extension due to unforeseen circumstances, it should present a writing to the National Service of Immigration, supporting the motive of the request, being compromised to guarantee the custody of the marine and their exit of the country according to the approval. If the extension is denied, the marine should be repatriated immediately at the cost of the representative or agent of the ship.

**Article 32.** The representative or agent of a ship that will be anchored in territorial water or mooring in national ports will request to the National Service of Immigration the emission of an authorization of unloading that Pair to Land will be called of Marine (Shore pass). This request will be carried out twenty-four (24) hours before the unloading, with the following documentation:

1. Certification that the applicant is a representative of the ship;
2. Letter of responsibility of the representative or agent of the ship;
3. Letter of responsibility of the captain of the ship, that declare the list of its crew members with its generals;
4. Original and copy of the passport;
5. Original and copy of the license of marine.

**Article 33.** When the ship is under repair or activities or loading or unloading, after the fifteen (15) days established in the article 7 of the Law 60 of 1978 has past, the representative or agent of the ship will be able to request an extension of the Pase a Tierra to the National Service of Immigration, subject to concept of the General Director or of the authorized public servant. For such effects they should present:

1. Certification that is a representative of the ship;
2. Letter of responsibility of the representative or agent of the ship;
3. Letter of responsibility of the captain of the ship, that declare the list of its crew members with its generals;
4. Proof of reservation of the hotel, in extraordinary cases;
5. Original and copy of the passport;

6. Two (2) Photographs;
7. Original and copy of the marine license.

**Article 34.** The National Service of Immigration will determine the costs for maritime migratory services, that include: receipt and departure of ships, shipment and unloading of crew members and passing, for extraordinary hours, card of pair to land, Pase a Tierra card, inspections or any another costs that are generated for services to the crew.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **SPECIALIST WORKERS VISA**

**Article 35.** With base in the article 15 of the Decree Law, the business that hires a foreigner to labor in activities of specialists will be able to request this visa, by the maximum term of (9) nine months not extendable, whenever said business fills the requirements and responsibilities that are require by the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 36.** The National Service of Immigration will create a registration of businesses dedicated to activities of specialists inside the Republic of Panama, in order to that they can function as responsible companies before the migratory authority, which should be brought up to date yearly. To enter to the registration they should fill the form and to present the following documents:

1. Request;
2. Certificate of Public Registration;
3. Copies of the Notice of Operations;
4. Payment receipts for the installment of public utilities where the business is located;
5. Banking certification;
6. Last tax return, with its paz and salvo;
7. Police record;
8. Copies of form 03 of the Department of Economy and Finances;
9. Paz y salvo of the CSS.

**Article 37.** To be maintained in the registration of businesses that is mentioned in the previous article, the business should comply with the dispositions of the article 89 of the Decree Law and other contained norms in this regulation.

**Article 38.** To request this visa they should comply with the formalities required in the article 28 of the Decree Law and to contribute the following documents:

1. Request;
2. Three (3) photographs;
3. Document of identity of the country of origin or residence permit;
4. Proof of affiliation to the CSS;
5. Deposit of Guarantee, to account of the business contractor, in favor of the National Service of Immigration by the sum of one thousand balboas (B/1,000.00);
6. Work permit;
7. Copies of the electronic ticket of full return;
8. Proof of the hotel reservation or of the place of lodging;
9. National Paz y Salvo of the business applicant;
10. Paz y Salvo of the CSS of the business applicant;
11. Letter of responsibility of the business;
12. Proof of payment of the income tax pertaining to the value of the labor contract;
13. Affidavit of the foreigner before Panamanian notary.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **VISA OF PASSERS-BY OR INDUSTRIOUS EVENTUAL**

**Article 39.** With base in the article 15 of the Decree Law, the businesses that hire a foreigner to labor for a single time and that in a temporary way enter to the territory to carry out technical work, of the cultural, artistic or musical, sports, professional, educational field, or scientific, specifically in a business for specific work will be able to request this visa, by a maximum term of three (3) non-extendable months, as long as the business and the foreigner comply the requirements and responsibilities that are required by the National Service of Immigration and the Department of Labor and Labor Development.

**Article 40.** The business applicant is obliged to comply with the dispositions of the article 89 of the Decree Law and other contained norms in this regulation.

**Article 41.** The applicant will be able to request this visa when their stopover is not lower than (15) calendars days, for which they should comply with the formalities required in the article 28 of the Decree Law, excepting the numeral 4 and to contribute the following documents:

1. Request;
2. Three (3) photographs;
3. Copies of the ID document of the country of origin or permission of residence;
4. Deposit of Guarantee, to the account of the business contractor, in favor of the National Service of Immigration for the sum of two hundred fifty balboas (B/.250.00). In the case of visa requests for groups of more than ten (10) foreigners, the Deposit of Guarantee will be for the sum of two thousand five hundred balboas (B/.2,500.00) for the group in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
5. Payment for migratory service by the total of a hundred balboas (B/.100.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
6. Work permit;
7. Copies of the electronic ticket paid for return;
8. Proof of the hotel reservation or of the place of lodging;
9. National Paz y Salvo of incomes of the business applicant;
10. Paz y Salvo of CSS of the business applicant;
11. Letter of responsibility by the business;
12. Proof of ability to pay the income tax pertaining to the value of the labor contract.

**Article 42.** To request this visa, when the stopover of the foreigner is going to be lower than (15) calendar days, should comply with the requirements indicated in the previous article and with the formalities required in the article 28 of the Decree Law, excepting the numerals 2, 3 and 4.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **DOMESTIC WORKERS VISA**

**Article 43.** With base in the article 15 of the Decree Law, a Panamanian national or the temporary or permanent resident that hires a foreigner to labor as a domestic laborer will be able to request this visa, by a term of a (1) extendable year, as long as the interested and the foreigner comply with the requirements and responsibilities that are required by the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 44.** The Panamanian national or the temporary or permanent resident applicant is obliged to comply with the dispositions of the article 89 of the Decree Law and other contained norms in this

regulation. So much the foreigner as the employer they have the obligation to notify to the National Service of Immigration in case of the termination of the employment, which will be grounds for cancellation of the visa.

**Article 45.** To request this visa the foreigner should comply with the formalities required in the article 28 of the Decree Law, excepting the numeral 4 and to contribute the following documents:

1. Power and request;
2. Three (3) photographs;
3. Copies of the ID document from the country of origin or residence permit;
4. Deposit of Guarantee, from the account of the employer, in favor of the National Service of Immigration for the sum of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00);
5. Payment for migratory service in the total of two hundred fifty balboas (B/.250.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
6. Copies of the electronic ticket paid for full return;
7. Public utilities receipt proof, where the location of the residence is evident in which the domestic service will be lent;
8. National Paz y Salvo of incomes of the employer and the foreigner;
9. Proof of affiliation to the CSS of the foreigner and copy of their card (in the case of last date is on file);
10. Letter of responsibility of the employer;
11. Labor contract.

## **CHAPTER VII**

### **VISA OF SHORT STAY**

**Article 46.** Foreigners that enter into the national territory, without having spirit of establishing their residence here, with the end established in the subcategories will be able to request a visa of short stay as long as they comply with the formalities required in that of the article 28 of the Decree Law (excepting the numeral 4) and the article 17 of the present regulation, as well as those that be required for the subcategory. Likewise, the foreigner should justify the term that they require, which will not be able to be over nine (9) months and will be non-extendable when the term is completed.

## SECTION 1ª

### VISA OF SHORT STAY FOR BUSINESS

**Article 47.** Foreigners that, before entering into the country, with the foreign purpose of establishing subsidiaries in the Republic of Panama will be able to request this visa, present through the migratory authorities abroad, the following documents:

1. Request of visa of short stay for business;
2. Payment of expenses for migratory services for the sum of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
3. Guarantee deposit payment of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
4. Proof of solvency of the applicant that should show a minimum of four (4) high figures;
5. Documentation that accredit the purpose of the trip and the conditions of stay for business:
  - a. Foreign business existence Certificate and letter of responsibility, detailing the charge and functions of the applicant;
  - b. Letter of the legal representative of the foreign subsidiary.

## SECTION 2ª

### VISA OF SHORT STAY TO VISIT RELATIVES

**Article 48.** Foreigners that enter to the national territory with the intention to visit to their spouse, blood relative in straight ascending or descending line, collateral kin in line to the second degree of consanguinity that verify to be national or temporary or permanent resident will be able to request this visa.

**Article 49.** Besides the requirements mentioned in the article 46 of this regulation, they should present:

1. Certificate of relationship;
2. Payment of expenses by migratory services for the sum of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
3. Deposit of guarantee for the sum of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

## SECTION 3<sup>a</sup>

### VISA OF SHORT STAY FOR INVESTIGATORS AND SCIENTISTS

**Article 50.** Foreigners that enter to the national territory to carry out, non-profit, the following activities: student exchanges, educational, cultural missions of health, scientific, investigation and courses will be able to request this visa. They should be offered by virtue of covenants celebrated with the State or among embassies or legislatures; foreign legal people and businesses, governmental, educational institutions or non-governmental organizations recognized by the Panamanian laws.

**Article 51.** Besides the requirements mentioned in the article 46 of this regulation, they should present:

1. Letter from the educational or governmental institution, non-governmental organization with headquarters in Panama, in which certify the activity that the foreigner will do during the time during the permission.
2. In the event that the institution takes charge of the expenses of stopover of the interested, should contribute the commitment in writing. To include a scholarship should contribute the certification of the company that offers it.
3. In the case they are associations or non-governmental organizations, they should be recorded in the Department of Government and Justice.
4. Payment of expenses for migratory services in the sum of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

## SECTION 4<sup>a</sup>

### VISAS OF SHORT STAY FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

**Article 52.** The foreigner will be able to ask for this visa whom verifies that he will be put under a medical treatment in hospitals and public or deprived clinics, that do not exceed nine (9) months.

**Article 53.** Besides the requirements mentioned in article 46 of this regulation, will have to present/display:

1. Medical certification of the origin country, where it is credited disease, signed and with the seal, names, code and record number of doctor sends who it;
2. Letter of the hospital or clinic in Panama, that confirms the applicant will be or is hospitalized or receiving ambulatory treatment, the name of the doctor takes care them, the ailment, and duration for the treatment with its approximate cost;

3. Test of the economic solvency of the applicant, a resident relative, designee, or accompanying tutor.
4. Payment of expenses for migratory services in the sum of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

## **SECTION 5<sup>a</sup>**

### **VISA OF SHORT STAY AS MERCHANTS AND INVESTORS BY SPECIAL LAWS**

**Article 54.** Foreigners that enter into the national territory to analyze possibilities of investment or to perform transactions in the Food Processors Zone for Export, Call Center, or special areas appointed for the development of the Audiovisual and Film Industry will be able to request this permission, by the term established and the conditions contemplated in the Law No. 25 of 1992.

**Article 55.** Besides the requirements mentioned in the article 46 of this regulation, they should present:

1. Banking reference sent off by a bank recognized internationally that shows economic reliability of one thousand balboas (B/1,000.00) or more of monthly incomes;
2. Return tickets to their country of origin, valid for the term of a (1) year.

## **SECTION 6<sup>a</sup>**

### **VISA OF SHORT STAY FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN MISSIONS**

**Article 56.** It is supported in the principles and contained rights in the humane international law and the Human Rights for those victims or those affected by natural disasters and other emergency situations that pose a risk a risk to the population in general.

**Article 57.** Foreigners that come in representation of governmental agencies or properly reputable non- governmental agencies, that enter into the country for aid, achieving an optimum utilization of the resources to reduce through the national action arranged, the losses of human lives, damages to properties and solutions to the emergencies that stir up will be able to request this visa when the Department of Foreign Affairs determines.

**Article 58.** They will be exempt from the requirements of the article 28 of the Decree Law and 17 of this regulation, nevertheless should contribute:

1. Letter of the Department of Foreign Affairs that certify the humane assistance, the type of aid and the time to carry out for the International Agency.

## SECTION 7<sup>a</sup>

### VISA OF SHORT STAY FOR THE SECTOR BANKING

**Article 59.** With base in the article 15 of the Decree Law, foreigners that enter into the national territory with the purpose to give or to receive training, to attend meetings, conventions, workshops, seminars, courses, auditory, verification and overseeing of programs and procedures in banking institutions that have international general license or representation will be able to request this visa whenever the applicant complies with the requirements and responsibilities that are required by the Immigration Service and the Department of Labor and Labor Development.

**Article 60.** The business applicant is obliged to comply with the dispositions of the article 89 of the Decree Law and other contained norms in this regulation.

**Article 61.** Besides the requirements mentioned in the article 46 of this regulation, they should present:

1. Letter of the banking institution, in which certify the activity that the foreigner will do during the time the visa is granted, signed by the legal representative;
2. When the institution takes charge of the expenses of stopover of the interested, should contribute the commitment in writing, signed by the legal representative;
3. Certification of the Public Registration of the banking institution the properly reputable people who represent to the bank;
4. Certification of the Supervision of Banks that indicates the type of licenses with which the bank operates;
5. Copies and original of the diploma or credentials of the foreigner;
6. Payment for expenses for migratory services in the sum of two hundred fifty balboas (B/.250.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
7. Deposit of guarantee for the sum of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

## CHAPTER VIII

### VISA OF PASSENGERS AND CREW MEMBERS OF SHIPS WITH INTENT OF RECREATION OR TOURISM

**Article 62.** With base in the article 15 of the Decree Law, foreigners that enter into the national territory through yachts or sailboats with the intent of pleasure or tourism will be able to request this visa, by the term that is established the permission of navigation emitted by the General Direction of merchant marine of the Maritime Authority of Panama, whenever the applicant complies with the requirements and responsibilities that are required by the Immigration Service.

**Article 63.** When the yacht or sailboat is of foreign flag and has navigation permissions for the term of three (3) months, the passengers and foreign crew members will be able to remain in the national territory for an equal period; in the case that extra time is needed, the request will be evaluated, provided that they have approved previously the extension of the permission of navigation of the ship.

**Article 64.** When the yacht or sailboat be of Panamanian flag and has navigation permissions for the term of one(1) year, the passengers and foreign crew members will be able to request the corresponding visa until a maximum of the time permitted by the General Direction of merchant marine, provided that they comply with the requirements required by the respective authorities.

**Article 65.** The National Service of Immigration will create a registration of entrance and embarkations by Panamanian or foreign flag that be found in the yacht or marine clubs, so that they can function as responsible companies before the migratory authority, when through these they enter passengers and foreign crew. Said registration will contain:

1. Copies of the permission of navigation, offered by the General Direction of merchant marine; in the cases of tourism yachts should present original and copy of their license of tourism offered by the Panamanian Institute of Tourism and their permission of navigation;
2. Copies of the passport of the captain or ship owner;
3. Copies of the passports of the crew and list of passengers;
4. For crew members, they should present their license of their marine license and their passport;
5. For passengers, they should deliver copy of their passport.

**Article 66.** To request this visa the foreigner should comply with the formalities required in the article 28 of the Decree Law(excepting the numeral 2 and 4) and to contribute the following documents:

1. Power and request;
2. Three (3) photographs;

3. Copies of the ID documents of the country of origin or residence permit;
4. Deposit of Guarantee, from the account of the owner in favor of the National Service of Immigration for the sum of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) per ship;
5. Payment for migratory service in the total of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00) per person, in favor of the National Service of Immigration;
6. Copies of the electronic ticket paid for full return, (if applicable);
7. Proof of contractual relation or rent with the yachts or marine clubs (if applicable);
8. Letter of responsibility from the employer, captain or owner of the ship.

### **TITLE III**

## **TEMPORARY RESIDENTS CATEGORY**

### **CHAPTER I**

## **TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS FOR LABOR REASONS**

Article 67. The force of the permissions of temporary resident by labor reasons to that this refers chapter, will be for periods annual to a total of six (6) years.

### **SECTION 1<sup>a</sup>**

## **FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR AUTONOMOUS OR SEMIAUTONOMOUS COMPANIES**

**Article 68.** Foreigners that enter into the country, to lend services as Personell hired by the national government or by autonomous or semi-autonomous companies will be able to request this permission.

**Article 69.** Besides the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Labor contract endorsed by the General Finance Office of the Republic or copies of the Official Gazette in which the published contract appears;
2. Proof of affiliation with the CSS, with copy of the card.

**Article 70.** To request an extension of this permission, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, they should contribute the following:

1. Certification of CSS that shows the payment of nine (9) consecutive quotas;
2. Finalized checkbook emitted by the State;
3. Letter of work emitted by the General Finance Office of the Republic or by the governmental company paying for the labor;
4. National Paz y Salvo of income of the applicant.

## **SECTION 2<sup>a</sup>**

### **FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED BY SMALL BUSINESSES CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT**

**Article 71.** The foreigners that the country to lend a specific service inside a business that has a contract with the State will be eligible for this visa. The worker will be able to extend their residence permits yearly while the contract is valid up to six (6) years.

**Article 72.** The contracting of these foreigners should comply with the established foreigners contracting percentages in this regulation, meaning that fewer than 10% for ordinary workers and under 15% for specialists.

**Article 73.** Only the requests of businesses that have a direct contract with the State are accepted, under this subcategory. Requests of businesses subcontracted will not be accepted. In the cases in which are a matter of positions or professions reserved by Law to the nationals or with Special Laws, they should comply with said norms and to contribute the respective authorizations.

**Article 74.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Copies of the contract between the business and the Government endorsed by the General Finance Office of the Nation or copies of the Official Gazette in which said contract was published;
2. Proof of affiliation to the CSS, with copy of the card;
3. Letter of responsibility of the business, that specifies the position they occupy and the salary to yield;
4. Copies of the Operation Notice of the business;
5. Work permit with the respective copy of the card;
6. It copies of the business certificate recorded in Public Registration;

7. Letter emitted by the state company responsible for the contracting and its execution.

**Article 75.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment of nine (9) consecutive quotas;
2. National Paz y Salvo of income of the applicant.

### **SECTION 3ª**

#### **FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED AS THE EXECUTIVE FOR A BUSINESS IN THE ZONA LIBRE DE COLON**

**Article 76.** Foreigners that lend functions in executive positions, of confidence, of management, or specialized technicians in businesses authorized to operate in the Zone Free of Columbus, with a salary no less than two thousand balboas (B/.2,000.00) monthly will be able to request this permission.

**Article 77.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Work permit and copy of the card;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, where the duties are evident as well as the salary of the applicant;
3. Proof of affiliation to the CSS, with copy of the card (in the first request);
4. Certification of the Zona Libre de Colon, where the participation is evident of the interested company established in said zone and the expedition of the permission of temporary visitor is requested, for which the following things should be evident:
  - a. The existence of a contract between the business and the foreigner;
  - b. Suitability or specialization of the executive;
  - c. Existence of the business and of its key of operation;
  - d. Paz y Salvo of the CSS;
  - e. Paz y Salvo from the Zona Libre de Colon of the business.

**Article 78.** To request overtime, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredits the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas;
2. National Paz y Salvo of income of the applicant

## **SECTION 4<sup>a</sup>**

### **FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISES INSIDE THE 10% OF THE ORDINARY PERSONELL**

**Article 79.** Foreigners hired by a private enterprise, yielding a salary no less than eight hundred fifty balboas (B/.850.00) monthly will be able to request this temporary residence permit.

**Article 80.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Labor contract endorsed by the Department of Labor and Labor Development in favor of the interested;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, where the duties are evident as well as the salary, signed by the legal representative;
3. Copies of the Operation Notice of the business;
4. Copies of the business certificate of the business issued by the Public Registration;
5. Work permit;
6. Proof of affiliation of the Box CSS, with copy of the card (in the first request);
7. National Paz y Salvo of the incomes of the business.

**Article 81.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredits the payment of nine (9) consecutive quotas;
2. National Paz y Salvo of the incomes of the applicant.

## SECTION 5<sup>a</sup>

### FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISES INSIDE THE 15% OF THE SPECIALIZED PERSONELL

**Article 82.** Foreigners hired by a private enterprise, yielding a salary no less than eight hundred fifty balboas (B/.850.00) monthly will be able to request this temporary residence permit.

**Article 83.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Labor contract endorsed by the Department of Labor and Labor Development in favor of the interested;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, where the duties are evident as well as the salary, signed by the legal representative;
3. Copies of the Operation Notice of the business;
4. Copies of the business certificate of the business issued by the Public Registration;
5. Work permit;
6. Proof of affiliation of the Box CSS, with copy of the card (in the first request);
7. National Paz y Salvo of the incomes of the business.

**Article 84.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredits the payment of nine (9) consecutive quotas;
2. National Paz y Salvo of the incomes of the applicant.

## SECTION 6<sup>a</sup>

### FOREIGN PERSONELL PAID FROM ABROAD, THAT DO NOT POSSESS DIPLOMATIC STATUS

**Article 85.** Foreigners as personnel of embassies, legations, consulates, delegations, representatives of foreign governments, International agencies in reputable official mission in the country, that are not protected by a diplomatic status by virtue of the national laws or of the international conventions that govern the matter can request this permission.

**Article 86.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the embassy, consulate or foreign delegation, that accredits that the applicant lend services in said mission and the duties they have;
2. Accreditation sent off by the Department of Privileges and Immunities of the Department of Foreign Affairs, of the applicant.

**Article 87.** To request an extension, they should present the requirements mentioned in the previous article.

## **SECTION 7<sup>a</sup>**

### **PERSONELL HIRED AS THE CORRESPONDENT OF INTERNATIONAL WRITTEN, RADIO, OR TELEVISION PRESS, AND PAID ABROAD**

**Article 88.** Foreigners that are a correspondent of international written, radio, or television press properly accredited by the authorities of their respective countries will be able to request this permission

**Article 89.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility of the international press agency that accredits the following things:
  - a. The time by which will they will lend their services;
  - b. That the salary stems from foreign source;
  - c. That compromises to return to their own country when the service is over;
2. Certification of existence of the international press agency.

**Article 90.** To request an extension, the applicant should contribute the requirements mentioned in the previous article.

## SECTION 8a

### PERSONAL HIRED BY BUSINESSES BY VIRTUE OF THE AGREEMENT OF MARRAKECH

#### (THE MARRAKECH AGREEMENT CREATED THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION)

**Article 91.** Foreigners that enter into the country to labor in businesses with less than ten (10) Panamanian workers by virtue of the Agreement of Marrakech, adopted by the Republic of Panama by means of Law 23 of 1997 will be able to request this visa.

**Article 92.** For the effects of this permission the foreign worker should earn a salary that will not be less than one thousand balboas (B/.1,000.00) monthly.

**Article 93.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Work permit and copy of card;
2. Labor contract endorsed by the Department of Labor and Labor Development in favor of the interested;
3. Work Letter in the letterhead of the business, signed by the legal representative of the business contractor;
4. Copies of the Operation Notice of the business;
5. Copies of the certification of the Public Registration of the business;
6. National Paz y Salvo of incomes of the business;
7. Proof of affiliation to the CSS, with copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 94.** To request an extension of this permission, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment of nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## CHAPTER II

### TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS BY FOR INVESTMENT REASONS

**Article 95.** The permissions of temporary residents for investment reasons will be for the period of six (6) years, extendable each two (2) years.

#### SECTION 1a

#### AGRICULTURE INVESTOR

**Article 96.** Foreigners that through personal title or through legal entity, have invested the minimum sum of sixty thousand balboas (B/.60,000.00), in the agribusiness or aquaculture industry will be able to request this permission. Said activities will be determined in areas that the Department of Farm Development considers to be of national interest.

**Article 97.** In the case that dependents are included in the request, they should add to the investment five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) in favor of the National Service of Immigration, for each dependent or to show it by banking letter.

**Article 98.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. In the cases of legal entity they should present:
  - a. Affidavit by the secretary or treasurer of the business (cannot be yielded by the one interested), where accredit the ownership of the nominative shares emitted in favor of the applicant, properly freed and full and the total full capital stock;
  - b. Authenticated copy of the share certificate sent off in favor of the farm investor;
  - c. Copies of the tax return of the business, where the capital invested appears. If a fiscal period has not lapsed since the foundation of the business, the copy of the constancy of inscription constancy in the Unique Registration of the taxpayer and copy of the receipt of the unique rate should be submitted;
  - d. Original certification of the business inscription in the Public Registration;
2. Certification of the Authorized Public Bookkeeper (CPA) which details the grand total invested in a direct way in the activity agribusiness or aquatic and that the capital is from the investor. (The bookkeeper should include copies of the decree and the card in force);
3. Copies of the Certification of the Farm Unique Registration, where is detailed: unique registration number, form, activities that are carried out in the farm and its location;

4. Original certification of the farm recorded in the Public Registration or rental agreement;
5. Documents that show the investment is carried out in direct form in agribusiness or aquatic activities, by a minimum of sixty thousand balboas (B/.60,000.00) which will be able to be shown with documents such as:
  - a. Banking certification of the transfer of the funds or of the payment (obligatory);
  - b. Financial Status audited;
  - c. Commercial bill of buying and selling;
  - d. Documents or proof of importing or buying supplies or equipment.

**Article 99.** To request an extension of this permission, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. National Paz y Salvo of income of the applicant.

## **SECTION 2ª**

### **REFORESTATION INVESTOR**

**Article 100.** Foreigners that invest to personal title or through legal entity, the sum of sixty thousand balboas (B/.60,000.00) in reforestation activities or authorized forest plantation by the National Authority of the Environment will be able to request this permission; **the investment should be done in a minimum of ten (10) hectares.**

**Article 101.** To try legal entity, they will be able to request this permission up to two foreigners, provided that they show that each one invested of sixty thousand balboas (B/.60,000.00). The omission of this requirement will be cause of cancellation of the request and the obligation to leave the country.

**Article 102.** In case of bringing dependents, the investment should be increased to two thousand balboas (B/.2,000.00) for each dependent, which can be justified with a local banking reference.

**Article 103.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. In the case of legal entity they should present: affidavits by the secretary or treasurer of the business (cannot be yielded by the one interested), where he is accredited the activities, the ownership of the nominative shares emitted in favor of the foreign applicant, properly freed and full, and the total capital stock;
2. Certification of the Authorized Public Bookkeeper (CPA) which details the grand total invested in a direct way in the activity of reforestation and that the capital is from the investor. (The bookkeeper should include copy of the decree and of the card in force);

3. Authenticated of the certificate shares sent off in favor of the reforestation investors;
4. Copies of the tax return of the business, where the capital invested appears. If a fiscal period has not yet lapsed since the foundation of the business, in its place the copy of the constancy of inscription in the Unique Registration of the taxpayer and copy of the unique rate should be contributed;
6. Copies of the resolution sent off by the National Authority of the Environment, of the Forest Registration;
7. Original certification of the inscriptions of the business and the property in the Public Registration;
8. Proof that the investment is carried out in direct form in activities of reforestation, by a minimum of sixty thousand balboas (B/.60,000.00) which will be able to be shown with documents such as:
  - e. banking Certification of the funds transfer or of the payment (obligatory);
  - f. Financial Status audited;
  - g. Commercial bills of buying and selling;
  - h. Documents or merchandise importing proofs;

**Article 104.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Paz y Salvo of the applicant;
2. Bill or other documents that show disbursements performed in the last year for the project of reforestation, or certification of the business that this carrying out the plan of maintenance that the contract continues in force.

## CHAPTER III

### TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS FOR SPECIAL POLICIES

**Article 105.** The permissions of temporary resident by reasons of special policies that this chapter refers to, will be for the periods that are established by their special laws to a total of six (6) years. Unless some special law establishes another term, it will be offered up to six (6) years, extendable yearly.

#### SECTION 1<sup>a</sup>

##### FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED FOR THE FILM AND AUDIOVISUAL INDUSTRY

**Article 106.** Foreigners that enter into the country temporarily, like the director, producer, actor, technical or expert of foreign businesses that be received to the law No. 36 of 2007 will be able to request this permission.

**Article 107.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law (excepting the numeral 2 and 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility given by the film business, that accredits the following:
  - A. The duties that they occupy, the type of service that they will do, and for how much time they will do it;
  - b. That their salary stems from a foreign source;
2. Certification of the National Registration of the Film Industry of the Department of Commerce and Industries, in which is indicated if the business and/or production complies with the demands of the Law 36 of 2007;
3. Proof of economic solvency of the business;
4. Payment of one hundred balboas (B/100.00) in concept for migratory services in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

**NOTE:** In case the applicant of the permission, by virtue of the activities that they carry out, earns income from a Panamanian source, they will require prior authorization from the Department of Labor and Labor Development.

## SECTION 2ª

### CIUDAD DEL SABER (CITY OF KNOWLEDGE) FOUNDATION

**Article 108.** Foreigners that enter to the national territory as a researcher, professor, businessman, technician, or student with the purpose to contribute with the development of the Project of the City of Knowledge Foundation, in agreement the Decree Law 6 of 1999 will be able to request this permission. Inside this category the following subcategories are found:

#### SECTION 2ª (A)

##### AS RESEARCHER OF THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATION

**Article 109.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the City of Knowledge Foundation from its Executive Director, in which the existence of the business be evident, the work that the foreigner carries out, and the term of their stay in our country;
2. Letter of responsibility from the business where the activities of the researcher are evident and the salary that will be earned;
3. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 110.** To request an extension, the applicant should contribute the requirements mentioned in the previous article.

#### SECTION 2a (B)

##### AS EDUCATOR IN THE CITY OF KNOWLEGDE FOUNDATION

**Article 111.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification or document that shows their suitability, from the country of origin, and accredits the educational conditions;
2. Certification of the City of Knowledge from its Executive Director, in which the existence of the school be evident, the work that the foreigner carries out, and the term of their stay in our country;
3. Letter of responsibility from the business where the activities of the professor are evident and the salary that will be earned;
4. Proof of affiliation with the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 112.** To request an extension, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article.

## **SECTION 2<sup>a</sup> (C)**

### **AS BUSINESSMAN OR EXECUTIVE OF THE FOUNDATION CITY OF THE TO KNOW**

**Article 113.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the numeral 4), the applicant should be contributed the following documents:

1. Certification of the City of Knowledge from its Executive Director, in which the existence of the business be evident, the work that the foreigner carries out, and the term of their stay in our country;
2. Letter of responsibility by the parent company which certifies the activity that the foreigner will carry out as the executive in the business in the City of Knowledge, that they will exercise no other activity inside the national territory, and the term of their stay;
3. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 114.** To request an extension, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article.

## **SECTION 2<sup>a</sup> (D)**

### **AS TECHNICIAN OF THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATION**

**Article 115.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility of the business where the activities are evident as well as the salary to be earned;
2. Certification of the City of Knowledge from its Executive Director, in which the existence of the business be evident, the work that the foreigner carries out, and the term of their stay in our country;
3. Work permit and copy of their card;
4. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 116.** To request an extension, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article.

## SECTION 2ª (E)

### AS STUDENT OF THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATION

**Article 117.** In addition to the contained dispositions in the chapter IV of this regulation and the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Original certification authenticated of the Foundation of the to Know, in which cause the existence of the educational center be evident.

**Article 118.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the article 153 of this regulation and the numeral described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute:

1. The study credits that show they are a regular student and that they have passed their previous year.

## SECTION 3ª

### FOREIGN PERSONELL HIRED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE PANAMA CANAL

**Article 119.** Foreigners hired to labor in the Authority of the Panama Canal, by a definite time or specific work, or by special contracting, just as the Law No. 45 of 1999 establishes will be able to request this permission.

**Article 120.** In addition to the requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree law (except for the numeral 4), the applicant should present the following documents:

1. Copies of the labor contract with the Authority of the Panama Canal;
2. Certification of the Administrator of the Authority of the Panama Canal that accredits employment condition of the Authority of the Panama Canal;
3. Certified check in favor of the National Treasure by the sum of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00);

**Article 121.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, they should present:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredits the payment of nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 4a**

### **PERSONELL HIRED BY THE PANAMA-PACIFICO AREA**

**Article 122.** Foreigners hired by businesses of the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Area, including the programmers, the users, or the agency, will be able to request this permission, and they will be governed as arranged in Law 41 of 2004 and its regulations.

## **SECTION 4<sup>a</sup> (A)**

### **PERSONELL HIRED INSIDE THE PANAMA PACIFICO AREA, WHICH DOES NOT EXCEED THE FIFTEEN (15%) OF ORDINARY WORKERS**

**Article 123.** Foreigners hired as technical personnel and/or in own matters of the administrative management that do not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the ordinary workers will be able to request this permission as long as the business is located inside the Panama-Pacifico Area and by the programmer, by the user, or by the agency.

**Article 124.** In addition of the requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Work permit and copy of the card;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, that accredits the services that the applicant will provide, signed by its legal representative;
3. Certification sent off by the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Agency, certified that the business is found registered inside the Panama Pacifico Area;
4. Paz y Salvo sent off by the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Agency in favor of the business;
5. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 125.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals of the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 4ª (B)**

### **PERSONELL HIRED INSIDE THE PANAMA PACIFICO AREA, WHICH EXCEEDS THE FIFTEEN (15%) OF ORDINARY WORKERS**

**Article 126.** Foreigners hired as technical personnel and/or in own matters of the administrative management that exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the ordinary workers will be able to request this permission as long as the business is located inside the Panama-Pacifico Area and by the programmer, by the user, or by the agency. The expedition of this permission will be conditioned to compliance of it established in the article 91 of the Law 41 of 2004.

**Article 127.** In addition of the requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Work permit and copy of the card;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, that accredits the services that the applicant will provide, signed by its legal representative;
3. Certification sent off by the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Agency, certified that the business is found registered inside the Panama -Pacifico Area;
4. Paz y Salvo sent off by the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Agency in favor of the business;
5. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 128.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals of the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 4ª (C)**

### **FOREIGNERS HIRED AS EXECUTIVES INSIDE THE PANAMA-PACIFICO AREA**

**Article 129.** Foreigners hired as confidants inside the Panama-Pacifico Area, that are dedicated exclusively to maintain offices in order to direct transactions, or that work abroad will be able to request this permission.

**Article 130.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility from the parent company that hires them to labor in the executive operating level that determines the following thing:

a. That the business exists, is found in force, location of the main headquarters and/or of the closest regional headquarters and that their operations cover in our country, address, telephones, e-mail and detailing who are its legal representatives; that the interested is executive of the business, specifying and detailing the functions as executive that the foreigner will do in our country;

b. That he yields a salary that is not lower than thousand balboas (B/.1,000.00) and that the source is not Panamanian (should be detailed the source and form of the payments);

c. That the business covers the expenses of the applicant and that compromises to inform the National Service of Immigration of the cessation of operations of the business or of the cessation or finalization of the contractual relation with the executive that request this visa and compromises to repatriate it, once their service is over;

2. Certification of the Panama-Pacífico Special Economic Agency, that accredits the existence of the business in that special economic area;

3. Banking reference sent off by a local bank, in favor of the executive foreigner applicant where they receive their salary or honorary originating from the outside.

4. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

5. Paz y Salvo of the business, sent off by the Panama-Pacífico Special Economic Agency.

**Article 131.** To request an extension, the applicant should present the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility sent off by the business;

2. Certification of the Panama-Pacífico Special Economic Agency, that accredits the existence of the business in that special economic area;

3. Paz y Salvo of the business, sent off by the Panama-Pacífico Special Economic Agency;

4. Certification of the CSS that accredits the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

**Article 132.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, should present:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 4ª (D)**

### **FOREIGN PERSONNEL HIRED INSIDE THE AREA PANAMA PACIFICO AREA, THAT DO NOT EXCEED THE TEN (10%) OF ORDINARY WORKERS**

**Article 133.** Foreigners that labor for businesses that have less than ten (10) workers inside the Panama- Pacifico Area will be able to request this permission.

**Article 134.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Work permit and copy of card;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, that accredits the duties and the services of the applicant, signed by its legal representative;
3. Certification sent off by the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Agency, where is certified that the business is found registered inside the Panama Pacifico Area;
4. Paz y Salvo sent off by the Panama-Peaceful Special Economic Agency in favor of the business.
5. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 135.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, should present:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 5a**

### **PERSONAL HIRED IN POSITIONS OF EXECUTIVE, EXPERT AND/OR TECHNICIANS IN BUSINESSES INSIDE FOOD PROCESSORS ZONES FOR EXPORT**

**Article 136.** Foreigners hired by businesses inside the Food Processors for Export Zone will be able to request this permission the, and they will be governed by the arrangements in the Law 25 of 1992 and its regulations.

**Article 137.** Foreigners hired by businesses inside the Food Processors for Export Zone will be able to request this permission the, and they will be governed by the arrangements in the Law 25 of 1992 and its regulations.

**Article 138.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification sent off by the Directors of the Food Processor Zone where it is accredited that the business, property development Company or Operator is found established in the area;
2. Certification sent off by the Developer of the Food Zone Processor, accrediting the need of the permission according to the study presented by this business;
3. Letter of responsibility of the business, that accredits the duties and the services that the applicant will provide, signed by its legal representative;
4. Work permit and copy of card;
5. Proof of affiliation of the CSS and copy of card (in the first request).

**Article 139.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, should present:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredits the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 6<sup>a</sup>**

### **PERSONAL HIRED IN POSITIONS OF EXECUTIVE, EXPERT AND/OR TECHNICIANS IN COMMERCIAL USE CALLS CENTER BUSINESSES**

**Article 140.** Foreigners that present services in Call Centers for commercial use will be able to request this permission, and will be governed according to arrangements established in the Executive Decree 97 of 2002.

**Article 141.** These permissions, just as the Executive Decree establishes in No. 97 will be similar and they should comply with the same requirements of the Food Processors for Export Zones.

**Article 142.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification sent off by the Direction of the Food Processor Zone that accredits that the business is found properly registered;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business that accredits the duties and the services that they will perform;
3. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of its card (in the first request);
4. Work permit and copy of the card.

**Article 143.** To request and extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the previous article, should present:

1. Certification of the CSS that accredit the payment nine (9) consecutive quotas.

## **SECTION 7a**

### **PERSONNEL HIRED AS THE EXECUTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES, WHO WORK ABROAD**

**Article 144.** Foreigners that enter into the national territory temporarily as the executive or representative of an executive-operating level of foreign businesses of international character recorded in the Public Registration, with subsidiary offices or representation in Panama but that have their parent company abroad will be able to request this permission, as established the in Decree of Cabinet No. 363 of 1970.

**Article 145.** If the foreigner to whom this is granted comes to represent the foreign business for local activities will be paid the same. Nevertheless, they are permitted to invest to personal title in the country, whenever they comply with the Constitution and the Panamanian Law, according to the article 5 of the Decree Cabinet 363 of 1970.

**Article 146.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except those established in the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the existence of the business in the country of origin or certificate emitted by the Public Registration of Panama, in which the inscription of the business can be certified or the Panamanian subsidiary;
2. Banking certification sent off by a local or international bank in favor of the applicant, showing the income of their salary or honorary and copy of the statement;
3. Letter of responsibility of the parent company where determine the following thing;
  - a. The duties and the functions of the applicant;
  - b. Salary that yields (that cannot be lower than one thousand balboas (B/.1,000.00) monthly) and that it does not come from Panamanian sources;
  - c. That they will notify of the cessation of operations of the business or the termination of the contractual relation.

**Article 147.** To request an extension, the applicant should contribute the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article.

**Note:** In the first request the letter of responsibility described in numeral 3 should be sent by the parent company and for the subsidiary recorded in the Republic of Panama.

## **SECTION 8ª**

### **PERSONELL HIRED BY HEADQUARTERS OF MULTINATIONAL BUSINESSES**

**Article 148.** Foreigners that labor as the worker of technical or training in headquarters of the Multinational Businesses and whose incomes stem from foreign source will be able to request this permission, covered by the Law 41 of 2007.

**Article 149.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (excepting the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following thing documents:

1. Certification sent off by the Technical Office of the secretary of the Multinational Businesses Headquarters Licenses Commission, where it is accredited:
  - a. That the applicant this protected by medical, individual, or collective insurance;
  - b. That the business is found authorized under the special status established in the Law No. 41 of 2007;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business where accredit the charge, functions, salary and that the same one foreign source stems from.

**Paragraph:** The workers that are found protected under this permission and they remain in Panama without laboring in the Headquarters of the Multinational Business will be guilty with fines of up to five thousand balboas (B/.5,000.00. In these cases the corresponding permissions of said workers will be canceled automatically and they will be repatriated at the cost of said business.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL REASONS**

**Article 150.** Foreigners that desire to study full-time regular studies, in public or private schools, of basic, intermediate, upper, and specialized levels, recognized by the Department of Education will be able to request this permission.

**Article 151.** Those foreigners that request this permission should register all the subjects pertaining to the plan of study of the two-month period, quarter, or semester or module, in diurnal schedule. Exempted are nocturnal studies registered subject to certification on the part of the school.

**Article 152.** This permission is exclusively for those dedicated to studies, therefore during the length of this they are forbidden to work, except for the professional practices and courses required by the educational center.

**Article 153.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the deposit for repatriation) and the presentation by means of legal attorney, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of admission from the educational center;
2. Payment receipts of registers; original or copies;
3. Certification of the center of study, which should contain: the generals of the applicant, duration of the career, and subjects or matters that have been registered;
4. If the courses are exclusively in nocturnal hours, they should contribute a certification of the University that accredits that the courses only are given in that schedule;
5. Solvency of economic reliability which will be verified by contribution of:
  - a. Document that show the student is a holder of a scholarship of studies;
  - b. Certification authenticated on the part of the parents of the interested where they hold responsible the expenses of study and constancy of the relationship;
  - c. Constancy of financing;
  - d. Banking letter or statement of their credit card;
6. In the case they have a responsible national resident, in favor of the applicant, they should present letter that accredits:
  - A. The commitment to assume the expenses of education and its basic needs, and copies of the personal identity card of the responsible resident;
  - b. Copies if ID;
7. If the applicant is under age he will need to submit:
  - a. Contribute birth certificate;
  - b. Present authorization written by the parents in favor of the responsible resident. Notice if the father or the mother of the student under age they are in Panama.

**Article 154.** To request and extension of this permission, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should present:

1. Credits of the previous year approved.

**Article 155.** The length of this permission will be for the term of one (1) extendable year to a total of six (6) years.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS**

#### **SECTION 1<sup>a</sup>**

##### **TO THE RELIGIOUS SERVICE OF THE CATHOLIC AND ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Article 156.** Foreigners who are priests and other members of the clergy, who are dedicated to the pastoral work will be able to request this permission.

**Article 157.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the deposit of repatriation), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter sent by the maximum authority, to which has been assigned the missionary or religious, in which he certify: activity to carry out, group missionary or religious community that he belongs to, and place and time of continuance in the country.

**Article 158.** The length of this permission will be for the term of the mission up to six (6) years.

#### **SECTION 1<sup>a</sup> (A)**

##### **AS SECULAR MISSIONARY TO THE SERVICE OF THE CATHOLIC AND ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Article 159.** Foreigners who are secular missionaries dedicated to pastoral work will be able to request this permission.

**Article 160.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the deposit of repatriation), the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. Letter emitted by the maximum authority, to which has been assigned the missionary has been assigned, in which they certify: activity to carry out, group missionary or religious community to which he has been assigned, place and time of continuance in the country.

**Article 161.** To request an extension of this permission, the applicant should contribute documents mentioned in the numeral described in the previous article.

**Article 162.** The length of this permission will be for a term of up to six (6) years, extendable each two (2) years.

## **SECTION 1ª (B)**

### **AS STUDENT TO BE RELIGIOUS OF THE CHURCH CATHOLIC AND ORTHODOX**

**Article 163.** Foreigners that study religious studies of the Orthodox and Catholic Church will be able to request this permission.

**Article 164.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (except for the deposit of repatriation) and is established in the Chapter IV of the present regulation, the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. Letter emitted by the maximum authority, in which the condition of student, place and time of continuance in the country be specified.

**Article 165.** To request overtime of this permission, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the previous article;

**Article 166.** The length of this permission will be for a term of up to six (6) years, extendable each two (2) years.

## **SECTION 2ª**

### **AS AUTHORITIES, MINISTERS, RABBIS, SHEPHERDS, OR RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS OR RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS**

**Article 167.** Foreigners that belong to churches, missions or religious communities, properly recognized by the Department of Government and Justice and registered before the Public Registration of Panama will be able to request this permission.

**Article 168.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law(except for the repatriation deposit payment), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter originating from abroad, sent off by the council, the church, the denomination, or religious association, that mentions : the hierarchical structure of the church or association that the applicant is a member and specifying his mission and the quantity of churches or missions established in Panama;

2. Letter of responsibility emitted by the representative of the mission in Panama, where is evident the services, indicating the place where they will perform their functions, the time they will remain in the country, the resources with which they will subsist, the quantity and the frequency of salary which they

will receive (to specify if they stem from foreign source or they are from Panama) and the commitment of the mission to assuming the expenses of repatriation, after their services in our country are over;

3. Titles and degrees (if applicable);
4. Presenting copy of the statutes of the organization, or religious company, indicating the plan of religious promotion to execute in the church or mission (detail, explaining the time, place, activities, beneficiaries and objectives of the mission);
5. Certificate of legal status sent off by the Public Registration, where be evident that the church or mission is properly recorded in our country and the name of the legal representative;
6. Tax returns on file with the CSS, provided that they are receiving incomes of Panamanian source;
7. Copies of the ID card, sent by the church or religious group to which they belong.

**Article 169.** To request an extension of this permission, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Execution plan of the church or mission to which they are assigned;
2. Tax return or puts on file of the CSS (if applicable).

**Article 170.** The force of this permission will be for the term of six (6) years, extendable each two (2) years.

**Note:** In case the minister is authorized by the Panamanian legislation to carry out marriages or has a title of religious studies for direct exercise of his worship, the length of this permission will be for the term of six (6) years, until they ends their mission.

## **CHAPTER VI**

### **TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS FOR HUMANATARIAN REASONS**

**Article 171.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration for exceptional and humane reasons, subject to evaluation by the Disciplinary Team, will be able to authorize the start of migratory procedures of legalization, to foreigners that thus deserve it, for their temporary stay or voluntary return. With this purpose the conditions of the foreigner will be evaluated such as:

1. Their time of stay in the country;
2. They have entered the national territory through legal migratory ways;
3. They have not broken any Panamanian laws in the territory and have a clean police resord;
4. Physical and/or mental conditions;

5. Their socioeconomic situation;
6. Their legal status;
7. If they have children or a Panamanian spouse.

**Note:** They do not apply to this category the foreigners under the Title III, Chapter V of the Decree Law.

**Article 172.** The following humane reasons for the foreigner will be evaluated that:

1. They suffer an illness or disability that requires medical attention and prevents their return to their country of origin or of residence;
2. They suffer permanent deep disability;
3. Being over 85 years, show that cannot be left in a state of abandonment;
4. They are found in conditions of notorious poverty (extreme poverty) and that have more than five (5) years in national territory;
5. Being a person under age that suffers some degree of disability, and lacking identity papers or in a situation of desertion.

**Article 173.** The applicant should present the following documents:

1. Form that specify the complete general data of the foreigner, and their motives to be considered for this permission;
2. ID, except for the under age lacking identity papers;
3. Document that accredits where they reside;
4. Copies of the passport;
5. Medical certificate

**Article 174.** The foreigner will be able to be extended a temporary permission of stay, while the disciplinary team evaluates and verifies the request. Verified the condition, a technical report will be yielded and will be sent to the General Director, so that he emit his opinion. If approved, the request will be able to extend a temporary permission that will not be over six (6) years or to authorize their voluntary return to their country of origin or place of origin.

## CHAPTER VII

### TEMPORARY PERMISSIONS FOR FAMILY REGROUPING

**Article 175.** Foreign spouses, children less than eighteen (18) years and parents of a temporary resident will be able to request this permission. Offspring between the ages of eighteen (18) years until twenty-five (25) years will be able to this as dependents, provided they can prove they are economically dependent.. The temporary residents that show they have the guardianship or are related by blood to a person under age will be able to request this as a dependent.

**Article 176.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility of the temporary resident;
2. Constancy of relationship: Certificate of marriage of the spouse or certificate of the birth of the children or judicial constancy of the guardianship, if this is the case;
3. The applicant of legal age and less than twenty-five (25) years old should contribute:
  - A. Certification of studies of an educational center that accredits their condition as a full-time student;
  - b. Certification that states they are single. In the case of the countries where said certification be not sent off, sworn affidavit of non-marriage;
4. Proof that the resident has sufficient economic reliability. The resident can show solvency with one of the following forms:
  - A. Copies of their tax return, with its Paz y Salvo and this should show a minimum income of eight hundred fifty balboas (B/.850.00) monthly;
  - b. Letter of work brought up to date with its respective checkbook or puts on file of the CSS and copy of the work permit;
  - c. Letter of banking reference showing at least four average figures.

**Article 177.** To request an extension of this permission, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article.

## TITLE IV

### PERMANENT RESIDENTS CATEGORY

**Article 178.** After a term of two (2) years has elapsed, the applicant will be able to opt for permanent residence, except in those cases in which the present regulation and special laws establish different periods.

## CHAPTER I

### BY ECONOMIC MEANS

**Article 179.** This permission of continuance is granted to foreigners that use their own capital originating from the outside, to invest in industrial, commercial, agricultural, ecological activities in properly registered businesses in Panama, except those cases in which the law has reserved the exercise of those activities to Panamanian nationals.

## SECTION 1<sup>a</sup>

### FOREST INVESTOR

**Article 180.** Foreigners that invest with personal title or through legal entity in activities of reforestation or authorized forest plantation by the National Authority of the Environment, **of at least twenty (20) hectares and whose minimum investment be eighty thousand balboas (B/.80,000.00)** will be able to request this permission.

**Article 181.** To try legal entity, they will be able to request this permission up to two foreigners, provided that they show that each one invested of eighty thousand balboas (B/.80,000.00). The omission of this requirement will be cause of cancellation of the request and the obligation to leave the country.

**Article 182.** In case of bringing dependents, the investment should be increased to two thousand balboas (B/.2,000.00) for each dependent, which can be justified with a local banking reference.

**Article 183.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. In the case of legal entity they should present: affidavits by the secretary or treasurer of the business (cannot be yielded by the one interested), where he is accredited the activities, the ownership of the nominative shares emitted in favor of the foreign applicant, properly freed and full, and the total capital stock;

2. Certification of the Authorized Public Bookkeeper (CPA) which details the grand total invested in a direct way in the activity of reforestation and that the capital is from the investor. (The bookkeeper should include copy of the decree and of the card in force);
3. Authenticated of the certificate shares sent off in favor of the reforestation investors;
4. Copies of the tax return of the business, where the capital invested appears. If a fiscal period has not yet lapsed since the foundation of the business, in its place the copy of the constancy of inscription in the Unique Registration of the taxpayer and copy of the unique rate should be contributed;
5. Copies of the resolution sent off by the National Authority of the Environment, of the Forest Registration;
6. Original certification of the inscriptions of the business and the property in the Public Registration;
7. Proof that the investment is carried out in direct form in activities of reforestation, by a minimum of sixty thousand balboas (B/.60,000.00) which will be able to be shown with documents such as:
  - a. banking Certification of the funds transfer or of the payment (obligatory);
  - b. Financial Status audited;
  - c. Commercial bills of buying and selling;
  - d. Documents or merchandise importing proofs;

**Article 184.** To request an extension, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Paz y Salvo of the applicant;
2. Bill or other documents that show disbursements performed in the last year for the project of reforestation, or certification of the business that this carrying out the plan of maintenance that the contract continues in force.

## **SECTION 2<sup>a</sup>**

### **MICRO-BUSINESS INVESTOR**

**Article 185.** Foreigners that desire to invest in a micro-business, with a minimum capital stock of one hundred sixty thousand balboas (B/.160,000.00) per applicant will be able to request this permission, being the shareholders and dignitaries of said business. The omission of this requirement will bring as consequence the cancellation of the request and the obligation of leaving the country.

**Article 186.** The foreigners that apply for this permission should be unique holders of the actions that reflect their minimum investment (B/.160,000.00 per applicant). The business only can have a Notice of Operation, to invest in lawful activities not reserved for Panamanian nationals.

**Article 187.** If the investor brings dependents, the investment should be increased by two thousand balboas (B/.2,000.00) for each dependent, which can be justified with a local banking reference.

**Article 188.** The business should employ five (5) Panamanians (for each applicant), laboring full-time, yielding a salary at of at least the minimum wage established in the Law for each region and detailing the position or activity that each one carries out. The business should register its employees in the CSS and comply with the respective obligations.

**Article 189.** In addition to the requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law the following documents should be contributed:

1. Certificate of original legal status sent off by the Public Registration, that accredit the trade name of the business; the condition of the applicant of director or dignitary in the business, of the legal or authorized representative (if applicable); the capital stock of the business (that should be minimum of B/.160,000.00); type of actions (they should be nominative) and the distribution of the capital stock;
2. Certification of the Secretary or Treasurer of the business, where the ownership of the actions emitted in favor of the foreign applicant be accredited and that t they are found properly freed and full (the actions should be for a most minimum value of B/.160,000.00). The certification should be signed before notary and should not be written by the applicant;
3. Copies of the pertinent pages of the Business Plan of the business and of the actions emitted in favor of the applicant;
4. Certification of the Authorized Public Bookkeeper (CPA) of the business, that accredit the ownership of the actions of the foreign applicant and that they are found properly freed and full (the actions should be for a most minimum value of B/.160,000.00 by applicant) and detail the activities of the business;
5. Statement that should filled by the applicant before a notary Public, in which they indicate the total of the capital invested, the quantity of actions that they possess and that they are found freed and full (by a most minimum value of B/.160,000.00) as well as to detail the economic activities that the business will develop;
6. Receipt of advanced payment of the capital gains tax, in the case that the applicant has acquired the actions of a third of an already existing company and copy of the contract of sale.
7. Copies of the Tax Return of the business, with its Paz y Salvo (only in the case that the business had been operating during various months before the date in which one must present the affidavit of incomes of the tax year in effect). In the tax Return (in the patrimony section, course of action) should be registered the payment of the totality of the actions of the foreign applicant (that should be minimum of B/.160,000.00 per applicant);

8. For a business recently started, to contribute constancy of Payment of the Unique Rate and of the Unique Registration of the Taxpayer (RUC);
9. Copies authenticated by the CSS of the form of the business, with a minimum of five (5) employed Panamanians (per applicant), yielding the minimum wage established by law according to the region and area. (They should correspond to one of the payments performed inside the three previous months of presentation);
10. Paz y Salvo of the CSS in favor of the business;
11. Proof of the investment. Which will be able to be shown by the presentation of at least three of the following documents, that are under the business name,
  - a. Banking Certification, of the transfer of funds of the applicant originating from outside Panama (obligatory);
  - b. In the event that they have acquired shares of a company already started, they should present proof of payment and the contract of sale;
  - c. Copy of the proof of deposit by the sum invested in favor of the business, authenticated by the bank;
  - d. Contract of buying and selling of the localities where the business operates;
  - E. Audited Financial Status;
  - f. Copies of the proof of deposit for the sum invested in favor of the business, authenticated by the bank;
  - g. Document emitted by a banking company in which shows the funds invested by the applicant come from outside of Panama;
  - h. Commercial bill of the expenses incurred by the investor in the business, accompanied by inventory detailed carried out by the CPA. (To include copy of the document that accredit the suitability of the CPA);
  - i. Customs inventories of the goods imported with the business name;
  - j. Any another document that can show the capital invested in the business.
12. Something that proves the existence and location of the business, for which they should show at least three documents (can be any of the following documents or another that shows the existence of the business)
  - a. Rental agreement of the commercial localities where the headquarters of the business operates;

- b. Last service billing for electric power, telephones, or drinking water supply service;
- c. Contract for security services;
- d. Proof of payment of the ITBMS tax to the Department of Economy and Finances.
- e. Proof of payments to the Municipality.

13. Copies of the Notice of Operation.

**Article 190.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicants should contribute the following documents:

1. National Paz y Salvo of the business and of the applicant
2. Copies of the tax Return of the business, with its respective receipts of payment. In the tax Return (in the section patrimony, course of action) the payment of the totality of the actions of the foreign applicant (that should be greater of B/.160,000.00) should be registered;
3. Copies of the Form 03 presented to the Department of Economy and Finances;
4. Paz y Salvo from the CSS in favor of the business in effect.

### **SECTION 3<sup>a</sup>**

#### **ECONOMIC SELF SOLVENCY**

**Article 191.** Foreigners that invest the minimum sum of three hundred thousand balboas (B/.300,000.00) in real estate or a time deposit or the combination of both and show that the funds stem from the foreigner will be able to request this permission. If the foreigner has dependents the need to show additional reliability of two thousand balboas (B/.2,000.00) for each one.

### **SECTION 3<sup>a</sup> (A)**

#### **ECONOMIC SELF SOLVENCY BY OPENING FIXED TIME DEPOSIT**

**Article 192.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Banking certification that the foreigner has opened a time deposit account under the name of the applicant, with a minimum duration of three (3) years, (the fixed time limit should be free of every obligation) in any bank with a general license in the national territory, with a minimum value of three hundred thousand balboas (B/.300,000.00), or its equivalent in foreign currency;
2. Copies of the time deposit certificate authenticated by the bank.

## SECTION 3ª (B)

### ECONOMIC SELF SOLVENCY BY INVESTMENT IN REAL ESTATE

**Article 193.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law the following documents should be contributed:

1. Certificate of the Public Registration that verifies the real estate property has a personal title of the applicant with a minimum value of three hundred thousand balboas(B/.300,000.00), free of obligations.

**Note I:** In the case that the title of the real estate is under the name of a foundation of private interest, the foreigner will be able to request this permission whenever they show that they are the founder and they or their dependents are the beneficiaries. The certificate of the Public Registration should show the designation of founder and beneficiary.

**Note II:** In the case that the applicant shows that he has paid the sum of three hundred thousand balboas (B/.300,000.00) towards the total price of the real estate, he will be able to finance the remainder through mortgage loans of a local bank.

**Note III:** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will be able to consider the permanent resident permission requests as economic self solvency of those foreigners that have invested in real estate in the national territory, an investment of a minimum sum of two hundred thousand balboas (B/.200,000.00) and less than three hundred thousand balboas (B/.300,000.00), and they entered into a sales contract before this rule went in to effect.

This exception should be verified by the banking transfer to the real estate agency in the guarantee concept of guarantee of the real estate and copy authenticated by the promise to buy and pre construction contract.

## SECTION 3ª (C)

### ECONOMIC SELF SOLVENCY BY MIXED INVESTMENT (FIXED TIME LIMIT DEPOSIT AND REAL ESTATE)

**Article 194.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the requirements mentioned in the articles 192 and 193 of the present regulation. In this category of permission the Note II of article 193 of the present regulation will not apply.

**Article 195.** To request the continuance, the applicant should present it described in the numerals of the articles 192, 193 and 194 of the present regulation and to add:

1. National Paz y Salvo of income in favor of the applicant;

**CHAPTER II**  
**FOR SPECIAL POLICIES**

**SECTION 1<sup>a</sup>**

**RETIRED STOCKHOLDER**

**Article 196.** Foreigners that enter into the national territory who are retired and that yield a minimum income of two thousand balboas (B/.2,000.00) monthly originating exclusively of time deposits product interests in the National Bank of Panama or the savings Bank, free of every obligation or guarantees of any nature, that will be for a minimum period of five (5) years, as established in the Law Not. 9 of 1987 and its regulation will be able to request this permission the.

**Article 197.** The retreat at any moment in the first five (5) years and the breach of the terms set in the Law No. 9 of 1987, the Decree Law and this regulation, will cause the loss of the incentives and the rights that this law affords.

**Article 198.** In addition to the requirements mentioned in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Banking certification of the National Bank of Panama or the savings bank, that accredits the total of the fixed time limit deposit, the interest that it generates, the duration of it and that it is free of obligations;
2. Copies authenticated by the bank of the certificate of the fixed time limit deposit.

**Article 199.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals of the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following document:

1. National Paz y Salvo of incomes in favor of the interested.

**SECTION 2<sup>a</sup>**

**RETIRED AND PENSIONER (JUBILADO AND PENSIONADO)**

**Article 200.** Foreigners that receive retirement or pension on the part of a foreign government, international agency or private enterprise, that enter into the national territory to be live in it and counts on sufficient economic means to cover all of their expenses of subsistence and their dependents in the country will be able to request this permission. The income or monthly pension will not be able to be less than one thousand balboas (B/.1,000.00) and should be granted in life form.

**Note:** If the applicant can show that they have acquired a property with personal title in the national territory by a sum of more than one hundred thousand balboas (B/.100,000.00), the pension will be able to be for a minimum of seven hundred fifty balboas (B/.750.00).

**Article 201.** In addition to the common requirements of the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification letter of their retired or pensioner by a foreign government, international agency, or private enterprise, confirming that they receive a pension of more than one thousand balboas (B/.1,000.00) monthly or its equivalent in foreign currency and is for life.
2. If they have dependents, they should contribute in favor of the National Service of Immigration the sum of two hundred fifty balboas (B/.250.00) for each dependent;
3. Certificate of Public Registration of real estate (if applicable);
4. If the pension or retirement is from a private enterprise, they should contribute the following things:
  - a. Letter of an administration of foreign business of pensions, of trust, of mutual funds, of insurances or of banking, that certify that the funds exist to guarantee an annuity of the applicant;
  - b. Certification of existence and work of the business, that offers the pension and administers the fund;
  - c. Payment proof copy or statement from the bank.

**Note:** In the case of spouses, they will be able to show a combined sum set out in Number 1 of this article. They will need to show the before mentioned documentation for both pensions.

**Article 202.** In the case of dependent children, their permission will be temporary until they turn twenty-five (25) years old when they show that they carry out complete studies, however they will not have the right to the continuance or to the conditions of the pensioner, except for those dependent children that suffer a verified deep disability.

**Article 203.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the article 201 of the present regulation, the applicant should contribute:

1. National Paz y Salvo of income.

## SECTION 3<sup>a</sup>

### PERMANENT PERSONNEL HIRED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE PANAMA CANAL

**Article 204.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law (excepting the numeral 4), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Copies of the labor contract signed with the authority of the Panama Canal;
2. Certification of the Administration of the Canal where the condition of permanent employee of the Authority is accredited;
3. Certified Check for the sum of one hundred balboas (B/.100.00) in favor of the National Treasure;
4. Certified Check for the sum of five hundred balboas (B/.500.00) in favor of the Department of Government and Justice.

**Article 205.** To request continuance, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the numerals of the previous article.

## SECTION 4<sup>a</sup>

### INVESTOR IN THE PANAMA-PACIFICO ECONOMIC SPECIAL AREA

**Article 206.** Foreigners that carry out a minimum investment of two hundred fifty thousand balboas (B/.250.000.00) in risk capital in a business of the Panama-Peaceful Area or as businesses promoters or operators will be able to request this permission.

**Article 207.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification sent off by the Panama-Pacífico Special Agency, where is accredited:
  - A. The existence of the business and its location;
  - b. That paz y salvo is found with the Agency;
  - c. That the business is found authorized under the special state established in the Law No. 41 of 2004;
2. Certification of the treasurer or of the secretary of the business where the ownership of the nominative shares sent off in favor of the foreigner be accredited, and that they are found freed and full;
3. Certification sent by the CPA of the business of the Panama-Pacífico Area in which the grand total invested in the business by the applicant is detailed and that the capital is their own;

4. Copies of the share certificates emitted in favor of the applicant;
5. National Paz y Salvo of incomes in favor of the interested;
6. Authenticated copies of the form of the CSS of the business with a minimum of three (3) employed Panamanians, earning at least the minimum wage established by the law according to the region;
7. Paz y Salvo of the CSS if the business has been open more than two months;
8. Banking letter that shows the funds invested by the foreigner stem from outside the country.
9. Proof of the investment, presentation will be shown by means of at least two (2) of the following documents:
  - A. Copies of the properly registered contract of sale or rental agreement of the real estate where the business operates or is headquartered.
  - B. Commercial bill of the expenses incurred by the investor in the business accompanied by detailed inventory carried out by the Authorized Public Bookkeeper.
  - C. Customs liquidations of imported goods to name of the businesses or of the investor.
10. Copies of the resolution of inscription of the business in the Registration of Businesses of the Panama-Pacifico Area.

**Article 208.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should present:

1. National Paz y Salvo of income of the business and of the applicant.

## **SECTION 5<sup>a</sup>**

### **PERMANENT PERSONELL HIRED BY THE PROMOTOR, THE USER, OR THE AGENCY OF THE PANAMA-PACIFICO AREA INSIDE THE (10%) OF ORDINARY WORKERS**

**Article 209.** To request this Permission, in addition of the requests established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Work permit and copy of card;
2. Letter of responsibility of the business, that accredits the duties and the services that the applicant lends, signed by its legal representative;
5. Certification sent off by the Panama-Pacifico Special Economic Agency, where is certified that the business is found registered inside the Panama Pacifico Area;
6. Paz y Salvo sent off by the Panama-Peaceful Special Economic Agency in favor of the business;

7. Proof of affiliation to the CSS and copy of the card (in the first request).

**Article 210.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute the following things:

1. Proof from the CSS in which shows payment of a minimum of nine (9) consecutive quotas;
2. National paz y salvo of incomes of the applicant.

## **SECTION 6ª**

### **INVESTOR IN FOOD PROCESSOR FOR EXPORT ZONES**

**Article 211.** Foreigners have invested a minimum sum of two hundred fifty thousand balboas (B/.250,000.00) in a properly authorized business, like a property development company or operator of a food processor for the export zone or in businesses established inside these areas, according to the Law 25 of 1992 will be able to request this permission.

**Article 212.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification of the investment, sent off by the National Direction of Promotion of the Exports of the Department of Commerce and Industries;
2. Certification sent off by the Developer accrediting the need of the permission according to a study presented by this business;
3. Banking letter where the origin of the funds is specified.

**Article 213.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute:

1. National paz y salvo of the business and of the applicant.

## **SECTION 7ª**

### **CALLS CENTER FOR COMMERCIAL USE INVESTOR**

**Article 214.** Foreigners that invest in businesses whose activity offer calls centers services for commercial use will be able to request this permission. Just as the Executive Decree establishes it 97 of the 2002, they will be similar and they should comply with the same requirements of the Permissions of Permanent Residents of the food processors for export zones.

**Article 215.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certification on the investment, sent off by National Direction of Promotion of the Exports of the Department of Commerce and Industries;
2. Certification sent off by the Authority of the Public Utilities accrediting that the business has license and at present is lending the service of Call Center;
3. Banking letter where the origin of the funds is specified.

**Article 216.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article, the applicant should contribute:

1. National Pazy Salvo of incomes in favor of the business and of the applicant.

## **SECTION 8<sup>a</sup>**

### **INVESTOR OF THE FILM AND AUDIOVISUAL INDUSTRY**

**Article 217.** Foreigners that invest in the film industry a minimum of one hundred fifty thousand balboas (B/.150,000.00) will be able to request this permission.

**Article 218.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following thing documents:

1. Certification of the Technical Office of the secretary of the Film Commission of Panama, that accredits:
  - a. The existence of the business and its location;
  - b. That the business is found authorized under the special state established in the Law No. 36 of 2007;
2. Banking letter in which cause be evident that the funds the foreign applicant invests originate from outside the country.
3. Proof of investment, shown by means of at least two (2) of the following documents:
  - a. Copies of the properly registered contract of sale or rental agreement of the real estate where the business operates or is headquartered;
  - b. Commercial bill of the expenses incurred by the investor in the business accompanied by inventory detailed carried out by the Authorized Public Bookkeeper (CPA);
  - c. Customs liquidations of imported goods under the name of the businesses or of the investor.

**Article 219.** To request continuance, besides the requirements mentioned in the numerals of the previous article, the applicant should contribute:

1. National paz y salvo of incomes in favor of the business and of the applicant.

**CHAPTER III**  
**FOR DEMOGRAPHIC REASONS**  
**FAMILY REGROUPING**

**SECCION 1ª**  
**MARRIED WITH PANAMANIAN**

**Article 220.** Foreigners that have entered into marriage with a Panamanian and that live together with this in conditions of singularity, stability and continuity will be able to request this permission.

**Article 221.** The marriage of a foreigner with a Panamanian national does not offer in and of itself rights to the residence in the Republic of Panama. The National Service of Immigration will be able to deny the entrance or residence in the country for reasons of salubriousness, morality, public security, domestic economy or social need to the foreigners married with Panamanian nationals.

**Article 222.** In addition to the common requirements established in article 28 (excepted the payment of the deposit of repatriation), the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Certificate of Marriage sent off by the Civil Registration; If the Marriage was celebrated abroad it should be properly recorded in the Civil Registration;
2. Birth certificate of the Panamanian spouse sent off by the Civil Registration;
3. Birth certificate(s) of Panamanian children if applicable;
4. Photocopies of the personal ID card of the Panamanian spouse authenticated in the Civil Registration;
5. Work permit and copy of their card, for the applicant;
6. In the cases of retirees or pensioners, they should show this with a letter of retirement. If they comply with this they are exempted from the previous requirement;
7. Proof of sources of income for the national (letter of work, insurance files, banking letter, or own tax return or of the spouse with receipt of payment);

8. Letter of responsibility of the Panamanian spouse;
9. Marital interview that will be carried out by suitable personnel of the Disciplinary Unit, according to a date and hour assigned upon presenting the request. In the case they are not able to attend as of that date and hour the excuses should be presented pertaining to more delay within three (3) business days after the date;
10. Constancy of residence, for which they can present: copy of public utilities, rental agreement, title of property or any another document that shows the conjugal residence.

**Note:** The National Service of Immigration when they deem convenient will be able to visit the home.

**Article 223.** After two (2) years of the temporary provisional permission is passed, the foreigner will be able to request the permanent residence, complying with the requirements mentioned in the previous article and should contribute the following document:

1. National Paz y Salvo of the applicant.

**Note:** Applicants that have been widowed or have divorced during the term of their provisional permission and have children during the marriage will be able to opt for the permanent residence. In the first case he should present death certificate of his spouse and in the second case he should contribute certificate of dissolution of the marriage and the birth certificates of the children had in the marriage. The alone presentation does not guarantee or oblige the National Service of Immigration to offer the continuance of the applicant.

## **SECCION 2ª**

### **DEPENDENTS OF PERMANENT RESIDENTS**

**Article 224.** Foreign spouses, children less than eighteen (18) years, family members with disability, and dependent parents of a provisional resident of two (2) years, permanent or national resident will be able to request this permission. The children older than eighteen (18) years and under twenty-five (25) years will be able to be requested as dependents, provided that they are studying full time and they are found under the economic dependence of the resident or national. The resident or national that shows guardianship or relationship to a person under age will be able to request them as their dependent.

**Article 225.** In addition to the common requirements established in the article 28 of the Decree Law, the applicant should contribute the following documents:

1. Letter of responsibility of the resident or national;
2. Constancy of relationship: Certificate of marriage of the spouse or certificate of the birth of the children or judicial constancy of guardianship, as be the case;

3. The applicant of legal age and less than twenty-five (25) years old should contribute:
  - A. Certification of an educational center that accredit their condition as full-time student and of regular form;
  - b. Single Certificate;
3. Proof that the resident counts on the sufficient economic solvency. The resident can prove solvency with one of the following forms:
  - A. Copies of the tax return, with its paz y salvo and this should comply with the minimum income of one thousand balboas (B/.1,000.00) monthly plus one a hundred balboas (B/.100.00) additional for each dependent;
  - b. Letter of work brought up to put on file of the CSS and copy of the work permit;
  - c. Letter of banking reference showing balance of four average figures.

**Article 226.** To request continuance of this permission, the applicant should present the requirements mentioned in the numerals described in the previous article.

## **TITLE V**

### **FOREIGNER UNDER PROTECTION OF THE STATE**

**Article 227.** The standards of processing people benefiting from the provisional humane statute of protection should be according to the American Convention on Human Rights, other international instruments ratified by the Republic of Panama, and the legislation in effect in this matter.

**Article 228.** The applicants of refugees admitted by procedure of the National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) or that have presented their request of refuge and are in the process, while their situation lasts will not be refused at the border and not sanctioned for illegal or irregular means, while the Panamanian State decides whether to provide them permanent settlement in its territory.

**Article 229.** The refugee applicant in process or rejected that have not been recognized, will not have to pay a fine from the executor of the resolution that exhausts the way governmental or administrative.

**Article 230.** The National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) will perform the periodic registration of the affluence of people that enter to the country in search of protection and the documentation of those that are benefited by the collective decision of their condition of "protected provisionally for humane reasons" and will periodically send said information to the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 231.** The ID card of the refugees, inmates and stateless will be renewed by the National Service of Immigration, when the National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) (in the case of refugees and stateless) or the Department of Foreign Affairs (in the case of the inmates), send the pertinent request.

**Article 232.** They will be able to apply exemptions for refugees, inmates and stateless that due to their vulnerability, cannot cover the cost of the card. Said vulnerability will be properly certified by the National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) for the case of the refugees and stateless, and Department of Foreign Affairs for the case of the inmates.

**Article 233.** Once the refugee receives the certification that accredits the condition of refugee, stateless, or inmate, the National Service of Immigration, will open an individual file, that will include the following thing (so much for the applicant as their dependents) :

1. Passport or document that shows their identity, (if applicable). In the event that the applicant cannot present some of those documents, affidavit of their identity will be received;
2. Certification of the National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) in case of refugees or stateless and certification of the Department of Foreign Affairs in the case of inmates;
3. Fingerprints.
4. Two (2) photographs.

**Article 234.** The refugees, inmates and stateless have the obligation, besides what is established in the conventions, protocols, international statutes, the Political Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Panama the following thngs:

- a. to obey the laws and regulations of the country and to respect the law and order;
- b. to obey the decisions of the National Commission of Protection for Refugees and those of the Department of Foreign Affairs;
- c. to Maintain in every moment a harmonious and appropriate conduct with the morale and good customs in the Republic of Panama;
- d. Carrying at all times their ID card as the applicant of refuge, inmate or stateless;
- e. to Inform National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) and to the Department of Foreign Affairs, the location of their residence and work, as well as any change that occur in these.
- f. to Report the National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) and to the Department of Foreign Affairs, immediately, in case of loss or robbery of their ID card;
- g. The refugees, inmates, and stateless enjoy the rights and contained guarantees in effect of the applicable legislation.

**Article 235.** The right is recognized for the refugee, inmate, or stateless to be reunified with their immediate family. The National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR) will be able to consider exceptions to this criterion by reasons of vulnerability, dependence or humanitarianism.

**Article 236.** The refugees and inmates that have ten or more years with legal status living here and declare their intention to reside in the territory of the Republic of Panama will be able to apply for a permanent residence permit, just as the Law 25 of May 9, 2008 establishes. This it is not extensive to those who have renounced the condition of refugee or inmate, according to the dispositions in force.

**Article 237.** The applicant and their dependents that have the condition of refugee or inmate, so that they can request the permanent residence permit should contribute the following thing documents:

1. Resolution that the condition of refugee they and their dependents possess are properly authenticated by the National Office for the Attention of the Refugees (ONPAR), in which the period should be evident during which they have qualified for this condition and in the case of inmates, the resolution they offer for them and their dependents, properly authenticated by the Department of Foreign Affairs;
2. Original of the card in effect that accredits their condition;
3. Police record from the Republic of Panama;
4. Two (2) photos.

## **TITLE IV**

### **CHANGE OF MIGRATORY CATEGORY**

**Article 238.** With base in article 14 of the Decree Law, the foreign non-residents will be able to change their migratory category, except those whose visa authorization does not permit it.

**Article 239.** The foreigners that enter to the country under the category of tourist will be able, just as the Decree Law establishes it, to request the change of migratory category, whether inside their time of stay as tourist or inside the category change extension.

**Article 240.** The foreigners that have completed maximum established in the Decree Law for the permissions of temporary residents will be able to opt for requesting permission of permanent resident when it is permitted, contributing the documentation that is required from them for the extension of temporary resident.

**Note:** The previous article will not apply to those that have permission of temporary resident under the following categories: for humanitarian reasons; for education, and by special laws.

## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL DISPOSITIONS OF THE REQUESTS OF VISAS AND PERMISSIONS

**Article 241.** In the requests of visas or permissions for labor reasons, the power should be offered by the legal representative of the business contractor, specifying the generals of the business and the foreign applicant. If the legal representative is the applicant, another dignitary of the company should offer the power.

**Article 242.** The dependents of legal age, for any visa or permission of the different categories or subcategories, should be able to make changes themselves.

**Article 243.** Every copy that is required to be presented for the different visas or permissions should be properly authenticated as faithful copies of its original by a notary public or competent authority.

**Article 244.** Every letter of responsibility sent by a natural or legal person (sent in the letterhead of the business), should include:

1. That compromises to assume the economic living or the payment of the salary, as be the case;
2. That compromises to assume the expenses of return or repatriation to their country of origin or destiny, in case it is necessary;
3. It should be accompanied by receipt of public utilities, rental agreement, hotel reservation, or any another document that verifies the foreigner's residence during their stay in the national territory;
4. The signature should be authenticated by a notary public.

**Article 245.** The photos that an applicant contributes will be recent, with the full face.

**Article 246.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will establish for resolution the procedures and necessary protocols that those interested should carry out in order to claim the refund of the deposit of guarantee, according to the corresponding migratory procedure.

**Article 247.** All the documents that are sent from abroad should comply with the following requirements:

1. Being properly Apostilled or authenticated by the embassy or consulate of Panama in the country that sent them and by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Panama;
2. If no consulate or Panamanian embassy exists in the country that emits it, such situation should be accredited and to proceed to authenticate it in the embassy or consulate of a friendly country;
3. Every document should be in Spanish language otherwise or should be translated by an authorized public translator with reference to the resolution that authorizes them as a translator in the Republic of Panama;

4. If it refers to foreign currency, they should present the conversion that details detail its equivalent in dollars, emitted by a competent company.

**Article 248.** For the extension requests, temporary or permanent residents, they do not need to contributed again the requirements established in the numerals 2 and 4 of the article 28 of the Decree Law that have been presented in the first request.

## CHAPTER II

### CANCELLATION OF VISAS AND MIGRATORY PERMISSIONS

**Article 249.** In addition to the causes of the article 31 of the Decree Law, the country will be able to cancel the visas and migratory permissions of foreigners for the following causes:

1. If the foreigner obtains multiple entrance/exit visas of non-resident, and remains in the national territory longer than they are authorized for their stay as non-resident, according to article 49 of the Decree Law;
2. If the foreigner repeatedly does not update their information of the Registration of Immigration according to article 87 of the Decree Law;
3. When a foreigner does not comply with the causes in article 50 of the Decree Law they are subject to a process of repeal or cancellation of the visa or permission that was in effect;
4. When a temporary or permanent foreign resident serves as responsible for another foreigner, and he does not comply with the terms of the letter of responsibility.

## CHAPTER III

### IMMIGRATION REGISTRATION

**Article 250.** The foreigners that request some migratory category of temporary or permanent resident have the obligation to register in the Registration of Immigration of the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 251.** The National Service of Immigration will adopt the use of sure technological platforms in order to guarantee the defense of the information of the foreigners that is confidential.

**Article 252.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration, will send the resolutions in which the content of the forms are approved that should be completed for the foreigner for registration and to bring up to date their information in the Registration of Immigration.

## TITLE VI

### NON-RESIDENTS PROCEDURE FILES

**Article 253.** The National Service of Immigration will carry a central file that will maintain by physical and/or technological media, the documentation of all the migratory managements carried out before the institution.

**Article 254.** In the central files the information will be conserved of all the requests of visas that are sent through the migratory authority abroad or directly before the institution.

## TITLE VII

### MIGRATORY CONTROL

**Article 255.** To accredit their identity and nationality, the foreigners that intend to enter the national territory should be found with passport or document of trip with minimum validity of three (3) months that should be from the competent authorities of the country of origin.

**Article 256.** The foreigners that desire to enter to the national territory should be provided a visa in validity offered by a competent authority, just as is described in the article 18 of the present regulation.

**Article 257.** Those who will be exempt to comply with the requirement of visa mentioned in the previous article include:

1. The nationals of countries with which a treaty exists in which have agreed its suppression, in the form and conditions established;
2. The foreign members of international air crews that are reputable as such;
3. The foreigners that are found dealing with some migratory category in the Republic of Panama;
4. The foreigners with diplomatic passport or ones that Panama has subscribed an international agreement that contemplate this possibility.

**Article 258.** The National Service of Immigration will supply special migratory positions for the attention of people under age who are already nationals, Temporary or permanent residents, in order to comply with that established in the articles 39 and 40 of the Decree Law.

**Article 259.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will approve by means of resolution the repatriation of people under age, continuing the protocols ratified by the Republic of Panama.

**Article 260.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will approve the technological and physical media that are required to comply with the registration that is established by articles 39 and 41 of the Decree Law.

## CHAPTER I

### MULTIPLE ENTRANCE/EXIT VISAS

**Article 261.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will establish for resolution the procedures, forms and the necessary technological media to deal with multiple entrance/exit visas.

**Article 262.** The multiple entrance/exit visa will be able to be authorized for a term of up to five (5) years, which will depend on the evaluation of the request, compliance of the requirements and requests of the applicant.

**Article 263.** The requests of multiple entrance/exit visas will be able to be presented personally or by means of legal attorney. To carry out the procedure should be presented the following thing:

1. Request of multiple entrance/exit visa;
2. Original and simple copy of the passport in effect, that show that their stay in the national territory is regular;
  - a. Original and copy of the Immigration card (if application);
  - b. Proof of economic solvency;
3. Accrediting the condition of merchant or businessman or the reasons for which this authorization requires. If the foreigner is invited by a business, he should contribute:
  - a. Letter of invitation of the business, signed by the manager or legal representative, with copy of his ID document;
  - b. Copy of the certificate of the Public Registration of the business;
  - c. Banking letter of the business.

**Article 264.** All the temporary or permanent residents, intrinsic to their permission offered, have the possibility to enter and to leave the national territory without need of prior authorization of the National Service of Immigration, except for the cases in which the competent authorities interpose preventive measures or restrictions of entrance or exit.

## CHAPTER II

### CAUSAL OF NON-ADMISSION

**Article 265.** The National Service of Immigration will create a registration of those prohibited from entering or exiting the country, which will be brought up to date in a prompt way subject to communication that is received on behalf of the competent authorities. Once it is received, the communication on behalf of the authorities that emit the impediment or its lifting, will enter to the registration that will be available to all the migratory positions of the country and its application will be of obligatory compliance.

**Article 266.** The pertinent protocols with the Public Department and the Judicial Branch will be done in order to expedite the information exchange process and the registration of preventive measures, through technological mechanisms and complying with the formats that are approved for these effects.

**Article 267.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will establish impediments of entrance to the national territory, that will result in the non-admission of the foreigner in the case that has infringed the numeral 8 of the article 50 of the Decree Law and the present regulation, for which they should send a supported resolution.

**Article 268.** In the case a foreigner is denied entrance to the country, they will be able to petition by means of legal attorney to request the lifting of the sanction. This should support the reasons that justify their petition and contribute the pertinent tests and the compliance of the article 70 of the Decree Law, for the reimbursement to the State of the costs of their deportation when applicable.

## CHAPTER III

### CROSS-BORDER MIGRATORY MOVEMENT OF INDIGENOUS POPULATION

**Article 269.** With base in the article 57 of the Decree Law, the movements or cross-border displacements of Panamanian native ethnic groups of ancient origin should be performed in official or enabled abilities to the effect.

**Article 270.** The National Service of Immigration will create a registration, which will contain the data of the natives that desire to be added to the procedures indicated in Title IV, Chapter V of the Decree Law, when they verify that they reside in the bordering zones, by means of presentation of identity card or any another ID card, offered by the competent authorities.

**Article 271.** Once it is verified that they are a resident of the bordering zones, they will be granted the local transit card that should contain: the name and surnames, number of the document of identity of the country, date of the granting and of expiration, place of destiny, motive of trip, signature, and seal of the official of Immigration.

**Article 272.** This local transit card will be granted for the time of their stay in the national territory that will not exceed a term of ninety (90) days.

**Article 273.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will approve the protocols, formats and requirements in common agreement with the native traditional and administrative authorities that will be required to achieve supervision and efficient control of the cross-border movement of native populations.

## CHAPTER IV

### APPLICABLE MIGRATORY CONTROLS FOR INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING COMPANIES

**Article 274.** The transports should require all the foreigners to present their passports or trip documents to verify the validity, effect and if necessary the corresponding visa. Any doubts as to the authenticity of the documents presented will prevent them from embarking into the Republic of Panama.

**Article 275.** When the inspectors of the National Service of Immigration do not admit a passenger to the country by showing legal cause of prohibition and impediment of entrance to the country and they order the return to the port of shipment, the international shipping companies should bear the expenses of return of the passenger.

**Article 276.** The National Service of Immigration will be able to except compliance of the previous article in the following conditions:

1. When the national territory is in the middle of the transportation;
2. If it is arrives forced into the country
3. When by reasons of greater force or unforeseen circumstances the transport is stuck in the middle of its journey.

**Article 277.** In the cases indicated in the previous article, the National Service of Immigration, subject to communication with the international shipping companies will be able to offer them a special card, to the foreigners that are found under these circumstances, that accredit its quality of passengers and crew members in traffic, by the strictly necessary time limit for its expense and will be determined at the time of the card according to the conditions. The expenses that the stay demands will be the charge of the international shipping company.

**Article 278.** The international shipping companies are in the obligation to comply with the article 62 of the Decree Law, the regulations and resolutions that dictate the National Service of Immigration as well as:

1. Be prohibited to transport passengers bound for the Republic of Panama that do not have the proper documents to enter to the country;
2. Supplying, in an obligatory way, the requests of information that the automatic system of migratory control and the lists of verification of the National Service of Immigration require;
3. Leaving the national territory with the inspection of the trip documents of its passengers and of its crew by the authorities of migratory control, that will be evident with the signature of the ones responsible in the report carried out by the National Service of Immigration.
4. Watching that the personnel of its business comply with the legal dispositions of the Decree Law and of this regulation;

**Note:** The consignee's agencies of the shipping companies will respond jointly in the breach of the obligations described previously.

**Article 279.** The international shipping companies have the obligation, according to article 63 of the Decree Law, to be interconnected with the shipment control module of its passengers according to the technological media required by the National Service of Immigration, to automate the entry of the data of each person that enters or leaves the country and its real-time transfer to said automated system, according to the protocol that the Director of the National Service of Immigration uses to coordinate the mechanisms of the use and procedure of the migratory control.

**Article 280.** The foreigners that are passengers and crew members of ships, airships or vehicles of terrestrial transportation should be governed as stipulated in the Decree Law and this regulation, as for permissions offered by National Service of Immigration.

1. The foreigners that arrive to the national territory as deportees or return traffic by a third country obligatorily should continue their trip toward their final destiny.
2. The international shipping company is obliged to inform the National Service of Immigration with sufficient advance the arrival of foreign citizens as deportees or return traffic.
3. The international shipping company should coordinate with the National Service of Immigration the delivery of the documents of the foreigners as deportees and return traffic according to the protocols that are approved for such end.
4. Every foreigner that arrive to the national territory as deportee or return traffic should have confirmed their exit in the first available connection toward their final destiny. If the connection is not the same day they need to remain retained in the migratory checkpoint. The transport will have to bear the food expenses and should pay an amount of fifty balboas (B/.50.00) per retained each eight hours or fraction taking into account the hour of arrival into the national territory.

## CHAPTER V

### DEPORTATION AND EXPULSION

**Article 281.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration, in the exercise of their functions, will order the deportation or expulsion, by means of resolution motivated according to Chapter VII of the Decree Law. The resolution should have as base one or several of those established in the Decree Law and this regulation.

**Article 282.** In the expedient administration of deportation all the documents, testimonies, diligence and other probative media that serve of base for the decision on the sanction of deportation or expulsion and/or the entrance impediment according to the gravity of the infraction will be collected.

**Article 83.** The foreigner to whom the sanction of deportation or expulsion is imposed has the right to be notified of the resolution that orders the sanction in a personal way, as well as to communicate to them the specific motives that support their deportation or expulsion and to report to them the basic guarantees that they have the right for their defense.

**Article 284.** The National Service of Immigration will inform the consular authorities of the country of origin of the sanctioned foreigner and will coordinate the details for the execution of the respective resolution, when necessary.

**Article 285.** When the deportation or expulsion should be performed to a non-bordering country and for bad conduct, the deportee or expelled will be labeled as a dangerous individual, the transfer will be executed under the custody of the personnel assigned by the National Service of Immigration, who will have the responsibility to guard the deportees or expelled until they are delivered to the authorities of the country of origin or destiny.

**Article 286.** The costs and expenses for transfer and custody of deportees or expelled will be covers by the Fiduciary Fund of Immigration according to articles 65 and 84of the Decree Law.

**Article 287.** The sanction of deportation or expulsion only can be executed to people of legal age.

## TITLE VIII

### FIDUCIARY FUND OF IMMIGRATION

**Article 288.** With base in article 11, numeral 7 of the Decree Law, the General Director of the National Service of Immigration will exercise the administration and will approve the technological and physical media for its effective management and control.

**Article 289.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration, as approved by means of the resolution of the article 74 of the Decree Law will be responsible for the procedures for management of the incomes that the institution receives.

**Article 290.** The administration of the Fiduciary Fund of Immigration will be controlled by the General Director of the National Service of Immigration, who is responsible for the decisions and guidelines related to the uses of the Fiduciary Fund. They will create a Technical Commission of Strategic Planning of the Fiduciary Fund of Immigration that will comprise of the Unit of Administration and Finances, the Unit of Institutional Development and the Department of Migratory Control.

**Article 291.** The Technical Commission of Strategic Planning of the Fiduciary Fund of Immigration will act according to the protocols that are approved, for effects of its functions, by the General Director of the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 292.** When new resources to the capital of the Fiduciary Fund of Immigration are contributed, the totals will be evaluated to cover expenses and/or investments of the annual budget of the institution, according to the arrangements in article 75 of the Decree Law.

## CHAPTER I

### SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

**Article 293.** The selection and recommendation of projects for the development of human resources will be controlled by the Institutional Office of Human Resources and the Institutional Disciplinary Unit; which will be responsible for the evaluation of the personnel and creation of stimuli as for their productivity according to their merits, responsibilities, compliance of their debts and the installment of services in areas of difficult access.

**Article 294.** The administration of the Special Fund for the Development of Human Resources will be the charge of the General Director according to the arrangements of numeral 7, of article 11 of the Decree Law.

**Article 295.** An Executive Meeting will be created including the General Director, the Head of the department of Institutional Development and the Head of the Department of Administration and Finances, that will take charge of evaluating the projects and to assign the resources according to the technical criteria of the Unit of Human Resources and the Disciplinary Unit, by means of mechanisms of transparency.

**Article 296.** The utilization of the Special Fund of Development of Human Resources will be according to the availability of said funds and budget of the expenses established.

**Article 297.** To the public servants of the National Service of Immigration will be offered a bonus each year that will be determined by the availability of the funds.

**Article 298.** The Unit of Human Resources will devise programs of welfare for the public servants of the National Service of Immigration, according to the financial expenses assigned through the Special Fund of the Development of Human Resources, with the duties established for its utilization.

**Article 299.** The incentives that will be offered to the public servants assigned to areas of difficult access will be determined according to the zones or migratory positions and for the time of stay in these places, according to the availability that have the Special Fund for the Development of the Human Resource.

**Article 300.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will approve by means of resolution the functions of the Executive Meeting and the procedures and protocols that it should adopt.

**Article 301.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will exercise the administration of the resources approved in the budget and will approve the technological and physical media for its effective management and control of the Special Fund for the Development of Human Resources.

## **TITLE IX**

### **PROTECTION OF VICTIMS**

**Article 302.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration, with base in the last paragraph of the article 81 of the Decree Law, will establish for resolution the procedures, protocols, and measures of protection and prevention for the regular or irregular immigrant that cooperates in the clarification of illegal activities established in the first and second paragraph of article 81.

**Article 303.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration, with base in the article 82 of the Decree Law, will approve the protocols, technological, and physical mechanisms to develop efficient functions of the Unit of Attention to the Victims of Treatment of People.

**Article 304.** The National Service of Immigration will coordinate with watching that their rights are protected, their human rights are respected, and that they comply with the principles of non-discrimination, confidentiality, individualized assistance, or to a sure and worthy return.

## **TITLE X**

### **INFRACTIONS AND MIGRATORY ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS**

**Article 305.** With base in the article 90 of the Decree Law, the actions and omissions of the present regulation will have character of migratory administrative infractions.

**Article 306.** The migratory administrative infractions can be warning, fines, refunds, cancellations, deportations or expulsions depending on the gravity of the offense, as well as any another measure that is indicated by the Decree Law and its rules, without harm to the penal or civil sanctions that take place.

**Article 307.** When the offender commits several infractions or omissions at the same time, they will be sanctioned for each one of the committed infractions.

**Article 308.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration has the faculty to impose the sanctions for the administrative migratory infractions and will be able to delegate to other officials said faculty except for the resolutions that order the deportation or the expulsion of a foreigner.

**Article 309.** In case of aggravating circumstances or recidivism in the migratory infractions, the General Director of National Service of Immigration will keep in mind the gravity of the committed infraction and the migratory record of the foreigner, to impose the sanction.

**Article 310.** The verification of the record of the foreigner will be carried out by consulting the registrations of the data processing system, expedients, files of the National Service of Immigration, as well as any accusation presented against the person or report of competent authorities and the police.

**Article 311.** With base in the article 96 of the Decree Law, against the pecuniary sanctions and the ones that sanction deportation only are for reconsideration before the General Director of the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 312.** The resource of appeal can be presented up to five (5) business days after being notified of the document that imposes the sanction by virtue of the infraction and should include a support in writing of the base that justifies the request. The foreigner or their legal attorney will be able to be leveled of this term when they request the voluntary return and pays the fine that takes place.

**Article 313.** The offenders of the dispositions of the present regulation will be guilty persons according to the following:

No.	Description of the Infraction	First Offense	Second Offense	Third Offense
1	Foreigners that do not carry proper ID (Article 91 of Decree Law)	Warning or Fine of \$10		
2a	Regular migrant that is found laboring or with unauthorized gainful employment (Article 90 of the Decree Law)	Warning or fine of \$1,000	Fine of \$2,000 to \$5,000	Fine of \$5,000 or cancellation of their visa or permission
2b	Employer, agent, or mediator that hires an unauthorized foreigner (Article 54, Paragraph 88 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$2,000	Fine of \$5,000	Fine of \$10,000
3	Irregular Migrant that has	Fine of \$50 for		

	overstayed their visa and is leaving voluntarily (Article 84, paragraph 1 of the Decree Law)	every month they overstay and denial of entrance for 2-5 years		
4	Irregular Migrant that overstays their visa but can show marriage or children with a Panamanian (Article 84, paragraph 2 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$50 up to \$1,000		
5	Foreigner that has overstayed their visa and is apprehended by the national service of Immigration or competent authorities (Article 89 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$50 for each month they overstay ..... Deportation		
6	Extension of tourism or category change extension (by presenting false statements and/or fraudulent or altered documents, for the purpose of obtaining their extension) (Number 5 of the article 31 and numeral 4 of article 71 of Decree Law)	Cancellation	Deportation	Expulsion
7	Registration of Immigration (by not reporting the change of residence or variations in the information supplied, (Articles 37 and 87 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$100	Cancellation	Deportation
8	Representative or agent of ship (not complying with its responsibility and obligations with the marine that it represents). (Article 9 of the Law No. 60 of 1978, will apply the article 89 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$1,000 up to \$,500	Fine of \$1,500 up to \$3,000	Fine of \$3,000 up to \$5,000
9	Employer, agent, contractor or intermediary that represent private enterprises or businesses that are found inside special laws (that do not accredit the legal stopover of the foreigner and their authorization to labor) (Article 88 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$800 up to \$3,000	Fine of \$3,000 up to \$5,000	Fine of \$5,000 up to \$10,000

10	Employer, agent, contractor or intermediary and/or the foreigner that do not notify the termination of the labor or contractual relation (Article 88 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$800 up to \$3,000 ..... Foreigner: Deportation	Fine of \$1,000 up to \$5,000	Fine of \$5,000 up to \$10,000
11	Employers that retain ID cards, trip documents or passports of foreign workers or that do not comply matters of labor, of health and social salubriousness, (article 89 of the Decree Law) Without breaking the law	Fine of \$1,000	Fine of \$2,000 up to \$5,000	Fine of \$5,000
12	Air Shipping Companies (that do not comply with warnings that prevent exit of the country (number 2 of the article 88 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$2,000 up to \$5,000	Fine of \$5,000 up to \$10,000	Fine of \$10,000 up to \$25,000
13	International, maritime, air or terrestrial shipping Companies who enter foreigners into the country that were not admitted by the National Service of Immigration, (article 61 and article 90 of the Decree Law)	Transport Company: Fine of \$1,000 up to \$1,500 ..... Foreigner: Return		
14	International, maritime, air or terrestrial shipping Companies (that do not comply with the obligations of the article 62, 63, 64 and article 90 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$1,000 up to \$5,000		
15	Does not comply with their multiple Entrance/Exit (authorized term overstayed, article 49 and 90 of the Decree Law).	Fine of \$1,000 up to \$2,000	Fine of \$2,000 up to \$5,000	Cancellation
16	Foreigner that exits the country with an under age Panamanian or foreigner, violating or infringing the contained obligations in the article 40, 42 of the Decree Law, (applied the article 90 of the	Fine of \$1,000 up to \$5,000 ..... Does not include penal sanctions		

	Decree Law)			
17	Owners or administrators of hotels or places of lodging (that do not comply with the contained disposition in the article 44 of the Decree Law, (will apply the article 90 of the Decree Law)	Fine of \$1,000 up to \$2,000	Fine of \$2,000 up to \$5,000	Fine of \$5,000

**Article 314.** The administrative sanctions of cancellation, deportation and arranged expulsion in the Decree Law and the present regulation are:

<b>CAUSES OF CANCELLATION</b> (Article 31, 49 and 87 of the Decree Law)	
1.	Only purpose of the marriage with a Panamanian is to obtain their residence
2.	They attempted acts against the national security, the law and order, the morale, or the public health, or by violating the rights and liberties of the people
3.	In cases of permanent residents, to be outside of the national territory for more than two years, unless such absence be justified and authorized by the Director of the National Service of Immigration
4.	Carrying out incompatible activities to those that serve as base to offer the visa or permission of non-resident, permanent, or temporary resident.
4a.	Present false and/or fraudulent or altered statements and documents.
5.	Offering, by themselves or through another person, any type of promise or remuneration (bribe) or to exercise any type of pressure destined to alter the will of the officials of the National Service of Immigration or diplomatic agents or consulars, with the purpose of obtaining the visa or respective permission
6.	To have been condemned by the commission of a deceitful crime or of tax evasion
7.	Ceasing the causes that caused the authorization of the visa or the respective permission
8.	Repeating to not inform the National Service of Immigration of the change of residence or variation of the information in the Registration of Immigration
9.	Posts a multiple Entrance/exit visa and remain in the national territory more than the authorized term.
10.	Does not give notification of the labor termination in the term established in the Decree Law
11.	Any other cause established in the Decree Law or in the regulations.

<b>Causes for Deportation</b> <b>Article 65 of the Decree Law</b>		<b>Years</b> <b>(5-10)</b>
1.	Entering into the country in irregular form, save the exceptions established in special laws	5 years
2.	Lacking identity papers way or irregular in the national territory	5 years
3.	Behaving in conduct that does not agree with good customs or morals	5 years
4.	Has spent time in prison	7-10 years
5.	They attempted acts against public security, national defense, and public well being	10 years
6.	Infringing the dispositions for their visa or permission in the categories of non-resident, temporary or permanent resident (by presenting to the National Service of Immigration	10 years

documentation, or ideologically fraudulent or altered material, for the purpose of obtaining their extension)	
7. Incurring anything else the law determines	

<b>CAUSES FOR EXPULSION (Article 71 and 81 paragraph 3 of the Decree Law)</b>
1. Commit any hate crime that incites cultural, religious, racial, or political hatred
2. Becomes a threat to the collective security, the public well being, or to the law and order
3. Have been condemned for a deceitful crime, after they have served their sentence
4. Have been deported and re-enters the country in irregular form
5. Have facilitated, promoted or been involved in the commission of abduction, transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, laundering money and connected crimes, terrorism and its financing, illegal traffic of weapons and explosives, as well as the possession and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

**Article 315.** In consideration of what is established in article 136 of the Decree Law, the rates and rights of the services that the National Service of Immigration lends are as follows:

**RATES OF MIGRATORY PROCEDURES OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE OF IMMIGRATION**

<b>PROCEDURE</b>	<b>COSTS OF THE PROCEDURE FOR MIGRATORY SERVICES</b>	<b>PAYMENT FOR REQUEST OF MIGRATORY CATEGORY</b>	<b>REPATRIATION DEPOSIT</b>	<b>GUARANTEE DEPOSIT</b>	<b>ID</b>
TOURIST	TOURIST CARD	-----	-----	-----	-----
EXTENSION OF TOURIST	-----	-----	-----	-----	PASSPORT STAMP \$30
EXTENSION FOR CHANGE OF CATEGORY	-----	-----	-----	\$500	\$30
EXTENTION FOR PASSENGERS AND CREW MEMBERS IN TRANSIT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	CARD \$5
VISA OF MARINE	\$15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

1. I RECEIVE AND OFFICE OF CREW MEMBERS	\$30				
2. SHIPMENT AND UNLOADING OF CREW MEMBERS	\$30				
3. CARD OF PAIR TO LAND (SHOREPASS)	\$30				
4. EXTENSION CARD TO LAND (SHOREPASS)	\$5				
5. DESCRIPTION	\$5				
VISA FOR SPECIALISTS	-----	\$250	-----	\$1,000	\$50
VISA FOR TRANSIENTS OR EVENT WORKERS	\$100	-----	-----	\$250 EACH GROUP OF MORE THAN TEN (\$2,500)	\$50
VISA FOR DOMESTIC EMPLOYEES	\$250	-----	-----	\$500	50\$
VISA FOR PASSENGERS AND CREWMEMBERS OF SHIPS WITH INTENTION OF TOURISM	\$100	-----	-----	\$500	\$50
VISA OF SHORT STAY					
1. FOR BUSINESS	\$100	-----	-----	-----	\$50
2. TO VISIT RELATIVES	\$100	-----	-----	\$500	\$50
3. INVESTIGATORS AND SCIENTISTS	\$100	-----	-----	-----	\$50
4. FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT	\$100	-----	-----	-----	\$50
5. AS MERCHANT AND INVESTOR OF SPECIAL LAWS					

(Zone food Processor, Call Center and Cinematography)	-----	-----	-----	-----	\$50
6.INTERNATIONAL HUMANE ASSISTANCE	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
7. FOR THE BANKING SECTOR TEMPORARY RESIDENT PERMISSIONS	\$250	-----	-----	\$500	\$50
1. FOR LABOR REASONS	-----				
2. FOR REASONS OF INVESTMENT	-----				
3. FOR SPECIAL POLICIES (they will be governed for specific costs in the Special Law and it established in the present regulation)	-----				
4. FOR REASONS OF EDUCATION	-----				
5. FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS	-----				
6. FOR HUMANE REASONS	-----				
7. FOR FAMILY REGROUPING	-----				
CHANGE OF MIGRATORY CATEGORY FROM TEMPORARY TO PERMANENT PERMISSIONS OF	-----	\$250	-----	-----	-----

PERMANENT RESIDENTS					
1.FOR ECONOMIC REASONS	-----	\$250	\$800	-----	\$100
2.FOR POLITICAL REASONS	-----	\$250	-----	-----	\$100
3.FOR DEMOGRAPHIC REASONS REQUEST OF PERMANENT RESIDENCY	-----	\$250	\$800	-----	\$100
MULTIPLE ENTRANCE/EXIT VISA	\$50 LESS THAN ONE YEAR \$100 FOR UP TO 5 YEARS	-----	-----	-----	-----
OTHER PROCEDURES					
1. SAFE-CONDUCTS FOR FOREIGNERS THAT do NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION OR CONSULAR IN PANAMA	\$75	-----	-----	-----	-----
2. SAFE-CONDUCT (AGREEMENT PANAMA-COSTA RICA)	\$5	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. SAFE-CONDUCTS FOR NATIONAL	\$5	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNER	\$5	-----	-----	-----	-----
5. CARD OR					

DOCUMENT TO DEAL WITH	\$30	-----	-----	-----	-----
6. CERTIFICATION	\$10	-----	-----	-----	-----
7. PASSPORT OF STOCKHOLDER WITHDRAWN	\$200	-----	-----	-----	-----
8. DESCRIPTION IN THE REGISTRATION	\$5	-----	-----	-----	-----

## TITLE XI

### PREVENTIVE SHELTERS

**Article 316.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration, with base in the article 93 of the Decree Law, will establish for resolution the procedures, protocols and manual of operation for the preventive shelters that will cover things such as the diet, hygiene, medical services, measures of discipline and the rights of the people detained.

**Article 317.** The preventive shelters will function uninterruptedly watching for the respect of the human rights and complying with the standards and most minimum services of well being and diet.

**Article 318.** Every person that should be lodged in the preventive shelters will be registered and will be located inside the section that corresponds according to their kind or physical condition.

## TITLE XII

### COERCIVE JURISDICTION

**Article 319.** The National Service of Immigration has the function to exercise coercive jurisdiction, in base that is established in article 6, numeral 20 of the Decree Law.

**Article 320.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration has the faculty to exercise the Coercive Jurisdiction and, when sees convenient, to delegate it to an official of the Institution, as established in article 11, numeral 11 and the article 92 of the Decree Law.

**Article 321.** The actions in the process of collection by coercive jurisdiction will develop in accordance with the principles of legal economy, speed, efficacy, impartiality, publicity and contradiction, according to that established by article 3 of the Administrative Code.

**Article 322.** The doubts that arise in the interpretation of the norms on coercive jurisdiction should be clarified or to be rectified by means of the application of the general principles of the legal right, complying with the constitutional guarantees of the duty process and respecting the right of defense and equity.

**Article 323.** Article 1777 of the Judicial Code establishes that the public servants, the managers and autonomous or semiautonomous directors of companies and other public companies of the State, to the ones that are attributed coercive jurisdiction, they will proceed in those applications.

**Article 324.** The General Director of the National Service of Immigration will establish by means of resolution the procedures, attributions, and functions of the Court Executor, so that it constitutes an efficient medium of judicial collection for slowness in the payment of fines, permissions or damages caused to goods of its property and in general every credit or obligation in favor of the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 325.** With base in the article 79 of the Decree Law, the 10% collected by the imposed obligations for coercive collection will be placed in the Special Fund of Human Resources of the National Service of Immigration.

**Article 326.** The Executive Judge will submit the coercive process to the legal dispositions of the process, the constitutional guarantees, the right to the defense, the principle of healthy criticism and to him the concepts in the Chapter VIII, Title XIV of the Judicial Code.

**Article 327.** The Executive Judge, as for the incidents, exceptions, mediations, and nullities, will give, as arranged in the article 1982 of the Judicial Code, direction that the Third Circuit of the Supreme Court of Justice is the competent authority to know this matter.

## **CHAPTER I**

### **THE CONDITIONS TO EXECUTE THE COERCIVE COLLECTION**

**Article 328.** To execute the coercive collection it is necessary that the following conditions are given:

1. That the debtor has not complied with the notifications of fines, migratory services, or arrangements of payments and that the General Director of the National Service of Immigration certifies the debt exists.
2. They have exhausted the governmental way on the part of the debtor and the General Director of the National Service of Immigration to certify the debt that will constitute executive title.

**This Executive Decree will begin to govern on August 26, 2008**

**COMMUNICATED AND CUMPLIED,**

**DANIEL DELGADO-DIAMANTE**  
MINISTRO DE GOBIERNO Y JUSTICIA

**MARTÍN TORRIJOS ESPINO**  
PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA