

## **IMMIGRATION REGULATORY ALERT**

## Launch of the New Online Citizenship and Business Management Platform

The Ministry of Interior, by a public notice dated 15th May 2025, announced the launch of a new Online Citizenship and Business Management Platform. The notice highlights that this initiative is in line with the *Renewed Hope Agenda* of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu. It forms part of the Ministry's broader reform efforts aimed at promoting transparency, enhancing operational efficiency, and significantly improving public service delivery.

The platform is designed to simplify the application and processing of citizenship and business-related services. These include applications for citizenship by naturalisation, registration, or renunciation, as well as the grant of Special Immigration Status. It also covers the issuance of Business Permits and Expatriate Quota positions, along with the monitoring of their execution.

This digital transformation is expected to reduce bureaucratic bottlenecks, improve user experience, and shorten turnaround times for various applications. It reflects the government's commitment to establishing a more efficient, transparent, and secure framework for citizenship and business administration in Nigeria.

As a result, the Ministry has implemented a substantial increase in the fees associated with services processed through the new platform. These include Business Permits, Expatriate Quota positions, and various Citizenship-related applications. Notably, the cost of obtaining a Business Permit for companies limited by shares or structured as Limited Liability Partnerships has surged by over 300%. This adjustment may also have implications for existing applications, and further clarification on this point is expected in due course.

According to the public notice issued by the Ministry, members of the public, corporate entities, and other stakeholders are encouraged to access the new platform through the official Ministry website at <a href="https://interior.gov.ng">https://interior.gov.ng</a>, or directly via the portal at <a href="https://candb.interior.gov.ng">https://candb.interior.gov.ng</a>.

Famsville will continue to monitor developments and remains available to support clients in navigating the new system.

For further clarification or legal assistance, kindly contact **pamilerin.akabunwa@famsvillelaw.com**.

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Pamilerin Akabunwa



Uzochukwu Kpaduwa Associate

