

F.No. 13(1)/2022-ME-II

Islamabad the 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2024

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: PROMOTION OF THE VISA PRIOR TO ARRIVAL (VPA) "SYSTEM FOR TOURISM AND INVESTMENT"**

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject noted above and to enclose herewith letter No. 1/8/2023-Visa dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024 received from Section Officer (Visa), Ministry of Commerce on the subject for information and further necessary action, please.

**Encl: As above**

  
(Altaf Hussain)  
Section Officer (ME)  
Ph: 051-9208693

- i. The Secretary, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Karachi.
- ii. The President, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Karachi.

Muhammad Saleem  
DD (Publication)

Wednesday, 02 October, 2024, 9:32:37 AM

Secretary TDAP Office  
Diary No. 29433  
Date: 30-09-24

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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR  
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**MOST IMMEDIATE**

No. 1/8/2023-Visa

Islamabad, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2024

From: Agha Hashir Mehmood Khan  
Section Officer (Visa)

To:  The Secretary,  
Ministry of Commerce,  
Islamabad.

Subject: **PROMOTION OF THE "VISA PRIOR TO ARRIVAL (VPA)" SYSTEM  
FOR TOURISM AND INVESTMENT**

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and state that the Ministry of Interior has recently introduced a "Visa Prior to Arrival (VPA)" scheme aimed at facilitating tourism and investment in the country. This initiative includes granting visa-free entry to citizens of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and offering a 90-day multiple-entry visa to citizens of 120 other countries under the VPA scheme (copy enclosed). The visa will be issued within 24 hours of application, ensuring swift and efficient processing. This scheme is designed to promote ease of access to Pakistan, fostering both tourism and foreign investment.

2. Given the strategic importance of this initiative, the Ministry of Commerce is requested that it may effectively promote the VPA by:

- a. Issuing communications to national and regional Chambers of Commerce, encouraging them to share information about the VPA system with their members, especially businesses with international clients and partners.
- b. Featuring the VPA on the Ministry's official website, providing comprehensive details on eligibility, application procedures, and benefits for potential business visitors and tourists.
- c. Collaborating with relevant trade bodies to ensure that the VPA system is highlighted in their events and communications with international counterparts.

3. These efforts will enhance visibility and encourage greater use of the VPA system, contributing to increased tourism and foreign investment.

4. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Encl. As Above

  
(Agha Hashir Mehmood Khan)  
Section Officer (Visa)