



President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR



Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Chair, PEBEC

Background: On Thursday May 18, 2017, Nigeria's Acting President, His Excellency, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo SAN, signed an executive order on transparency and improving the business environment in Nigeria.

The Executive Order (EO1) contained far-reaching measures with direct benefits for Nigerian businesses as a proof of the FG's commitment and determination to ease the business environment.

EO1 has five main planks:



"Anytime we create obstacles for doing business, we attack the Nigerian economy, we attack our prosperity as a nation, we also attack the future..." - H.E. Ag. Pres. Yemi Osinbajo



Transparency



Fact: "Information is power; and more transparency goes hand-in-hand with better-quality government"



All Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) shall publish a complete list of all fees, timelines, conditions & requirements for obtaining permits, licences & approvals



Each MDA shall publish list on its premises and on its website



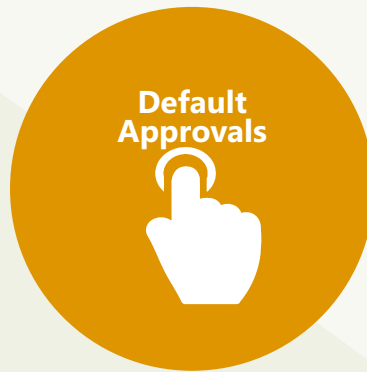
Head of MDA must ensure that list is verified and kept up-to-date at all times



If there is a conflict between a published list and an unpublished list, the published list shall prevail



Implementation
Deadline:
June 8, 2017



Fact: "Accelerating approval and permit processes can significantly increase revenues, attract investments and boost economic activities"




Any application not approved or rejected by an agency or official within the agency's specified timeline shall be assumed to have been approved




The applicant whose application is deemed granted may apply to the Minister in charge to issue a document or certificate as evidence of the grant within 14 days of lapse of the deadline



For rejected applications, reasons must be given to the applicant



Agencies must communicate acceptance or rejection of applications to the applicants by at least two methods, including letters, emails and publications on websites



Failure of appropriate officer to act on application within stipulated time without lawful excuse is misconduct and disciplinary actions would be taken



Implementation
Deadline:
June 8, 2017



Fact: "When a government works as one enterprise, it leads to a more efficient public sector, improved integrated services for citizens and enterprises, more transparent public processes, and more access to public information"



If an MDA requires a document from another MDA in order to deliver service to an applicant, it is the responsibility of the requesting MDA - not the applicant - to seek verification or certification from the issuing MDA



The requesting MDA shall only request a photocopy from the applicant



Service Level Agreements (SLAs) between MDAs and citizens shall be binding on the MDAs



Failure of the appropriate officer to act within the timeline stipulated in the SLA, without lawful excuse, is misconduct, and disciplinary actions would be taken



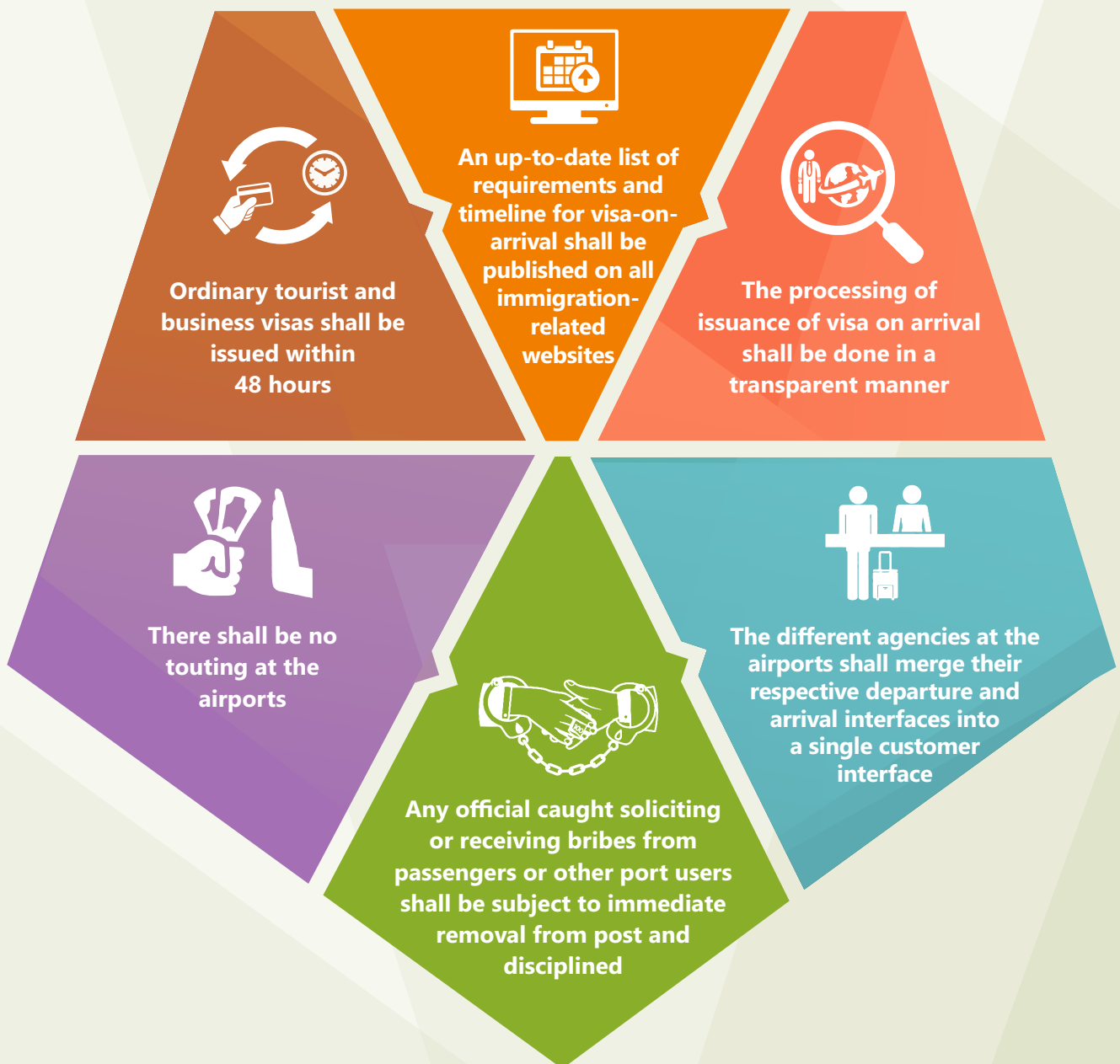
The Heads of the MDAs are responsible for ensuring that the agreed terms of the SLAs are adhered to



Implementation
Deadline:
June 8, 2017



Fact: "As it is for humans, so it is for countries, it is hard to get past a bad first impression"



Implementation Deadline
(Visa Issues):
May 18, 2017

Implementation Deadline
(Merger of Arrival and Departure Interfaces):
June 17, 2017



Fact: "Ports are important. Around 80 per cent of global trade by volume and over 70 per cent of global trade by value are carried by sea and are handled by ports worldwide."



Implementation Deadline
(Harmonization of Operations):
July 17, 2017

Implementation Deadline
(Export Terminal for agricultural exports):
June 17, 2017

Implementation Deadline
(24-hour Operations at Apapa Port):
June 17, 2017