

TEACHERS SERVICE COMMISSION

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When Replying Please Quote

Our Ref.:

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Date: 24TH APRIL, 2019

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TO : **The Director, CEMASTE**
The Director, Kenya Institute of Special Education
Principals, Diploma Teacher Colleges
Principals, Primary Teacher Training Colleges
Principals, Secondary Schools
Head Teachers, Primary Schools

ACQUISITION OF E-PASSPORTS BY PUBLIC OFFICERS

On 26th September 2018, the Head of Public Service issued a circular requiring all public sector employees, who include teachers, to migrate from the current machine-readable passports to the e-passports.

It was further communicated that the machine-readable passports would cease to be valid for international travel with effect from 1st **September, 2019** and that travel clearance for public servants would not be granted to those who will not have acquired the e-passport.

In view of the foregoing, teachers who may wish to travel outside the country are advised as follows:

1. Most countries require a passport to have at least six months validity before a visa or permit for international travel is issued.

- II. Since the machine-readable passports will cease to be valid travel documents with effect from **1st September 2019**, the same are already outside the six months validity period.
- III. Due to the limited validity period of the machine-readable passports and in line with the **September 26th 2018** circular, travel clearance will not be issued to public officers who do not hold the e-passport.
- IV. It will also not be possible for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate visa issuance for holders of the machine-readable passports.

All TSC employees who may at one-point need to travel outside the country are, therefore, reminded to apply for and obtain the new e-passport.

You are required to bring the contents of this Circular to the attention of all teachers under your supervision.


DR NANCY NJERI MACHARIA, CBS
SECRETARY/CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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