Continuation of Documentation for Beneficiaries of Temporary Protected Status Designations for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador

A Notice by the <u>U.S. Citizenship and Immigration</u> Services on 03/01/2019

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Agencies:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Dates:

The TPS designations of Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador will remain in effect, as required by the preliminary injunction order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California in Ramos v. Nielsen, No. 18-cv-01554 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 3, 2018), so long as the preliminary injunction remains in effect. TPS for those countries will not be terminated unless and until any superseding, final, non-appealable judicial order permits the implementation of such terminations. Information on the status of the preliminary injunction will be available at http://uscis.gov/tps.

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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION:

Notice.

SUMMARY:

Through this notice, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces actions to ensure its continued compliance with the preliminary injunction order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California in *Ramos* v. *Nielsen*, No. 18-cv-01554 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 3, 2018) ("preliminary injunction"). Beneficiaries under the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador will retain their TPS while the preliminary injunction remains in effect, provided that an individual's TPS is not withdrawn under Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) section 244(c)(3) or <u>8 CFR 244.14</u> because of ineligibility.

DHS is further announcing it is automatically extending through January 2, 2020, the validity of TPS-related Employment Authorization Documents (EADs), Forms I-797, Notice of Action (Approval Notice), and Forms I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) (collectively "TPS-Related Documentation"), as specified in this notice, for beneficiaries under the TPS designations for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador, provided that the affected TPS beneficiaries remain otherwise individually eligible for TPS. See INA section 244(c)(3). This Notice also provides information explaining DHS's plans to issue a subsequent notice that will describe the steps DHS will take after January 2, 2020, should continued compliance with the preliminary injunction be necessary.

DATES:

The TPS designations of Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador will remain in effect, as required by the preliminary injunction order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California in *Ramos* v. *Nielsen,* No. 18-cv-01554 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 3, 2018), so long as the preliminary injunction remains in effect. TPS for those countries will not be terminated unless and until any superseding, final, non-appealable judicial order permits the implementation of such terminations. Information on the status of the preliminary injunction will be available at http://uscis.gov/tps.

Further, DHS is automatically extending the validity of TPS-Related Documentation for those beneficiaries under the TPS designations for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador, as specified in this Notice. Those documents will remain in effect for nine months through January 2, 2020, provided the individual's TPS is not withdrawn under INA section 244(c)(3) or <u>8 CFR 244.14</u> because of ineligibility. See <u>83 FR 54764</u> (Oct. 31, 2018) (notice stating that should *Ramos* injunction continue beyond April 2, 2019, DHS will publish a subsequent notice to extend TPS-related Documentation of eligible beneficiaries under the TPS designations of Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador for nine months from that date).

In the event the preliminary injunction is reversed and that reversal becomes final, DHS will allow for an orderly transition period, as described in the "Possible Future Action" section of this Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- You may contact Samantha Deshommes, Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, by mail at 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20529-2060, or by phone at 800-375-5283.
- For further information on TPS, please visit the USCIS TPS web page at http://www.uscis.gov/tps. You can find specific information about this continuation of the TPS benefits for eligible individuals under the TPS designations for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador by selecting the respective country's page from the menu on the left side of the TPS web page.
- If you have additional questions about TPS, please visit *uscis.gov/tools*. Our online virtual assistant, Emma, can answer many of your questions and point you to additional information on our website. If you are unable to find your answers there, you may also call our USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283.
- Applicants seeking information about the status of their individual cases may check Case Status Online, available on the USCIS website at http://www.uscis.gov, or call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).
- Further information will also be available at local USCIS offices upon publication of this Notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Abbreviations

BIA—Board of Immigration Appeals

CFR—Code of Federal Regulations

DHS—U.S. Department of Homeland Security

DOS-U.S. Department of State

EAD—Employment Authorization Document

FNC—Final Nonconfirmation

Form I-94—Arrival/Departure Record

FR—Federal Register

Government—U.S. Government

IJ—Immigration Judge

INA—Immigration and Nationality Act

IER—U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, Immigrant and Employee Rights Section

SAVE—USCIS Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program

Secretary—Secretary of Homeland Security

TNC—Tentative Nonconfirmation

TPS—Temporary Protected Status

TTY—Text Telephone

USCIS-U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Background on Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

- TPS is a temporary immigration status granted to eligible nationals of a country designated for TPS under the INA, or to eligible persons without nationality who last habitually resided in the designated country.
- During the TPS designation period, TPS beneficiaries are eligible to remainStart Printed Page 7104in the United States, may not be removed, and are authorized to obtain EADs so long as they continue to meet the requirements of TPS.