Dominican Republic: The rights and obligations of a person in possession of a document titled Permiso de Residencia (residence permit) valid for two years (2004 - 2006); the permit holder’s residence status; the process for renewing the permit; the holder’s ability to enter and leave the country

In 8 September 2008 correspondence, an official from the Immigration Branch (Dirección General de Migración) of the Ministry of the Interior and Police (Secretaría de Estado de Interior y Policía) stated that a person in possession of a document entitled Permiso de Residencia (residence permit) has [translation] "the same rights and obligations as a Dominican citizen with respect to social security, work and education, but does not have the same political obligations or rights" (Dominican Republic 8 Sept. 2008). According to the Official, a residence permit holder is considered to be a permanent resident, but the permit must be renewed every two years (ibid.). The Official stated that to renew the permit, the holder must go to the Foreign Status Office (Departamento de Extranjería), complete the residence permit renewal form and pay the required fees (ibid.). He added that the holder of a valid residence permit can enter and leave the country by presenting his or her passport and residence permit (ibid.).

The Dominican Republic Export and Investment Centre (Centro de Exportación e Inversión de la República Dominicana, CEI-RD) provides information on the document entitled Tarjeta de Residencia Definitiva (permanent residence card) (Dominican Republic n.d.). According to the CEI-RD, this card can be renewed every two years for an indefinite period of time (ibid.). However, the card may be cancelled if it is not renewed after five years or if the holder lives abroad for more than five consecutive years (ibid.).

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

References

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