



# Press Release

October 8, 2004

## **DHS Announces 12-Month Extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) For Nationals of Burundi**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) today announced a 12-month extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for nationals of Burundi until November 2, 2005. Under this extension, those who have already been granted TPS are eligible to live and work in the United States for an additional year and continue to maintain their status. There are approximately 19 nationals of Burundi (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in Burundi) who are eligible for re-registration.

The extension of TPS for Burundi is effective November 2, 2004 and will remain in effect until November 2, 2005. Nationals of Burundi who have been granted TPS must re-register for the 12-month extension during the 60-day re-registration period, which begins on October 7, 2004 and will remain in effect until December 6, 2004. Although the 60-day re-registration period ends December 6, 2004, EADs with an expiration date of November 2, 2004 will expire on that date. Therefore, Burundi TPS re-registrants who plan to apply for renewal of their employment authorization are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to grant TPS to aliens in the United States who are nationals of countries that are subject to ongoing armed-conflict, environmental disaster, or other extraordinary and temporary conditions. On November 4, 1997, the Attorney General (who retained authority over TPS designations prior to the creation of the Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003) designated Burundi for TPS based upon the ongoing armed conflict and extraordinary and temporary conditions there. The TPS designation for Burundi has been extended annually, with a re-designation occurring in 1999. The most recent TPS extension for Burundi is due to expire on November 2, 2004.

The U.S. Government continued to examine conditions in Burundi and, following consultation with appropriate Government agencies, the Secretary of Homeland Security determined that an extension of TPS is warranted because both the ongoing, armed conflict and the extraordinary and temporary conditions that prompted designation persist. The armed conflict has displaced an estimated 140,000-280,000 persons within Burundi and an estimated 800,000 outside Burundi. In spite of the reduction of armed conflict, there continues to be reports of human rights violations by all parties to the conflict. An estimated 250,000-300,000 people have been killed in the conflict in Burundi since

1993. Nearly 14 percent of the population (965,000 people) is in need of emergency food and agricultural assistance. In addition, the number of people living below the poverty line doubled from 33 percent in 1990 to 67 percent in 2003.

To re-register for TPS under the extension, a TPS applicant must submit Form I-821 (Application for Temporary Protected Status) without the filing fee, Form I-765 (Application for Employment Authorization), two identification photographs (full face frontal, 2"x2"), and a \$70 biometrics services fee for each applicant age 14 and older to the local U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) district office. **Form I-765 and I-821 must be submitted for re-registration.** If the applicant is only seeking to re-register for TPS and not seeking an extension of employment authorization, there is no filing fee for the Form I-765. However, all applicants seeking an extension of employment authorization until November 2, 2005 must submit a \$175 filing fee with Form I-765. Applicants may request a fee waiver in accordance with the regulations. All applicants age 14 and older are required to submit the \$70 biometric service fee. **Failure to submit the required photographs and filing fees will result in the rejection of the re-registration application.**

Applicants are advised that USCIS has published a revised Form I-821 with a July 30 revision date. This form is available on the USCIS web site at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov), at local USCIS offices, or through the USCIS Forms Hotline at 1-800-870-3676. Only Forms I-821 with the July 30, 2004 revision date will be accepted. **Applications submitted on the previous version of Form I-821 will be rejected.** More information can be obtained from the USCIS National Customer Service Center toll free number: 1-800-375-5283.

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On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services became one of three legacy INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing our nation's security.