Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. DP-5060 of 29 May 2017 on the Approval of the Regulation on the Procedure for Granting Political Asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan

Guided by the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, as well as in accordance with paragraph 22 of Article 93 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- 1. To approve the Regulation on the Procedure for Granting Political Asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with the Annex.
- 2. The Ministry of Internal Affairs in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and the State Personalization Center under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, within two months, to make a proposal on the establishment of biometric databases of foreign citizens and stateless persons who have applied for political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- 3. To impose the duty of supervision over execution of the present Decree on the State Adviser to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr. O. B. Murodov.

President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Sh. Mirziyoyev

Unofficial translation

ANNEX

to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

of 29 May 2017 No. DP-5060

REGULATION on the Procedure for Granting Political Asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan

Chapter 1. General Provisions

- 1. Political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan is granted to foreign citizens and stateless persons (hereinafter referred to as "persons"), with due consideration of national interests of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the ground of generally recognized principles and norms of international law, in line with the Constitution, laws and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the present Regulation.
- 2. Political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan is granted to persons and members of their families seeking asylum and protection from persecution or from a real threat to become a victim of persecution in the country of their citizenship or permanent residence for social and political

activity, religious beliefs, race or national affiliation, and other cases of human rights violations, which are provided for by international law.

- 3. A person who is granted political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan and members of his/her family enjoy rights and freedoms in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and bear obligations established by the legislation or international treaties of the Republic of Uzbekistan for foreign citizens and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- 4. Political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan is not granted if the person:

is prosecuted for acts (or omission to act) recognized as an offense in the Republic of Uzbekistan or is guilty of committing acts that are contrary to the fundamental purposes and principles of the United Nations;

- is involved as a defendant in a criminal case or is subject to a condemnatory court judgement that entered into legal force and is enforceable in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- came from a third country, where s/he was not threatened by persecution;
- has citizenship of a third country where s/he is not persecuted;
- deliberately provided false information;
- is unable or unwilling to return to the country of his/her citizenship or to the country of his/her permanent residence for economic, environmental or social reasons, as well as in connection with natural and man-made emergency situations.

Chapter 2. Procedure for processing and consideration of the application for granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan

5. A person seeking political asylum, within seven days after processing the temporary registration or from the moment of the occurrence of circumstances that prevent the given person from returning to the country of his/her citizenship or permanent residence, must personally submit to the territorial body of internal affairs at the place of his/her stay a written application addressed to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the form approved by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

An application for granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "application") to a person under the age of eighteen is submitted by his/her parents or other legal representatives along with a copy of the birth certificate. Minors aged between fourteen and eighteen must also enclose a notarized written consent to the application of their parents or other legal representatives.

6. The application must contain a description of the circumstances specified in paragraph 2 of the present Regulation.

The following must be enclosed to the application:

- application form in 2 copies;
- autobiography in 2 copies;
- 4 photos of the size 3.5 x 4.5;
- a certificate confirming health status obtained in medical institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- a copy of the identity document.

Other documents related to this matter may also be attached to the application.

7. The application and all copies of the application form and of the autobiography must be signed by the applicant indicating the date of their completion. If the person is unable to sign the

application due to physical impairments, illnesses or illiteracy, the application at his/her request can be signed by another person, which shall be marked by the body of internal affairs in the application specifying the reasons of the inability of the applicant to sign it with his/her own hand.

8. The application shall be considered accepted for execution from the moment of submission by the applicant of all the documents provided for by the present Regulation.

In the presence of sufficient grounds for consideration of the application, the territorial body of internal affairs shall open a case file in 2 copies that shall be sent to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan along with all the necessary documents.

- 9. The application for political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall not be accepted for consideration based on the presence of the grounds specified in paragraph 4 of the present Regulation.
- 10. For the period of consideration of the application, the applicant receives a certificate in the form in accordance with Annex No. 1. The certificate is withdrawn by the body that has issued it after the decision on the application is taken.

At the time of processing of the certificate, the territorial body of internal affairs collects fingerprints and a digital photo of the applicant for inclusion in the biometric database of foreign citizens and stateless persons.

The status of the person who received the certificate shall be equal to that of a foreign citizen or a stateless person temporarily residing in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

- 11. Pending the decision on granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the applicant shall report to the territorial body of internal affairs at least twice a month (with the frequency of once every two weeks). In case of non-compliance with this procedure, the territorial body of internal affairs shall suspend the processing of the materials pending the clarification of the circumstances.
- 12. At the time of consideration of the submitted application, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall request the findings of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Security Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan, after which the Ministry shall send all the materials to the Commission on Citizenship Issues under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan with its findings on the matter of granting a person political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- 13. The total period of consideration of an application in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Security Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall not exceed one year.

In case the grounds set forth in paragraph 4 of the present Regulation are revealed during the process of consideration of an application, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan prepares an opinion on the inexpediency of further consideration of the application, which shall be communicated to the applicant within seven days following the adoption of the decision.

- 14. No fee is charged for consideration of an application.
- 15. The Commission on Citizenship Issues under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan considers the materials and submits proposals to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for decision-making.
- 16. Political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan is granted by a decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

17. In case of rejection of an application, the person is informed of the decision taken and his/her further stay is regulated by the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the stay of foreign citizens and stateless persons in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In the event of rejection of his/her application for political asylum, a person has the right to reapply in one year following the rejection of the application.

Chapter 3. Procedure for implementation of decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan

- 18. A decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan comes into force from the date of its signature.
- 19. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, through the territorial body of internal affairs, notifies the applicant of the decision taken within seven days from the date of issuance of the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- 20. A person who is granted political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as members of his/her family, shall be issued a certificate in accordance with Annex No. 2 by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan through the territorial body of internal affairs at the location the person submitted the application.
- 21. On the ground of the certificate on granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the territorial body of internal affairs shall issue a residence permit for a period up to 5 years to the person specified in paragraph 20 of the present Regulation.
- 22. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan informs the Commission on Citizenship Issues under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on execution of the decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on issues of granting political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan two times a year based on the results of six month period.

Chapter 4. Grounds and procedure for registration of loss of political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan

23. A person who is granted political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan loses political asylum in the following cases:

voluntary return to the country of his/her citizenship or to the country of his/her permanent residence;

- departure for permanent residence in a third country;
- voluntary refusal of political asylum in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Uzbekistan or citizenship of another country.
- 24. Political asylum granted to a person in the Republic of Uzbekistan may also be lost for reasons of national security, and in case if the person is engaged in activities that are contrary to the fundamental purposes and principles of the United Nations, or if the person committed an offense and is subject to a condemnatory court judgement that entered into legal force and is enforceable.

The political asylum granted to a person in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be lost from the date of signature of a corresponding decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance to the proposal of the Commission on Citizenship Issues under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan is brought to the attention of the person who lost political asylum in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Chapter 5. Final Provision

25. The persons guilty of violating the requirements of the present Regulation shall be accountable in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation.