



## KOMUNIKADO

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### **New border security fee to be implemented January 2020**

Curaçao, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Starting January 1st 2020, Curaçao will be collecting a \$1.32 fee at immigrations to optimize the border security. This fee will be collected by the Curaçao Airport Partners (CAP) on behalf of the country, and is applicable to all departing and transit passengers.**

The border security legislation has been introduced on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, and refers to costs associated with ensuring higher security measures at the airport. The increased security measures account for the implementation of heightened security and passenger facilitation measures such as: the global border security system called the Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS), additional automation technology such as the eGates and other immigrations resources needed for optimal functioning/passenger facilitation.

In 2015 the airport immigrations started to automate its border control process to maximize efficiency and security at our borders. The electronic border control gates - known as the eGates - were installed soon after; allowing passengers who are 18+ with an EU, Canadian or US passport to make use of the eGates. The initial eGates were a gift from the Curaçao Airport Holding (CAH) to the Ministry of Justice. Since then CAH has been working alongside the Ministry of Justice to continue to upgrade and optimize the use of the eGates.

In order to continue to increase the border security, the country of Curaçao purchased the APIS. The APIS is an electronic databank where airlines submit passengers' passport information ahead of flight time to justice entities. The databank is one where solely justice departments have access to, and the information is shared securely for security purposes. The addition of this database not only allows Curaçao to have a better control who is entering the country but also information ahead of time who is traveling to Curaçao. It will also allow the Police Force of Curacao, together with a network of other Justice entities in the world, to combat global security threats.

Next to the APIS, the Ministry of Justice on behalf of KPC's immigrations has been working with CAH to purchase additional eGates, as well as to develop new and innovative ways to process passengers through immigration. The goal is clear: increase security and efficiency. The purpose is to ensure safety of our passengers and airport, as well as to ensure that the traveler who is allowed to enter/depart our country can travel through the airport seamlessly.



These developments will among others be funded by this security fee. It should be noted that the APIS is currently in the process of being implemented, and other optimizing trajectories are already underway within the organization. Due to the above mentioned this fee will be collected starting January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 and includes a standard component which has been commonly implemented by other countries internationally. The fee of \$1.32 has been communicated to the airlines and further technical information will be shared with the airlines this December. This fee will be collected as a part of the airport charge known as the passenger facility charge (PFC).