



KEY ITEMS OF THE NEW ORGANIC LAW FOR THE EXPEDITION AND OPTIMIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

On April 8th, 2026, the Organic Law for the Expedition and Optimization of Administrative Procedures (hereinafter the “Law”) was published in the Extraordinary Official Gazette No. 7,018. The purpose of this Law is to establish mechanisms that allow for greater agility and efficiency in administrative procedures, in order to reduce response times to individuals and petitions addressed to the Public Administration.

The most relevant aspects of the Law are highlighted below:

1. Object and purpose: towards a more efficient administration

The Law seeks to overcome bureaucratic obstacles that hinder the fulfillment of the essential purposes of the State. In this regard, it aims to (a) guarantee comprehensive human development through the adoption of exceptional or progressive measures for the optimization of procedures; (b) institutionally strengthen State bodies to increase their efficiency in the protection of human rights; and (c) ensure that public services and national economic development are not hindered by non-essential administrative burdens.

2. Public policy and guiding principles

The expedition and optimization of administrative procedures are established as matters of public policy and general interest. Consequently, the application of the Law is governed by a set of principles aimed at favoring efficiency in administrative actions, among which the prohibition of delaying matters due to non-essential formalities or unreasonable requirements stands out, as well as the principles of honesty, simplicity, transparency, accountability, efficacy, and responsibility.

Likewise, the guarantees of individuals are reinforced, including legal certainty, curability, the presumption of good faith, and the right to obtain a timely response.

3. Powers of the National Executive: flexibilization and modernization of procedures

The President of the Republic is granted special powers aimed at the simplification and modernization of administrative activity. In particular, the President may suspend, suppress, or modify formalities, procedures, permits, and requirements with the objective of shortening response times; order the digitization of procedures to reduce the use of paper; issue norms for the unification of procedures within the Public Administration; and create and regulate interoperable digital single windows. These measures are applicable only to procedures and formalities of an administrative nature and, thus, not to judicial processes.

Furthermore, the Law orders the incorporation of electronic and information technology mechanisms for the optimization and modernization of administrative procedures, provided they are articulated with the legal framework for the digital transformation of the State.

4. Creation of the National Commission: instance of strategic coordination and participation

The Law provides for the creation of the National Commission for the Expedition and Optimization of Administrative Formalities and Procedures, conceived as a high-level body in charge of evaluating and proposing to the National Executive the necessary measures to advance in the de-bureaucratization of the Public Administration.

In order to ensure effective coordination among the different levels of the State, the Commission will be chaired by the President of the Republic and will have a plural composition that includes the Executive Vice President, the Sectoral Vice Presidents, two (2) representatives of the National Assembly, two (2) Governors, two (2) Mayors, and one (1) representative of the Ombudsman's Office. Likewise, it will have a Technical Secretariat, appointed by the President of the Republic, in charge of supporting the execution of its decisions and ensuring compliance with its attributions.

A particularly relevant element of its institutional design is the incorporation of mechanisms for participation and consultation. In this sense, the Law imposes the Commission with the obligation to develop channels that allow for systematically gathering the needs and opinions of the citizenry, as well as those of the different social, cultural, and economic sectors. Thus, it seeks to ensure that the measures for optimizing administrative procedures respond to the real dynamics of administrative activity and the challenges faced by individuals in practice.

5. Inter-institutional coordination and liability regime

Each body or entity of the Public Administration must designate a unit responsible for administrative expedition, in charge of articulating the relationship with other entities to obtain information or documents that already reside with the State. In this context, the obligation to exchange information and verify requirements ex officio is imposed, avoiding

the transfer of unnecessary burdens to the applicant. The Law further establishes that unjustified delay in the exchange of information or the demand for redundant requirements will give rise to legal liability.

6. Inclusion and digital gap: guarantees of universal access

The Law expressly prohibits the exclusion of individuals for reasons associated with the digital gap. Consequently, State bodies must guarantee alternative mechanisms that ensure effective access to administrative procedures, including channels for in-person and personalized attention, preferential attention systems for people with difficulties derived from age or disability, and direct assistance from public servants for carrying out procedures.

7. Transitional regime

On a transitional level, the Law provides that the bodies of the Public Administration have a period of one hundred and eighty (180) consecutive days, counted from the publication of the Law, to adapt their procedures to the new provisions.

Likewise, the liquidation of the National Institute for the Efficient Management of Procedures and Permits (INGETP) is ordered within a period of no more than one hundred and eighty (180) consecutive days.

8. Entry into Force

The Law entered into force on April 8th, 2026, upon its publication in the Official Gazette, mentioned above.

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