

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT ON THE WAIVER FOR DIPLOMATIC, OFFICIAL OR CONSULAR PASSPORT HOLDERS BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND PANAMA

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His Excellency
RICARDO ALBERTO ARIAS ARIAS
Minister of Foreign Relations
Of the Republic of Panama

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's Note of 14 May 1997 regarding the proposal of. your Government to sign a Visa Waiver Agreement for diplomatic, official or consular passport holders of our two countries and to confirm the following:

1. The nationals of the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Panama, who are holders of valid diplomatic, official or consular passports, assigned to serve in their Diplomatic or Consular Missions, as well as the members of their families who are part of the household, may enter, stay and leave Philippine and Panamanian territory, respectively, without the need to comply with the required visa, during the length of their tour of duty.
2. The nationals of the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Panama, who are holders of valid diplomatic, official or consular passports, who are not accredited to the other country, shall be exempt from visas, either to transit or to freely enter Philippine or Panamanian territory, respectively, and stay up to ninety (90) days from the date of arrival.
3. The persons benefitting from this agreement shall be subject to the laws and regulations of the receiving state, concerning the entry, stay and exit of foreign nationals.
4. Each of the Parties may apply limitations or temporarily suspend the enforcement of this Agreement or any of its parts for reasons of public order, security and protection of public health. The adoption of said measures, as well as 'the suspension of said Agreement must be immediately conveyed to the other Party by diplomatic channels.
5. The competent authorities shall exchange through diplomatic channels the samples of the travel documents mentioned in this Agreement.
6. Any of the Parties may denounce the present Agreement three (3) months in advance through diplomatic channels.

I have the honor to communicate to Your Excellency the acceptance of the Philippine Government of your proposal. This reply Note and Your Excellency's abovementioned Note of 14 May 1997, shall constitute an Agreement and shall enter into force sixty (60) days after it is received by Your Excellency.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Sgd.)

Rodolfo C. Severino, Jr.

Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs

Panama City, 14 May 1997

Republica de Panama

Panama, R de P.

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Depacho del Ministro

D.M. No.

14 de mayo de 1997

A Su Excelencia

DOMINGO L. SIAZON Jr.

Secretario de Asuntos Exteriores

de la Republica de Filipinas

Senor Secretario:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia, en ocasion de hacer de su conocimiento que el Gobierno de la Republica de Panama, animado por el deseo de facilitar los viajes de los funcionarios de ambos paises, esta dispuesto a celebrar un Acuerdo para la supresion de visas en los pasaportes diplomaticos, oficiales o consulares, con el Ilustrado Gobierno de Filipinas, en los siguientes terminos:

1. Los nacionales de la Republica de Panama y de la Republica de Filipinas, titulares de pasaportes diplomaticos, oficiales o consulares, asignados a prestar servicios en sus respectivas Misiones Diplomaticas o Consulares, asi como los miembros de sus familias que formen parte de su casa, podran ingresar, permanecer y abandonar el territorio filipino y panameno, respectivamente, sin necesidad de cumplir el requisito de visado, durante el periodo que dure su mision.
2. Los nacionales de la Republica de Panama y de la Republica de Filipinas, titulares de pasaportes diplomaticos, oficiales o consulares, no acreditados en el otro pais, estaran exentos de visa, ya sea en transito o para entrar libremente al territorio filipino y panameno, respectivamente y permanecer en el por un plazo que no exceda de noventa (90) dias, a partir de la fecha de su entrada.
3. Las personas beneficiadas con el presente Acuerdo estaran sometidas a las leyes y reglamentos vigentes en el Estado receptor, referentes a la entrada, permanencia y salida de extranjeros.
4. Cada una de las Partes podra aplicar limitaciones o suspender temporalmente la vigencia de este Acuerdo o alguna de sus clausulas en caso de que las medidas correspondientes sean necesarias para mantener el orden publico, la seguridad o para proteger la salud publica. La adopcion de dichas medidas, asi como la suspension de las mismas, deberan ser comunicadas inmediatamente a la otra Parte por la via diplomatica.
5. Las autoridades competentes de ambas Partes intercambiarian por la via diplomatica las muestras de los documentos de viaje, mencionados en el presente Acuerdo.

Cualquier cambio en los documentos de viaje mencionados, debera ser comunicado de inmediato a la otra Parte, y se debera enviar, al mismo tiempo, muestras de los nuevos documentos.

6. Cualquiera de las Partes podra denunciar el presente Acuerdo mediante aviso previo de tres (3) meses, por la via diplomatica.

Si las disposiciones que antecedent son aceptables para el Gobierno de la Republica de Filipinas, tengo el honor de proponer que la presente Nota y la respuesta de Vuestra Excelencia, en la que conste la conformidad de su Gobierno, constituyan un Acuerfo entre nuestros dos Gobiernos sobre la material, que entrara en vigor sesenta (60) dias despues de la fecha de Vuestra Nota.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para expresar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi mas alta y distinguida consideracion.

VICTOR M. CUCALON IMBER

Viceministro Encargado de
Relaciones Exteriores

Entry into Force: July 13, 1997

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