

No. 2475

BELGIUM
and
CUBA

Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning the abolition of the passport visa requirement in relations between the two countries. Havana, 16 December 1953

Official texts: French and Spanish.

Registered by Belgium on 4 February 1954.

BELGIQUE
et
CUBA

Échange de lettres constituant un accord relatif à la suppression de l'obligation du visa des passeports dans les relations entre les deux pays. La Havane, 16 décembre 1953

Textes officiels français et espagnol.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 4 février 1954.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 2475. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA CONCERNING THE ABOLITION OF THE PASSPORT VISA REQUIREMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HAVANA, 16 DECEMBER 1953

I

BELGIAN LEGATION
HAVANA

No. 3958

Havana, 16 December 1953

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Belgian Government, wishing to promote relations between the two countries, has instructed me to propose to the Cuban Government the adoption of the following measures for the issue of travel and business visas :

1. Cuban nationals holding a valid passport may enter Belgium by any route and from any country, and remain for a period not exceeding *three months*, without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.
2. Cuban nationals wishing to remain in Belgium for a longer period must apply before departure to a Belgian diplomatic or consular official of the career service for a temporary residence visa for Belgium.
3. Belgian nationals holding a valid passport may enter Cuba by any route and from any country, and remain for a period not exceeding *three months*, without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.
4. Belgian nationals wishing to remain in Cuba for a longer period must apply before departure to the competent Cuban diplomatic or consular authority for the requisite visa.
5. It is agreed that the waiver of the visa requirement shall not exempt Cuban and Belgian nationals visiting Belgium and Cuba respectively from the necessity of complying with local laws and regulations concerning the entry, sojourn and residence of aliens and the granting of authorization to them to carry on an independent or salaried gainful occupation.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1954 in accordance with the terms of the said letters. This Agreement is not applicable to the territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

6. The Belgian and Cuban authorities reserve the right to forbid access to their respective territories by nationals of the other country whom they regard as undesirable.

7. This agreement shall not apply to the Belgian Congo or to territories now under Belgian trusteeship. Possession of a Belgian visa shall continue to be a requirement for entry into the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

8. This agreement shall apply only to Cuban and Belgian nationals, excluding nationals of the colonies and trust territories, i.e., Congolese Belgian subjects and indigenous inhabitants of Ruanda-Urundi.

9. This agreement shall come into force on 1 January 1954.

I have the honour to propose that the text of this note and of your reply shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments.

I have the honour to be, etc.

F. FONTAINE
Acting Chargé d'affaires of Belgium

Dr. Miguel Angel Campa
Minister of State
Havana

II

REPUBLIC OF CUBA
MINISTRY OF STATE

Havana, 16 December 1953

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of today's date proposing to my Government, on behalf of the Belgian Government, the adoption of the following measures for the abolition of travel visas :

[See note I]

I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with your proposal, your note and the present reply shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Miguel Angel CAMPA

Mr. Fernand Fontaine
Acting Chargé d'Affaires of Belgium
Havana