

No. 2996

ISRAEL
and
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement regarding abolition of visa fees. Jerusalem, 14 February 1955, Tel Aviv, 28 February 1955, and Jerusalem, 2 March 1955

Official text: English.

Registered by the Netherlands on 8 November 1955.

ISRAEL
et
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

Echange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la suppression des droits de visa. Jérusalem, 14 février 1955, Tel-Aviv, 28 février 1955, et Jérusalem, 2 mars 1955

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 8 novembre 1955.

No. 2996. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING ABOLITION OF VISA FEES. JERUSALEM, 14 FEBRUARY 1955, TEL AVIV, 28 FEBRUARY 1955, AND JERUSALEM, 2 MARCH 1955

I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

Jerusalem, 14 February 1955

Dear Ambassador,

The Government has had under review the question of visas and visa fees for foreign nationals travelling to or through Israel.

It has been decided that, as a first step towards easing travel barriers, visa fees may be waived in respect of the citizens of certain countries, on condition of reciprocity.

I have been instructed to inform you that from 1 March 1955, or from such other date as may be convenient to your Government, Israel visas are to be issued gratis to American citizens, if the United States Government is prepared, with effect from the same date, to authorize the issue of visas gratis to citizens of **Israel**.

If your Government agrees to this proposal, it would be convenient to give to this letter and to your reply the effect of a formal agreement.

(Signed) Walter EYTAN

His Excellency Mr. Edward B. Lawson
Ambassador of the United States of America
American Embassy
Tel Aviv

¹ Came into force on 15 March 1955 in accordance with the terms of the said notes.

II

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AMERICAN EMBASSY

Tel Aviv, February 28, 1955

Dear Mr. Eytan:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter to Ambassador Lawson of February 14, 1955, in which you propose that the Israel Government and the Government of the United States reciprocally waive nonimmigrant visa fees for their nationals.

Such a policy is thoroughly consistent with the traditional American desire to ease international travel restrictions, and I am pleased to report that my Government has agreed to your proposal. Because some time will be required for widespread circularization of instructions, the Department of State requests that the effective date of the new arrangements be March 15, 1955, instead of March 1, 1955.

If the Israel Government concurs, this reply to your letter will serve to advise that, on the basis of reciprocity, on and after March 15, 1955, the Government of the United States agrees to waive fees for all nonimmigrant visas issued to citizens of Israel.

Very truly yours,

For the Ambassador:

(Signed) Ivan B. WHITE
Counsellor of Embassy

Walter Eytan, Esquire
Director-General
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
c/o Liaison Office
Hakirya, Tel Aviv

III

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

Jerusalem, 2 March 1955

Dear Mr. White,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 28 February 1955, in which you inform me that, on the basis of reciprocity, on and after 15 March 1955, the Government of the United States agrees to waive fees for all non-immigrant visas issued to citizens of Israel.

I hereby confirm that on and after the same date the Government of Israel will waive fees for all visas other than immigration visas issued to citizens of the United States of America.

I am, yours faithfully,

(Signed) Walter EYTAN

Mr. Ivan B. White
Counsellor of Embassy
American Embassy in Israel