

No. 3492

BELGIUM
and
JAPAN

**Exchange of letters constituting an arrangement abolishing
the requirement of travel visas. Tokyo, 11 July
1956**

Official texts: French and Japanese.

Registered by Belgium on 15 August 1956.

BELGIQUE
et
JAPON

**Échange de lettres constituant un arrangement supprimant
l'obligation du visa de voyage. Tokyo, 11 juillet
1956**

Textes officiels français et japonais.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 15 août 1956.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3492. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN ARRANGEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND JAPAN ABOLISHING THE REQUIREMENT OF TRAVEL VISAS. TOKYO, 11 JULY 1956

I

EMBASSY OF BELGIUM

1345 A 088

Tokyo, 11 July 1956

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the exemption of Belgian and Japanese nationals from visa formalities, and to inform you that the Belgian Government is prepared to conclude with the Japanese Government the following arrangement :

1. Belgian nationals holding valid Belgian passports may enter Japan, by whatever route and from whatever country they may travel, for a period not exceeding three consecutive months without having to obtain a visa in advance.

2. Japanese nationals holding valid Japanese passports may enter (European) Belgium, by whatever route or from whatever country they may travel, for a period not exceeding three consecutive months without having to obtain a visa in advance.

3. Belgian or Japanese nationals who desire to remain for more than three months or who intend to seek employment or to engage in an occupation or other gainful activity in Japan or Belgium, as the case may be, shall apply for the necessary visa from the competent Japanese or Belgian diplomatic or consular authority. The visa shall be issued free of charge.

4. It is understood that the waiving of the visa requirement does not relieve Belgian or Japanese nationals of the obligation to comply with Japanese or Belgian laws and regulations on the entry, residence and departure of aliens.

5. Each of the two Governments reserves the right to refuse to permit the entry or residence in its territory of nationals who are considered undesirable.

6. This arrangement shall enter into force on 15 August 1956. It may be denounced by either Government on one month's notice.

¹ Came into force on 15 August 1956, in accordance with the terms of the said letters. This Arrangement is not applicable to the Territories of Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

The Belgian Government is agreeable to considering this letter and your reply confirming the concurrence of the Japanese Government as constituting an agreement between the two Governments on the matter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

J. VAN CALOEN DE BASSEGHEN
Acting Chargé d'Affaires of Belgium

His Excellency Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Tokyo

II

EMBASSY OF BELGIUM

1346 A 088

NOTE VERBALE

The Belgian Embassy at Tokyo presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and, with reference to the letter from the Acting Chargé d'Affaires of Belgium at Tokyo to His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, dated 11 July 1956, has the honour to state that the term "Belgian nationals" in the text of the arrangement between Japan and Belgium concerning the abolition of travel visas applies only to nationals of the metropolitan territory of Belgium and not to nationals of the Belgian Congo or to indigenous inhabitants of Ruanda-Urundi.

Tokyo, 11 July 1956

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tokyo

III

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No. 75/EA5

Tokyo, 11 July 1956

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date in which you informed me of the following :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to confirm that the Japanese Government is in agreement with your letter and that it considers your letter, together with this reply, as constituting an agreement between the two Governments on the matter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

MAMORU SHIGEMITSU
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Mr. J. van Caloen de Basseghem
Acting Chargé d'Affaires of Belgium