

No. 5050

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
COLOMBIA**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to passport visas. Bogotá, 13 and 26 June 1956 and 22 May 1957

Exchange of notes constituting a supplementary agreement to the above-mentioned Agreement. Bogotá, 5 and 11 June 1957

Official texts: English and Spanish.

Registered by the United States of America on 14 March 1960.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
COLOMBIE**

Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux visas de passeport. Bogota, 13 et 26 juin 1956 et 22 mai 1957

Échange de notes constituant un avenant à l'Accord susmentionné. Bogota, 5 et 11 juin 1957

Textes officiels anglais et espagnol.

Enregistrés par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 14 mars 1960.

No. 5050. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND COLOMBIA RELATING TO PASSPORT VISAS. BOGOTÁ, 13 AND 26 JUNE 1956 AND 22 MAY 1957

I

The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 245

Bogotá, June 13, 1956

Excellency :

With reference to Your Excellency's Note No. E/1-1852 of February 12, 1956,² in reply to the Embassy's Note No. 4 of July 9, 1955,² I have the honor to inform you that the Department of State has received with gratification Your Excellency's reply that the Colombian Government agrees in principle to an extension of validity of non-immigrant visas to forty-eight months.

Before replying to the requests set forth in the numbered paragraphs of Your Excellency's note, I wish to point out that since the beginning of the negotiations with various countries the Department has found it advisable to limit the validity of diplomatic and official visas to less than forty-eight months. The longest period of validity which has been authorized under any of the agreements is twenty-four months, and the Department of State will be glad to agree to the issuance of diplomatic and official visas for a period of twenty-four months to Colombian nationals.

The Department has also decided that the validity of the following special classes of visas must be restricted to twelve months : EX-visas issued to holders of grants to study in the United States for one year, G-visas issued to persons proceeding to the United Nations Headquarters, and H-visas issued to persons entering the United States for short periods of employment or industrial training on the basis of employer's petitions.

With the foregoing exceptions, however, the Department of State desires me to confirm the conditions set forth in Your Excellency's note under reference, that is :

Upon a basis of reciprocity, non-immigrant visas may be issued to the nationals of each country with a validity of four years and multiple entries, without fee or other charges, provided that the passport, when presented

¹ Came into force on 21 June 1957, the thirtieth day from the date of signature of the note of 22 May 1957, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

² Not printed by the Department of State of the United States of America.

for entry, will have a validity of six months in addition to the period of the visit, and provided the applicant is admissible under the standing regulations. The extension of validity to forty-eight months would apply to the following classes of non-immigrant visas issued by the United States Government :

Business (B-1), Tourist (B-2), or a combination of B-1 and B-2, Transit (C-1), Crew visa (D), Treaty trader (E), student (F), and newspaper or radio representative (I).

Further, that if the passport expires earlier than the visa placed therein, such visa will automatically reacquire validity upon the renewal of validity of the passport, without further application to an American consular office.

The Department of State also wishes me to inform Your Excellency that if the foregoing reciprocal arrangements are agreeable to Your Excellency, the Department will issue instructions with regard to the increased validity of non-immigrant visas for Colombian nationals, within thirty days of the receipt of Your Excellency's reply.

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

C. Montagu PIGOTT

His Excellency Evaristo Sourdis
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Bogotá

II

The American Ambassador to the Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 246

June 26, 1956

Excellency :

With reference to the current requirement that the passports of non-immigrant aliens at the time of the bearers' entry into the United States be valid for a period of six months beyond the duration of the contemplated stay in the United States, as provided in Section 212 (a) (26) of the United States Immigration and Nationality Act, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that on the basis of an assurance given to the United States Government by a foreign government that the bearers of passports issued by that government will be readmitted into the passport-issuing country within six months from the date of expiration of the document, such passports will be regarded as valid for the full period for which the passport is valid on its face.

In case the Colombian Government desires to give such assurance to the United States Government, the Colombian passport will be regarded for the purposes of Section 212 (a) (26) of the United States Immigration and Nationality Act as valid for the full period for which it has been issued.

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

Philip W. BONSAI

His Excellency Evaristo Sourdis
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Bogotá

III

*The Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim*

[SPANISH TEXT — TEXTE ESPAGNOL]

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES

No. E/I.-4399

Bogotá, 22 de mayo de 1957

Señor Encargado de Negocios :

Tengo el honor de referirme a las notas números 245 y 246 de fechas 13 y 26 de junio del año próximo pasado, suscritas la primera por Vuestra Señoría y la segunda por el entonces Embajador de los Estados Unidos de América Su Excelencia Señor Philip W. Bonsal.

En la primera de las notas mencionadas me comunica lo siguiente :

« Tengo el gusto de referirme a la nota de Su Excelencia número E/I.-1852 del 12 de febrero de 1956, en respuesta a la Nota No. 4 del 9 de julio de 1955, de la Embajada, y tengo el honor de informar a Su Excelencia que el Departamento de Estado ha recibido con suma complacencia la respuesta del Gobierno de Colombia, referente a la aceptación, en principio, de la extensión de validez de las visas de no-inmigrantes a 48 meses.

Antes de dar respuesta a las preguntas formuladas en los diferentes párrafos numerados de la nota de Su Excelencia, me permito indicarle que desde el principio de estas negociaciones con diversos países, el Departamento ha considerado prudente limitar la validez de las visas diplomáticas y oficiales a un período menor de 48 meses. El período más largo que ha sido autorizado para este tipo de visas, bajo cualquiera de los acuerdos, ha sido de 24 meses, y el Departamento de Estado se complacerá en conceder visas diplomáticas y oficiales válidas por un período de 24 meses a los ciudadanos colombianos.

mos y que tales pasaportes pueden considerarse como válidos por el período de tiempo completo que en dicho documento aparezca.

En consecuencia, me complazco en informar a Vuestra Señoría que el Gobierno de Colombia acepta las propuestas contenidas en las notas números 245 y 246 de fechas 13 y 26 de junio de 1956 y que, las notas citadas y esta de respuesta se considerarán como un Acuerdo entre el Gobierno de Colombia y el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América, y su vigencia comenzará dentro de los treinta días siguientes a partir de la fecha.

Aprovecho esta oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Señoría los sentimientos de mi más distinguida consideración.

C. S. DE SANTAMARÍA

Al Honorable Señor C. Montagu Pigott
Encargado de Negocios a.i.
de los Estados Unidos de América
La Ciudad

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No. E/I.-4399

Bogotá, May 22, 1957

Mr. Chargé d'Affaires :

I have the honor to refer to notes Nos. 245 and 246, dated June 13 and 26, 1956, the first of which was signed by you and the second by His Excellency Philip W. Bonsal, at that time Ambassador of the United States of America.

In the first note, you inform me as follows :

[See note I]

In the second of the above-mentioned notes, you state as follows :

[See note II]

On the basis of the points proposed by the Government of Colombia and accepted by the Government of the United States of America with the additions transcribed and proposed by your Government, the Government of Colombia desires to accept, and in fact does accept, the extension of validity of non-immigrant visas, as follows :

1. On a reciprocal basis, non-immigrant visas may be issued to nationals of each country with a validity of four years and for an unlimited number of entries,

¹ Translation by the Government of the United States of America.

² Traduction du Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique.

without payment of fees or charges of any kind, provided that the passport, when presented for entry, is valid for at least six months beyond the period of the visit, and provided the applicant is admissible under existing regulations. Extension of the period of validity to forty-eight months will apply to the following classes of non-immigrant visas issued on a reciprocal basis by the Governments of Colombia and the United States of America :

Business, Tourist, Transit, Crew, Treaty Trader, Student, and Newspaper or Radio Representative.

2. Moreover, if the passport expires before the visa placed therein, such visa will automatically reacquire validity upon renewal of the passport, without the necessity of application for renewal at a consular office of the country concerned.

3. Diplomatic and official visas (courtesy visas in Colombia) will be valid for a period of twenty-four months, this being an exception to which my Government agrees under the regulations stipulated herein.

4. My Government also agrees to the twelve-month validity of special visas for holders of one-year grants to study in either country; for persons proceeding to the United Nations Headquarters, and for persons going to the United States for short periods of employment or to receive industrial training.

5. The Government of Colombia assures the Government of the United States of America that bearers of Colombian passports will be readmitted to Colombia within six months of the date of expiration of such passports, and that they may be considered valid for the full period of time stated therein.

Accordingly, I take pleasure in informing you that the Government of Colombia accepts the proposals contained in notes Nos. 245 and 246, dated June 13 and 26, 1956, and that the said notes and this note in reply shall be considered an agreement between the Government of Colombia and the Government of the United States of America, to enter into force within 30 days from today's date.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

C. S. DE SANTAMARÍA

The Honorable C. Montagu Pigott
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
of the United States of America
City

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING A SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT¹ TO THE AGREEMENT OF 13 AND 26 JUNE 1956 AND 22 MAY 1957 BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND COLOMBIA RELATING TO PASSPORT VISAS.² BOGOTÁ, 5 AND 11 JUNE 1957

I

The American Embassy to the Colombian Ministry for Foreign Affairs

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to refer to the Ministry's note No. E/I 4399 of May 22, 1957³ regarding the extension of validity to forty-eight months in certain classes of non-immigrant visas.

The Department of State has now inquired telegraphically if the Colombian Government would consider including the Exchange Visitor visa in the group of visas designated to have a validity of forty-eight months. This represents a change (from the former restriction to twelve months) which the Department has included in visa agreements signed during the past few months and which it would like to include in the agreement with Colombia if possible.

It is believed that the Department will be in a position to give a final confirmatory reply very shortly.

C. Montagu PIGOTT

Bogotá, June 5, 1957

II

The Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

[SPANISH TEXT — TEXTE ESPAGNOL]

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES

No. E/I-5007

Bogotá, junio 11 de 1957

Señor Encargado de Negocios :

Tengo el honor de referirme a la nota de fecha 5 de junio de 1957, en la cual Vuestra Señoría me comunica lo siguiente :

¹ Came into force on 21 June 1957, the date of entry into force of the Agreement relating to passport visas (see p. 22 of this volume).

² See p. 22 of this volume.

³ See p. 27 of this volume.

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No. E/I-5007

Bogotá, June 11, 1957

Mr. Chargé d'Affaires :

I have the honor to refer to the note of June 5, 1957, in which you inform me as follows :

[*See note I*]

From the beginning, my Government considered it important that non-immigrant visas be granted reciprocally for a period of forty-eight months; consequently, the Government of Colombia agrees that visas for holders of grants that were formerly valid for twelve months shall be issued for forty-eight months in accordance with your note to which I have referred.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

C. S. DE SANTAMARÍA

The Honorable C. Montagu Pigott
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
of the United States of America
City

¹ Translation by the Government of the United States of America.

² Traduction du Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique.