

No. 5602

**AUSTRALIA
and
FINLAND**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement on visas and
visa fees. Sydney and Canberra, 7 and 21 February 1961**

Official text: English.

Registered by Australia on 13 March 1961.

**AUSTRALIE
et
FINLANDE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux visas
et aux droits de visa. Sydney et Canberra, 7 et 21 fé-
vrier 1961**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par l'Australie le 13 mars 1961.

No. 5602. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND FINLAND ON VISAS AND VISA FEES. SYDNEY AND CANBERRA, 7 AND 21 FEBRUARY 1961

I

FINNISH LEGATION

Sydney, February 7th, 1961

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to previous correspondence regarding visas and visa fees, and to inform you that the Government of Finland is prepared to conclude with the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia an Agreement on the following lines :

1. (a) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, the Finnish Government will waive visa requirements for Australian citizens possessing valid Australian passports who desire to enter Finland as *bona fide* non-immigrants.

(b) Australian citizens, possessing valid Australian passports who wish to stay in Finland for more than three months after their entry into one of the countries party to the Convention between Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway dated 12th July, 1957,² regarding the abolition of Passport Control at Inter-Nordic Boundaries, from a country not party to the said Convention, shall apply for a residence permit in Finland.

(c) The time limit of three months will be calculated from the date of a person's last entry from a non-Nordic country into any one of the Nordic countries party to the abovementioned Convention, provided, however, that a visitor who, during the six months immediately preceding any such entry, has been staying in any one of the Nordic countries party to the said Convention will have such period of stay deducted from the said period of three months.

2. Finnish nationals possessing valid Finnish passports who desire to enter Australia, whether temporarily or permanently, and whose entry into Australia has been approved, will receive visas for Australia free of charge from the appropriate visa-issuing authorities ; such visas in the case of Finnish nationals proceeding to Australia for purposes other than permanent residence, will be made valid for a period of twelve months and good for an unlimited number of journeys to Australia within that period.

¹ Came into force on 1 March 1961, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 322, p. 245.

3. The present Agreement shall take effect on 1st March, 1961.

4. Either party may at any time give to the other party written notice of its desire to terminate the Agreement. The Agreement shall be terminated three months after the date of such notice.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is understood—

- (a) that the abovementioned provisions do not exempt Finnish nationals entering Australia and Australian citizens entering Finland from the necessity of complying with the Australian and Finnish laws and regulations concerning the entry, residence, whether temporary or permanent, and employment of aliens ; and
- (b) that travellers who are unable to satisfy the respective immigration authorities that they comply with the laws and regulations referred to in the immediately preceding subparagraph are liable to be refused permission to enter or land.

If the foregoing provisions are acceptable to your Government, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and your confirmatory reply thereto be deemed to constitute and evidence the Agreement reached between our two Governments.

I have the honour to be, with highest consideration, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) T. I. KALA
Chargé d'Affaires of Finland

The Right Honourable R. G. Menzies
Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs
of the Commonwealth of Australia
Canberra, A.C.T.

II

MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

21st February, 1961

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of 7th February, 1961, regarding visas and visa fees, and reading as follows :

[See note I]

I now have the honour to inform you that the provisions of your Note are acceptable to the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, which concurs in your

suggestion that your Note and this present reply should be deemed to constitute and evidence the Agreement reached between our two Governments.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Robert MENZIES

Mr. T. I. Kala
Chargé d'Affaires
Legation of Finland
Double Bay
Sydney, N.S.W.