

No. 9293

**NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM and LUXEMBOURG
and
GAMBIA**

**Agreement on the abolition of visas. Signed at Bathurst, on
27 March 1968**

Official text: English.

Registered by the Netherlands on 29 October 1968.

**PAYS-BAS, BELGIQUE et LUXEMBOURG
et
GAMBIE**

**Accord relatif à l'abolition de la formalité du visa. Signé à
Bathurst, le 27 mars 1968**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 29 octobre 1968.

No. 9293. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE BENELUX COUNTRIES AND THE GAMBIA ON THE ABOLITION OF VISAS. SIGNED AT BATHURST ON 27 MARCH 1968

The Governments of the Benelux countries acting jointly under the Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands signed at Brussels on 11 April 1960² concerning the transfer of immigration control to the outer frontiers of Benelux, and

The Government of The Gambia,

Desirous of further simplifying the travel formalities for their respective nationals and of adapting them to the situation that has arisen as a result of the transfer of immigration control to the outer frontiers of Benelux,

Have agreed as follows :

Article 1

In this Agreement the term “Benelux countries” shall mean : the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands;

the term “Benelux territory” shall mean : the joint territories in Europe of the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Article 2

Nationals of the Benelux countries who are holders of a valid national passport may, irrespective of the point of their departure enter The Gambia without a visa and stay for a period not exceeding three months. No guaranty shall be demanded, and the valid national passport shall also be the sole document required when leaving that country.

Article 3

Nationals of The Gambia who are holders of a valid national passport may, irrespective of the point of their departure, enter Benelux territory without a visa and stay for a period not exceeding three months. No guaranty shall be demanded,

¹ Came into force on 1 May 1968, in accordance with article 10.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 374, p. 3.

and the valid national passport shall also be the sole document required when leaving that territory.

Article 4

For a stay exceeding three months the persons coming under the provisions of this Agreement shall before their departure obtain the required permission through the diplomatic or consular representative of the country they wish to enter. No guaranty shall be demanded.

Article 5

Nationals of the Benelux countries residing in The Gambia with the approval of the competent authorities of The Gambia and nationals of The Gambia residing in any of the Benelux countries with the approval of the competent authorities in the Benelux countries may leave their country of residence and return to it without a visa on presentation of a valid national passport. No guaranty shall be demanded.

Article 6

Each Government reserves the right to refuse to admit to its territory any persons not holding the documents required for entry or lacking sufficient means of support or unable to acquire such means by engaging in lawful occupations, or to refuse to admit persons regarded as undesirable aliens or whose presence in the country is regarded as prejudicial to law and order or national security.

Article 7

The present Agreement shall not affect the aliens regulations in force in the Benelux countries and in The Gambia concerning entry, length of stay, residence, expulsion and gainful occupation, whether or not as employees, or aliens, except in respect of the foregoing provisions.

Article 8

Each Government undertakes to re-admit to its territory at any time and without formalities :

- a. its nationals who have entered the territory of the other party;
- b. persons who have entered its territory on presentation of a valid national passport issued by the Belgian, Luxemburg, Netherlands or The Gambia authorities, even if their nationality is doubtful.

Article 9

As regards the Kingdom of the Netherlands this Agreement may be extended to Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles by a Netherlands Government notification addressed to the Government of The Gambia.

Article 10

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1st day of May, 1968 for a period of one year. If the Agreement has not been denounced thirty days before the expiry of that period, it shall be deemed to have been renewed indefinitely. After the first period of one year each signatory Government may denounce the Agreement by giving thirty day's notice to the Belgian Government.

The Agreement shall cease to be effective if one of the signatory Governments denounces it.

The Belgian Government shall inform the other signatory Governments of the receipt of the thirty day's notice referred to in this Article.

Article 11

With the exception of Article 8 the operation of this Agreement may be suspended by any Contracting Party.

The Belgian Government shall be notified forthwith of such suspension through the diplomatic channel. The Belgian Government shall inform the other signatory Governments of the receipt of such notification. The same procedure shall be adopted when the suspension is lifted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE at Bathurst on the 27th day of March, 1968 in four original copies in the English language.

For Benelux :

J. TROUVEROY

For the Belgian Government :

J. TROUVEROY

For the Luxemburg Government :

D. KETEL

For the Netherlands Government :

D. KETEL

For the Government
of the Gambia :

A. D. CAMARA
Minister of External Affairs