

No. 9387

**NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM and LUXEMBOURG
and
UPPER VOLTA**

**Agreement relating to the abolition of the visa. Signed at
Ouagadougou on 10 December 1968**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 22 January 1969.

**PAYS-BAS, BELGIQUE et LUXEMBOURG
et
HAUTE-VOLTA**

**Accord relatif à la suppression du visa. Signé à Ouagadougou
le 10 décembre 1968**

Texte authentique: français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 22 janvier 1969.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS, THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UPPER VOLTA, ON THE OTHER HAND, RELATING TO THE ABOLITION OF THE VISA

The Governments of the Benelux States, acting jointly by virtue of the Convention between the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the transfer of control of persons to the external frontiers of Benelux territory, signed at Brussels, on 11 April 1960,² and

The Government of the Republic of the Upper Volta,

Desiring to simplify the formalities relating to the movement of their nationals and to bring them into line with the regulations resulting from the transfer of control of persons to the external frontiers of Benelux territory,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Under the terms of this Agreement:

“The Benelux countries” shall mean the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands and

“The territory of Benelux” shall mean the whole of the European territories of the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Article 2

Nationals of the Benelux countries holding a valid passport may travel to the Upper Volta for a period not exceeding ninety days, by any route and from any country, without having to obtain an entry visa and without any deposit of security being required.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1969, in accordance with article 12.

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

Subject to the provisions of article 6, it is agreed that the abolition of the visa shall exempt nationals of the Benelux countries from the necessity of obtaining a *laissez-passer* or of complying with any formalities when leaving the Upper Volta.

Article 3

Upper Volta nationals holding a valid passport may travel to Benelux territory for a period not exceeding ninety days, by any route and from any country, without having to obtain an entry visa and without any deposit of security being required.

Subject to the provisions of article 6, it is agreed that the abolition of the visa shall exempt Upper Volta nationals from the necessity of complying with any formalities when leaving Benelux territory.

Article 4

Nationals of the Benelux countries wishing to remain in the Upper Volta for more than ninety days or to carry on a salaried occupation there must obtain in advance a visa which shall be issued free of charge and in accordance with the regulations in force by the competent diplomatic or consular authorities of the Upper Volta, without, however, any deposit of security being required.

Article 5

Upper Volta nationals wishing to remain in one of the Benelux countries for more than ninety days or to carry on a salaried occupation there must obtain in advance a visa which shall be issued free of charge and in accordance with the regulations in force by the competent diplomatic or consular authorities of the country to which they are travelling, without, however, any deposit of security being required.

Article 6

Save as regards the foregoing provisions, it is agreed that the waiver of the visa requirement shall not exempt nationals of the Benelux countries and Upper Volta nationals from the necessity of complying with national laws and regulations concerning the entry, sojourn and residence of aliens and authorization to carry on an independent or salaried gainful occupation.

Article 7

Each Government reserves the right to refuse admission to its country to persons who do not possess the necessary documents for entry or do not have

adequate means of subsistence or the possibility of acquiring such means by legally authorized work or who are designated as undesirable or are deemed likely to endanger public law and order or national security.

Article 8

Nationals of the Benelux countries resident in the Upper Volta may leave the country for a period not exceeding ninety days, the only requirement being the production of a valid national passport, and may return without having to obtain a re-entry visa in advance, no deposit of security being required.

They must obtain a re-entry visa in advance if they intend to be absent from the Upper Volta for more than ninety days.

Article 9

Upper Volta nationals resident in one of the Benelux countries may leave that country and return to it without having to obtain a re-entry visa in advance and without any deposit of security being required, provided that they possess a valid national passport and that their residence permit for one of the Benelux countries is still valid.

Article 10

Each Government undertakes to readmit to its territory at any time and without formalities:

- (a) Any of its nationals who have entered the territory of the other Contracting Party;
- (b) Any persons who have entered that territory under a valid national passport issued by the Belgian, Luxembourg, Netherlands or Upper Volta authorities, even if their nationality has been called into question.

Article 11

In so far as relates to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the application of this Agreement may be extended to Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles by notification from the Government of the Netherlands to the Government of the Republic of the Upper Volta.

Article 12

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 January 1969 for a term of one year. If it is not denounced thirty days before the expiry of this term, the Agreement shall be deemed to have been extended indefinitely. Any of the signatory Governments may denounce it on thirty days' notice to the Belgian Government after the initial one-year term.

A denunciation by a single signatory Government shall entail the abrogation of the Agreement.

The Belgian Government shall advise the other signatory Governments of the receipt of the notice mentioned in this article.

Article 13

Save regards article 10, the application of this Agreement may be suspended by any of the Contracting Parties.

Suspension shall be notified to the Belgian Government immediately through the diplomatic channel. That Government shall advise the other signatory Governments of the receipt of such notification. The same procedure shall be followed when the measure in question is revoked.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized for that purpose, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Ouagadougou, in quadruplicate, in the French language.

Ouagadougou, 10 December 1968

For Benelux:
For the Government
of Belgium:
M. G. WALRAVENS
Ambassador

For the Government
of the Republic of the Upper Volta:
Malick ZOROMÉ
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government
of Luxembourg:
Adrianus Johannes VAN DER MAADE
Ambassador of the Netherlands

For the Government
of the Netherlands:
Adrianus Johannes VAN DER MAADE
Ambassador
