

No. 10805

**BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG and NETHERLANDS
(BENELUX)
and
REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**Agreement on the abolition of visas (with exchange of letters).
Signed at Seoul on 28 April 1970**

Authentic text : English.

Registered by the Netherlands on 26 October 1970.

**BELGIQUE, LUXEMBOURG et PAYS-BAS
(BENELUX)
et
RÉPUBLIQUE DE CORÉE**

**Accord relatif à la suppression du visa (avec échange de lettres).
Signé à Séoul le 28 avril 1970**

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 26 octobre 1970.

AGREEMENT ¹ BETWEEN THE BENELUX COUNTRIES AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON THE ABOLITION OF VISAS

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 1960 concerning the transfer of immigration control to the outer frontiers of Benelux, ² and the Government of the Republic of Korea,

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 Republic of Korea 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.

¹ Came into force on 1 June 1970, in accordance with article 10, paragraph 1. By a notification dated 28 April 1970, addressed by the Government of the Netherlands to the Government of the Republic of Korea, the Agreement was extended to Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles with effect from 1 June 1970, in accordance with article 9.

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

Article 3

Nationals of the Republic of Korea 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, 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.

Article 5

Nationals of the Benelux countries residing in the Republic of Korea with the approval of the competent authorities of the Republic of Korea and nationals of the Republic of Korea 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 person 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 Republic of Korea governing entry, length of stay, residence, expulsion and any form of occupation, 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 Korean 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 notification addressed by the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Government of the Republic of Korea.

Article 10

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 June, 1970 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 days' 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 days' 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 Seoul on this twenty-eighth day of April in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventy, in four originals in the English language.

For Benelux:

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium:

J. TRINE

For the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg:

I. VERKADE

For the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands:

I. VERKADE

For the Government of the Republic of Korea:

CHOI KYU HAH

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ¹

I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

April 28, 1970

OBJ - 421

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to Article 2 of the Agreement between the Republic of Korea and the Benelux countries on the abolition of visas which was signed today and to propose the following:

1. Notwithstanding Article 2 of the said Agreement, nationals of the Benelux countries who have entered the Republic of Korea in accordance with the Agreement and who wish to stay for a period exceeding two months but not longer than three months shall submit a residence report and apply for permission for a prolonged sojourn with the competent Korean authorities.
2. Upon receipt of such application, the competent Korean authorities shall grant the requested permission without delay.

¹ Similar letters were exchanged between the Belgian and Korean Governments and between the Luxembourg and Korean Governments. (Information provided by the Government of the Netherlands.)

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, I have the honour to propose that the present Note and your reply thereto shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall be valid for the same period as the Agreement mentioned above.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

CHOI KYU HAH

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Iwan Verkade
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

II

ROYAL NETHERLANDS EMBASSY

No. 1158

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's Note OBJ-421 of 28 April 1970 which reads as follows:

[*See letter I*]

I have the honour to confirm that the proposals set forth in the above Note are acceptable to my Government and that Your Note and this reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments which shall be valid for the same period as the Agreement mentioned above.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Seoul, 28 April 1970.

I. VERKADE

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

His Excellency Choi Kyu Hah
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Korea
Seoul