

**No. 14081**

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**NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM and LUXEMBOURG  
(BENELUX)  
and  
BOTSWANA**

**Agreement on the abolition of visas. Signed at Gaborone on  
22 April 1974**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by the Netherlands on 16 June 1975.*

**Territorial application of the above-mentioned Agreement**

*Certified statement was registered by the Netherlands on 16 June 1975.*

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**PAYS-BAS, BELGIQUE et LUXEMBOURG  
(BENELUX)  
et  
BOTSWANA**

**Accord relatif à la suppression de la formalité du visa. Signé  
à Gaborone le 22 avril 1974**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 16 juin 1975.*

**Application territoriale de l'Accord susmentionné**

*La déclaration certifiée a été enregistrée par les Pays-Bas le 16 juin 1975.*

## AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE BENELUX COUNTRIES AND THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA ON THE ABOLITION OF VISAS

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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<sup>2</sup> concerning the transfer of immigration control to the outer frontiers of Benelux, and

The Government of Botswana,

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 Botswana 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 Botswana 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 Botswana with the approval of the competent authorities of Botswana and nationals of Botswana 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 occupation, 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 June 1974, in accordance with article 10.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 374, p.3

*Article 7.* The present Agreement shall not affect the aliens regulations in force in the Benelux countries and in Botswana 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 admit to its territory, at any time and without formalities, holders of valid national passports issued by the said Government, as also persons of whom it has been proved that they are nationals of the country represented by this Government.

Each Government shall also admit persons who are no longer in possession of a passport, if it has been established that they have entered the territory of the other Contracting Party on presentation of a passport as referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

*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 Botswana.

*Article 10.* This Agreement shall enter into force on 1st June 1974 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.* Any of the Signatory Governments may suspend the operation of this Agreement by notification to the Belgian Government through diplomatic channels.

Suspension by one of the Signatory Governments shall also suspend its operation in respect of the other Signatory Governments.

However, suspension shall not affect the operation of Articles 8 and 10.

The Belgian Government shall inform the other Signatory Governments of the receipt of notification of suspension as referred to in this Article, as also of the receipt of a notification to the effect that the suspension has been terminated.

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

DONE at Gaborone, on 22nd April 1974 in the English language.

For Benelux:

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium:

M. SWINNEN

For the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg:

M. A. BEELAERTS VAN BLOKLAND

For the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands:

M. B. BEELAERTS VAN BLOKLAND

For the Government of Botswana:

B. K. KGARI

## TERRITORIAL APPLICATION

*Notification effected with the Government of Botswana on:*

26 February 1974

NETHERLANDS

(In respect of the Netherlands Antilles. With effect from 1 June 1974.)

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