

No. 33851

**FRANCE
and
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**Convention on the movement and stay of persons. Signed at
Bangui on 26 September 1994**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 19 June 1997.

**FRANCE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE**

**Convention relative à la circulation et au séjour des per-
sonnes. Signée à Bangui le 26 septembre 1994**

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistrée par la France le 19 juin 1997.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ON THE MOVEMENT AND STAY OF PERSONS

The Government of the French Republic and

The Government of the Central African Republic,

Desiring to determine, in the common interest, rules on the movement of persons between the two States on the basis of reciprocity, equality and mutual respect,

Desiring to take into account the developments that have occurred in the relations between the two States,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

French nationals wishing to enter the territory of the Central African Republic and nationals of the Central African Republic wishing to enter French territory must be in possession of a valid passport bearing the visa stipulated in the laws of the receiving State and the international vaccination certificates required by that State.

Article 2

For a stay not exceeding three months, French nationals, upon entering the territory of the Central African Republic, and nationals of the Central African Republic, upon entering French territory, must present documents confirming the purpose and conditions of the proposed stay and must have sufficient means both for their subsistence during the proposed stay and to guarantee their return to the country of origin or travel to a third State to which their admission is guaranteed. These supporting documents shall be those produced for the processing of the visa application.

Article 3

The following persons shall not be required to present the documents referred to in article 2:

- Members of diplomatic missions and consulates arriving to take up their posts in the other State, and their dependants;
- Members of the parliamentary assemblies of the Contracting States;
- Members of the Government;
- Officials, officers and employees of the public services of the other State when they have a mission order from their Government, and officials of intergovernmental organizations who have a mission order issued by their organization;

¹ Came into force on 1 May 1996 by notification, in accordance with article 15.

- Members of the crews of ships and aircraft on official travel under cover of the documents stipulated in the relevant international conventions.

Article 4

For a stay of more than three months, French nationals, upon entering the territory of the Central African Republic, and nationals of the Central African Republic, upon entering French territory, must be in possession of a long-stay visa and, depending on the nature of their stay, of the supporting documentation referred to in articles 5 to 9 below.

Article 5

Nationals of either Contracting State wishing to take up paid employment in the territory of the other State must also, in order to be admitted to the territory of that State, prove that they are in possession of:

1. A medical certificate drawn up during the two months prior to departure and issued:
 - With respect to entry into France, by the competent French consulate, after an examination performed in the territory of the Central African Republic by a physician approved by the consulate in agreement with the Central African authorities;
 - With respect to entry into the Central African Republic, by the competent consulate of the Central African Republic, after an examination performed in French territory by a physician approved by the consulate in agreement with the French authorities;
2. A contract of employment stamped by the Ministry of Labour of the receiving State in accordance with its laws.

Article 6

Nationals of either Contracting State wishing to engage in the territory of the other State in manufacturing, commerce or a craft must, in addition to holding the long-stay visa referred to in article 4, have been authorized to engage in such activity by the competent authorities of the receiving State.

Article 7

Nationals of either Contracting State wishing to establish themselves in the territory of the other State without engaging in gainful employment must, in addition to holding the long-stay visa referred to in article 4, prove that they have sufficient means of support.

Article 8

Members of the family of a national of one of the Contracting States may be authorized to join the spouse who is legally established in the territory of the other State, in accordance with the laws in force in the receiving State regarding family reunion.

They shall receive a residence permit of the same type as that of the person they are joining, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State.

Article 9

Nationals of either Contracting State wishing to pursue higher studies or to attend an advanced training course in the territory of the other State must, in addition to holding the long-stay visa referred to in article 4, prove that they are in possession of a certificate of registration or preregistration from the chosen educational establishment or a certificate of acceptance from the establishment at which the training will take place, and, without exception, of sufficient means of support.

The persons concerned shall receive a temporary residence permit marked "student". This residence permit shall be renewed annually subject to proof that the studies or training are being effectively pursued and of possession of sufficient means of support.

These provisions shall not preclude the possibility of attending, in the other State and in accordance with the laws of that State, training courses in specialized disciplines that do not exist in the State of origin.

Article 10

For any stay in French territory to exceed three months, nationals of the Central African Republic must be in possession of a residence permit.

For any stay in the territory of the Central African Republic to exceed three months, French nationals must be in possession of a residence permit.

Such residence permits shall be issued in accordance with the laws of the receiving State.

Article 11

After three years of uninterrupted legal residence, nationals of either Contracting Party established in the territory of the other Party may obtain a 10-year residence permit, under the conditions stipulated in the laws of the receiving State.

Such residence permit shall be automatically renewable.

Article 12

The provisions of this Convention shall not affect the right of the Contracting States to take any measures justified by the maintenance of public order and the protection of public health and security.

Article 13

Points not covered by this Convention shall be governed by the domestic laws of each State.

The provisions of the domestic laws of the two States shall not in any instance contradict the terms of this Convention.

Article 14

In case of difficulty, the two Governments shall seek an amicable settlement through the diplomatic channel and may, if necessary, convene an ad hoc commission at the request of either Party.

Article 15

This Convention supersedes, in the relations between the two Contracting Parties, the Multilateral Agreement on the Fundamental Rights of Nationals of States of the Community of 22 June 1960.

It is concluded for a period of five years as from the date of its entry into force and shall be renewable annually by tacit agreement unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties.

Notice of denunciation shall be given through the diplomatic channel six months prior to the expiration of each period.

Each Party shall notify the other of the completion of the domestic procedures required for the entry into force of this Convention, which shall take effect on the first day of the second month following the receipt of the last notification.

DONE in duplicate in the French language at Bangui on 26 September 1994.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

JEAN-PAUL ANGELIER
Ambassador of France
to the Central African Republic

For the Government
of the Central African Republic:

SIMON BEDAYA-NGARO
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and the Francophone Community