

**No. 51332**

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**South Africa  
and  
Panama**

**Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Republic of Panama concerning reciprocal exemption from visa requirements for holders of diplomatic, official, consular and special passports. Pretoria, 22 February 2013**

**Entry into force:** *22 February 2013 by signature, in accordance with article 11*

**Authentic texts:** *English and Spanish*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *South Africa, 16 September 2013*

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**Afrique du Sud  
et  
Panama**

**Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République sud-africaine et le Gouvernement de la République du Panama relatif à l'exemption réciproque des formalités de visas pour les détenteurs de passeports diplomatiques, officiels, consulaires et spéciaux. Pretoria, 22 février 2013**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *22 février 2013 par signature, conformément à l'article 11*

**Textes authentiques :** *anglais et espagnol*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies :** *Afrique du Sud, 16 septembre 2013*

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

**AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF**  
**SOUTH AFRICA**

**AND**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF**  
**PANAMA**

**CONCERNING RECIPROCAL EXEMPTION**  
**FROM VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDERS**  
**OF DIPLOMATIC, OFFICIAL, CONSULAR**  
**AND SPECIAL PASSPORTS**

## **PREAMBLE**

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Republic of Panama (hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Parties” and separately as a “Party”);

**DESIRING** to further strengthen the bonds of friendship existing between the two countries; and

**WISHING** to facilitate the entry of citizens of the Republic of South Africa and citizens of the Republic of Panama, who are holders of diplomatic, official, consular and special passports, into their respective countries;

**HEREBY AGREE** as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1**

### **WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENTS**

Citizens of the country of one Party, who are holders of valid diplomatic, official, consular and special passports in that country, may enter, sojourn and exit the country of the other Party, for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days, without having to obtain a visa.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **COMPETENT AUTHORITIES**

The Competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of this Agreement shall be—

- (a) in the case of the Republic of Panama, the National Immigration Service within the Ministry of Government; and
- (b) in the case of the Republic of South Africa, the Department of Home Affairs.

**ARTICLE 3**  
**ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR STAFF**

- (1) Citizens of the country of a Party who are holders of valid diplomatic, official, consular and special passports and who are officials from the Diplomatic Missions or Consular Posts who are accredited to the other Party, as well as their families who are holders of valid diplomatic, official, consular and special passports, may freely enter, sojourn and exit the country of the other Party for the duration of their accreditation.
- (2) The Parties shall notify one another of the arrival of the said officials and their family members and shall comply with the accreditation regulations of the other Party.

**ARTICLE 4**  
**ENTRY INTO TERRITORIES OF PARTIES**

Citizens of the country of one Party who are in possession of valid diplomatic, official, consular and special passports, shall enter and exit the territory of the other Party through the points of entry and exit designated for international traffic.

**ARTICLE 5**  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

This Agreement shall not exempt the citizens of either country who are holders of valid diplomatic, official, consular and special passports from complying with the domestic law in force in the country of the other Party.

**ARTICLE 6**  
**NOTIFICATION OF RELEVANT DOCUMENT**

- (1) A Party shall transmit to the other Party through the diplomatic channel, specimens of its diplomatic, official, consular or special passports, including a detailed description of such documents currently in use, as well as information pertaining to the rules of their use, not later than thirty (30) days before the entry into force of this Agreement.
- (2) A Party shall also transmit to the other Party through the diplomatic channel—
  - (a) specimens of its new or modified diplomatic, official, consular or special passports; and
  - (b) any changes in respect of the domestic law pertaining to the use of diplomatic, official, consular or special passports, at least thirty (30) days before the introduction of the changes.

**ARTICLE 7**  
**REFUSAL OF ENTRY AND ISSUING OF NEW PASSPORT**

- (1) A Party reserves the right to refuse entry into its country of any citizen of the country of the other Party who is the holder of a valid diplomatic, official, consular or special passport, whom it considers to be undesirable, or due to public order, national security or public health reasons.
- (2)(a) If a citizen of the country of one Party loses his or her diplomatic, official, consular or special passport in the country of the other Party, he or she shall inform the relevant authorities concerned of the host country thereof, requesting appropriate action.
- (b) The Diplomatic Mission or Consulate concerned shall issue a new diplomatic, official, consular or special passport or equivalent travel document to its citizen and inform the relevant authorities of the host country thereof.