



Treaty Series No. 77 (1948)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of Iceland

extending the Visa Abolition Agreement
of 20th June, 1947 to certain
British Overseas Territories

[with Annex]

London, 26th October, 1948

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament
by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
ONE PENNY NET

EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND EXTENDING THE VISA ABOLITION AGREEMENT OF 20th JUNE, 1947 TO CERTAIN BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

London, 26th October, 1948

No. 1

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Icelandic Minister

Your Excellency,

Foreign Office, 26th October, 1948.

I HAVE the honour to refer to sub-paragraph 4 of the notes exchanged between us on 20th June, 1947⁽¹⁾, embodying an agreement for the reciprocal abolition of visas for British subjects travelling to Iceland and Icelandic citizens travelling to the United Kingdom, and to inform you that, in accordance with their policy of extending freedom of travel, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have decided, after consultation with the Governments of the territories concerned, and without prejudice to the general application of sub-paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned notes, to extend the provisions of that agreement to Icelandic citizens travelling to the territories mentioned in the Annex to this note.

2. Accordingly, it is proposed that on and after 10th November Icelandic citizens shall be free to travel from any place whatever to any of the territories mentioned in the Annex without the necessity of obtaining a visa, provided that they are furnished with valid Icelandic passports.

3.—(a) It is understood that the waiver of the visa does not exempt Icelandic citizens travelling to any of the territories mentioned in the Annex from the necessity of complying with the laws and regulations in force in the particular territory concerning the entry into it, or residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation in it, of foreigners, and that travellers who are unable to satisfy the competent authorities in the territory that they comply with those laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to enter or land.

(b) In most British overseas territories foreigners are not permitted to remain for more than a limited period, which does not normally exceed six months and may be less, without special authority, and they may be called upon as a condition of entry to provide reasonable evidence (such as a return or onward transport ticket) of their intention to leave the territory within the specified period. Similarly, foreigners wishing to undertake employment in such territories are usually required to obtain prior permission to do so and to produce proof of such permission before being admitted. Requirements, however, differ as between one territory and another, and it is therefore suggested that any notice or advice regarding the abolition of visas in relation to British overseas territories should emphasise the importance of intending travellers acquainting themselves fully with the requirements of the Immigration Laws and Regulations of the territory which they propose to visit.

4. I have the honour to request your Excellency to be so good as to acknowledge the receipt of this note.

I have, &c.

(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN.

⁽¹⁾ "Treaty Series No. 49 (1947)," Cmd. 7159.

ANNEX

Newfoundland	Mauritius
Southern Rhodesia	North Borneo
Aden	Northern Rhodesia
Bahamas	St. Helena
Barbados	Seychelles
Basutoland	Sierra Leone
Bechuanaland Protectorate	Singapore
Bermuda	Swaziland
British Guiana	Tanganyika
British Honduras	Trinidad
Brunei	Uganda
Cyprus	Western Pacific—
Falkland Islands	Gilbert and Ellice Islands
Federation of Malaya	British Solomon Islands
Fiji	Windward Islands—
Jamaica	Dominica
Leeward Islands—	Grenada
Antigua	St. Lucia
St. Kitts Nevis	St. Vincent
Montserrat	Zanzibar
Virgin Islands	

No. 2

The Icelandic Minister to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

Sir, *Icelandic Legation, 26th October, 1948.*

In a Note of to-day's date you have been good enough to inform me as follows:—

[As in No. 1]

In acknowledging receipt of the above Note I have the honour to state that its content has been noted with satisfaction by the Icelandic Government.

I have, &c.
(Sd.) STEFAN THORVARDSSON.

LONDON

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