

Treaty Series No. 79 (1948)

Exchange of Notes

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

extending the Visa Abolition Agreement of 20th March, 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

Cmd. 7576

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

London, 26th October, 1948

No. 1

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Swedish Ambassador

Your Excellency, Foreign Office, 26th October, 1948.

I HAVE the honour to refer to sub-paragraph 4 of the notes exchanged between Mr. Attlee and Monsieur Ihre on 20th March, 1947(1), embodying an agreement for the reciprocal abolition of visas for British subjects travelling to Sweden and Swedish subjects 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 abovementioned notes, to extend the provisions of that agreement to Swedish subjects travelling to the territories mentioned in the Annex to this note.

- 2. Accordingly, it is proposed that on and after 10th November, Swedish subjects 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 Swedish passports.
- 3.—(a) It is understood that the waiver of the visa does not exempt Swedish subjects 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. 27 (1947)," Cmd. 7103.

ANNEX

Newfoundland Southern Rhodesia Aden

Bahamas Barbados Basutoland

Bechuanaland Protectorate

Bermuda British Guiana British Honduras

Brunei Cyprus

Falkland Islands Federation of Malaya

Fiji Jamaica

Leeward Islands-

Antigua St. Kitts Nevis Montserrat Virgin Islands

Mauritius North Borneo Northern Rhodesia St. Helena

Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Swaziland Tanganyika Trinidad Uganda

Western Pacific-

Gilbert and Ellice Islands British Solomon Islands

Windward Islands-

Dominica Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent Zanzibar

No. 2

The Swedish Ambassador to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Sir,

Swedish Embassy, 26th October, 1948.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of to-day, which reads as follows:—

[As in No. 1]

I have taken due note of this communication, together with its Annex -copy of which is attached hereto-and have the honour, &c.

> GUNNAR HÄGGLÖF. (Sd.)

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