



AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

ON

**VISA EXEMPTION FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC OR
OFFICIAL PASSPORTS**

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of Botswana and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (hereinafter referred to singularly as the "Contracting Party" and collectively as the "Contracting Parties");

DESIRING to strengthen and develop the friendly relations between the two countries;

COMMITTED to facilitate the ease of travel for citizens of the Contracting Parties who are holders of diplomatic or official passports into their respective countries;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1 VISA EXEMPTION

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is a holder of a valid diplomatic or official passport, shall be exempted from visa requirements for entry into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party at the border checkpoints designated for international travel.
2. A citizen holding the said passport specified at Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be permitted to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for a maximum period of 90(ninety) days counted from the date of first entry without visa.
3. Upon the request in writing of the diplomatic mission or consular post of the Contracting Party, the other Contracting Party may extend the permit of residence for those persons set out at Paragraph 2 of this Article.

ARTICLE 2 VISAS FOR ASSIGNMENTS

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is assigned as a member of the diplomatic mission or consular post of their country accredited to the territory of the other Contracting Party or as representative of his/her country in an international organization, body, agency or any other such

entity located in the territory of the other Contracting Party and is a holder of a valid diplomatic passport or official passport, may enter the territory of the other Contracting Party and stay there for the duration of their assignment without a visa.

2. The same privileges shall also apply to the spouse and child/children ("hereinafter referred to as Family Members") of persons mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article provided that they are holders of valid diplomatic or official passports or the children's names are entered in their father's or mother's passport, insofar as they live in the same household. For purposes of this Article "child/children" shall mean any child under 18 years old.

ARTICLE 3 APPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL LAWS

1. Through diplomatic channels, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, at the earliest time as possible, inform each other of changes of their laws and regulations concerning the entry, exit and temporary stay of foreign nationals.
2. The passports specified in this Agreement shall meet the criteria of validity provided by the national legislation of the Contracting Parties.
3. This Agreement shall not exempt citizens of either Contracting Party who are holders of the passports specified at paragraph 1 of Article 1 from the obligation to observe the laws and regulations of the host country.
4. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as affecting the rights and obligations set out in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April, 1961 or the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April, 1963.

ARTICLE 4 LOSS OF PASSPORT

If a citizen of one Contracting Party loses his/her valid diplomatic or official passport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, he/she shall inform the diplomatic mission or consular post concerned and the relevant authorities of the host country for appropriate action. After issuing a new passport or travel document in accordance with its laws and regulations, the said diplomatic

mission or consular post shall inform the relevant authorities of the host country of the revocation of the lost passport as well as the above issuance.

ARTICLE 5 REFUSAL OF ENTRY

Each Contracting Party reserves the right to refuse the entry into, or shorten the stay in its territory, of any citizen of the other Contracting Party, whom it may consider undesirable for reasons of protection of state security, public order, public health or other serious reasons.

ARTICLE 6 SUSPENSION

For reasons of national security, public order or public health, either Contracting Party may, in whole or in part, suspend the implementation of this Agreement which shall take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels. The suspension shall not affect the rights of citizens who have already entered the territory of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 7 EXCHANGE OF SPECIMEN PASSPORT

1. Through diplomatic channels, the Contracting Parties shall convey to each other specimens of diplomatic and official passports including a detailed description of such documents currently used by each Contracting Party within 30 (thirty) days after the signing of this Agreement”.
2. Each Contracting Party shall also transmit to the other through diplomatic channels, specimen of its new or modified diplomatic and official passports, including a detailed description of such documents at least 30 (thirty) days before their introduction.

ARTICLE 8 AMENDMENTS

Either Contracting Party may request in writing, through diplomatic channels, for an amendment of the whole or part of this Agreement. Any amendment, which has been agreed to by the Contracting Parties, shall come into force 30

(thirty) days after receipt of the last notification by either Contracting Party and shall accordingly form part of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 9
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT**

Any disagreement arising between the Contracting Parties on the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties without reference to any third party or an international tribunal.

**ARTICLE 10
ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION**

1. This Agreement shall enter into force 60 (sixty) days after the date of signing.
2. This Agreement shall be effective for an indefinite period, unless either Contracting Party gives to the other Contracting Party 03 (three) months notice in writing of its intention to terminate this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE at Ha Noi, Viet Nam on the 26th August 2019 in duplicate in the Vietnamese and English languages. The Vietnamese and English texts are equally authentic.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA**



H.E Pham Binh Minh
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Dr. Unity Dow
Minister of International Affairs
and Cooperation