

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
SRI LANKA

ON VISA EXEMPTION FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL
PASSPORTS

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, hereinafter referred to as "Contracting Parties";

Desiring to promote their friendly relations;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

1. Citizens of one Contracting Party, who are holders of valid diplomatic or official passports, shall be exempt from visa requirements for entry into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party at points of entry designated for international travel.

2. The passport holders referred to in 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. Upon a request being made in writing, by a Diplomatic Mission or a Consular Post of a Contracting Party, on behalf of its citizens who hold diplomatic or official passports, the other Contracting Party may extend the duration of stay for such passport holders.

Article 2

1. Citizens of one Contracting Party, who are holders of valid diplomatic or official passports and are members of the Diplomatic Mission or Consular Post located in the territory of the other Contracting Party, shall be exempt from visa requirements for entry into and exit from the territory of the other Contracting Party and shall be permitted to stay there during the period of their assignment. The same privileges shall also apply to citizens of one Contracting Party, who are representatives of their country to international organizations located in the

territory of the other Contracting Party, if they are holders of the above-mentioned passports.

2. The same privileges shall also apply to spouses and children of the persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, if they are holders of diplomatic or official passports or if children's names are entered in their father's or mother's passport.

Article 3

1. This Agreement shall not exempt the holders of diplomatic or official passports from obligations of respecting laws and regulations in force in the territory of the host country.

2. Either Contracting Party shall reserve the right to deny entry or to shorten the duration of stay of any citizen of the other Contracting Party.

Article 4

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, as soon as possible, inform each other through diplomatic channels of any changes in their laws and regulations concerning the entry, exit and stay applicable to foreigners.

Article 5

If a citizen of one Contracting Party loses his/her diplomatic or official passport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, he/she shall inform the Diplomatic Mission or Consular Posts of his/her country and the relevant authorities of the host country about the loss of his/her passport. The Diplomatic Mission or the Consular Post concerned shall, in accordance with laws and regulations of its country, issue a new passport or a travel document to its citizen and inform the competent authorities of the host country about the issue of the new passport or travel document and the cancellation of the lost passport.

Article 6

1. For reasons of national security, public order or health, either Contracting Party may temporarily suspend, in whole or in part, the implementation of this Agreement.

2. The introduction as well as abolition of such measures shall be duly informed to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

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Article 7

The Contracting Parties shall convey to each other, through diplomatic channels, specimens of their current diplomatic and official passports or specimens of any new passports, at least 30 (thirty) days before this Agreement comes into force or before the introduction of the new passports as the case may be.

Article 8

This Agreement may be amended or supplemented by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties and shall be effected through diplomatic channels.

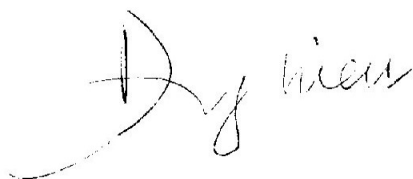
Article 9

This Agreement shall enter into force 60 (sixty) days from the date of its signature and shall remain valid until either Contracting Party gives 03 (three) months prior notice in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have signed the present Agreement.

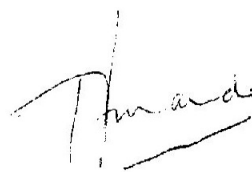
Done, in duplicate at Colombo on 21st July... 2003, in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

**For the Government of
the Socialist Republic of
VIETNAM**



**Nguyen Dy Nien
Minister of Foreign Affairs**

**For the Government of
the Democratic Socialist Republic of
SRI LANKA**



**Tyrone Fernando, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Foreign Affairs**

