

Agreement between the Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on the exemption of visa requirements for holders of diplomatic, special, service and official Passports

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

Desiring to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries;

Recognizing the need to facilitate the travel of their nationals, holders of diplomatic, special, service or official Passports,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The provisions of this Agreement apply to nationals of either Party that hold any of the following passports:

1. Valid diplomatic, special or service passports of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman.
2. Valid diplomatic or official passports of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Article 2

1. Nationals of either Party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), may enter to, stay in, exit from, and transit through the State territory of the other Party without a visa requirement for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days, and during a period of one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of their first entry.
2. Nationals of either Party, referred to in the preceding paragraph, who intend to stay longer than ninety (90) days in the State territory of the other Party, shall go through the necessary procedures for a visa request from the competent authorities of the other Party prior to the expiration of the ninety (90) days period.

Article 3

Nationals of either Party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), must not undertake any paid activity that requires a work permit during their stay in the State territory of the other Party.

Article 4

The passports mentioned in Article (1), belonging to citizens of either Party, shall be valid for a period of at least six (6) months on their entry into the State territory of the other Party.

Article 5

Nationals of either party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), shall abide by the laws and regulations in force during their stay in the State territory of the other Party.

Article 6

Nationals of either Party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), shall enter into, exit from, and transit through the State territory of the other Party through the assigned border-crossing points open for international traffic in accordance with the regulations of the other Party.

Article 7

1. Nationals of either Party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), who are appointed to a diplomatic or consular mission or international organization in the State territory of the other Party, shall be required to obtain the appropriate entry visa prior to their first entry into the State territory of the other Party.

2. The treatment referred to in paragraph 1 shall also extend to members of the families of the aforesaid nationals, provided that they are holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1).

3. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the other Party shall accredit the nationals referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 within thirty (30) days from their first entry into the State territory of the other Party, upon which they will be granted their respective visas in accordance with the applicable national regulations of the other Party.

Article 8

1. This Agreement does not affect the right of the competent authorities of either Party to refuse entry of the nationals of the other Party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), into their respective State territories, reduce their period of stay or terminate it, where the nationals in question are considered non grata or where they may present a risk to the national security, public order or public health, or where their presence within the respective State territory is illegal.
2. Where a national of the other Party has been affected by the provisions of this Article, the Party responsible for the aforementioned action must notify the other Party in writing through diplomatic channels without delay.

Article 9

1. In the case of loss, theft, damage or invalidity of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1) by a national of either Party in the State territory of the other Party, the diplomatic or consular mission, to which the holder of the passport in question belongs to, shall provide him with the documents that enable him to return to the State territory of the Party to which he is national of.
2. The aforementioned diplomatic or consular mission shall promptly notify the competent authorities of the other Party of such incidents through diplomatic channels.

Article 10

1. The Parties shall exchange specimens of the passports mentioned in Article 1, through diplomatic channels, within thirty (30) days from the date of signature of this Agreement
2. In case of any changes in the passports mentioned in Article (1) of either Party, the Party whose passports have been changed shall provide specimens of the changed passports to the other Party through diplomatic channels, thirty (30) days prior to the entry of these changes into force.

Article 11

Amendments and/or additions to the provisions of this Agreement may be made by mutual consent of the Parties, which shall be formed as a separate document and shall enter into force in accordance to Article (16) of this Agreement. The documents formed thereby shall represent an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 12

This Agreement does not prejudice obligations arising out of any bilateral agreements concluded between both Parties.

Article 13

The Parties shall implement this Agreement in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in both countries.

Article 14

The Parties shall amicably settle any disputes arising out of the implementation or interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement by consultation through diplomatic channels.

Article 15

1. Either Party may temporarily suspend the application of this Agreement, completely or partially, for reasons relating to national security, public order or public health, or in case of violation of the provisions of this Agreement.
2. The Party, who wishes to suspend the application of this Agreement, shall notify the other Party of the suspension and specify the reasons thereof in writing, through diplomatic channels, at least seven (7) days before the entry of this suspension into force, and shall also inform the other Party of the end of this suspension in writing through diplomatic channels, at least seven (7) days before the end of this suspension.
3. The suspension of the application of this Agreement does not affect the legal status of the nationals of either Party, holders of any of the passports mentioned in Article (1), that are located in the State territory of the other Party.

Article 16

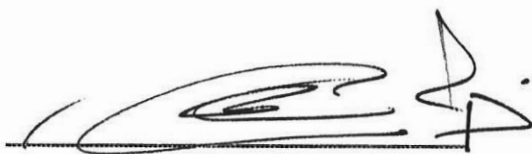
This Agreement shall enter into force after thirty (30) days from the date of the receipt of the last written notification of the completion of all internal procedures necessary by the Parties for the entry into force of the Agreement, and shall be valid for an indefinite period of time, unless one of the Parties notifies the other in writing of its intention to terminate the Agreement in accordance with Article (17).

Article 17

Either Party may, at any time, terminate this Agreement by notifying the other Party in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its decision to terminate at least thirty (30) days before the application of this termination.

This Agreement is signed in Muscat, on 17th of February 2021 in two originals in the Arabic, Sinhalese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For
The Government of the Sultanate
of Oman**



**For
The Government of the
Democratic Socialist Republic
of Sri Lanka**

