



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA  
MBABANE (Eswatini)



69/HC/2023, 02 Nov 2023

The High Commission of India presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Eswatini and has the honour to refer to the Diplomatic Note No. 53/2023 dated 26 Oct 2023 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Eswatini regarding implementation of the decision to include Eswatini Service Passports in the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Kingdom of Swaziland on Exemption from visa requirement for holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports dated 09 Apr 2018.

2. The High Commission of India, Mbabane has the honour to inform that necessary arrangements have been made by the Government of India to implement the decision for visa-free travel of Eswatini Service Passport holders to India with effect from 15 November 2023. Since it is a minor change to the existing Agreement on Exemption from Visa requirements for Diplomatic and Official passport holders of India and Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland), there is no requirement for signing of a separate protocol for inclusion of Eswatini Service passport. In the initial stage, Eswatini Service passport holders may be advised to carry a copy of this note verbale and a copy of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Kingdom of Swaziland on Exemption from visa requirement for holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports dated 09 Apr 2018 (**enclosed**) for hassle free travel to India.

3. The High Commission of India avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Eswatini the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs &  
International Cooperation  
Kingdom of Eswatini  
Mbabane



AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
INDIA AND THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND ON EXEMPTION FROM  
VISA REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL  
PASSPORTS

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE KINGDOM  
OF SWAZILAND hereafter referred to individually as the "Contracting Party"  
and jointly as the "Contracting Parties"

CONSIDERING the interest of both countries to strengthen their friendly  
relations, and

DESIRING to facilitate the entry and exit of the citizens of both countries,  
who are holders of diplomatic or official passports into their respective  
territories

AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Visa Exemption

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport shall be permitted to enter into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party through their respective international points of entry/exit without a visa.
2. A citizen of either Contracting Party, holding the said passport shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party without a visa for a period of ninety (90) days during any period of 180 days.

ARTICLE 2

Visas for Bilateral Assignments

1. A Citizen of either Contracting Party, who is assigned as a member of the diplomatic or consular staff or as representative of his/her country in an international organization located in the territory of the other Contracting Party and is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport, shall be required to obtain a visa prior to entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party.

2. The condition enumerated in paragraph 1 of this Article shall also apply to the spouse of member of the diplomatic Mission or Consulate or representative in international organization, their dependent children and their dependent parents.

### ARTICLE 3

#### Visas for International Assignments

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport and has to attend a meeting or conference convened by an international organization or Government, in the territory of the other Contracting Party, shall not be required to obtain a visa to enter and stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

2. The holders of diplomatic and official passports of either Contracting Party who are employed by an international organization, body, agency or any other such entity, would be required to obtain visa prior to their entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party for official or private visits.

### ARTICLE 4

#### Refusal of Entry & Loss of Passport

1. 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.

2. If a citizen of one Contracting Party loses his/her passport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, he/she shall inform the authorities concerned of the host country for appropriate action.

3. The diplomatic Mission or Consulate concerned will issue a new passport or travel document to its citizen and inform the concerned authorities of the host Government.

## ARTICLE 5

### Passports Validity

The diplomatic and official passports of nationals of either Contracting Party shall be valid for at least 6 (Six) months on the date of entry into the territory of the country of the other Contracting Party.

## ARTICLE 6

### Applicability of Local/National Laws

1. Citizens of either Contracting Party, being holders of diplomatic or official passports shall abide by the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party while crossing its frontier and throughout the duration of their stay in its territory.
2. Nothing in the Agreement shall be interpreted 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 7

### Travel Documents

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, each Contracting Party shall transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, specimens of its respective passports, including a detailed description of such documents currently used, at least thirty (30) days before the entry into force of this Agreement.
2. Each Contracting Party shall also transmit to the other through diplomatic channels, specimens of its new or modified passports, including a detailed description of such documents, at least thirty (30) days before they are brought into force.

## ARTICLE 8

### Suspension

Each Contracting Party reserves the right for reasons of security, public order or public health, to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, 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 concerned nationals who have already entered the territory of the other Contracting Party.

## ARTICLE 9

### Revision and Amendments

1. Either Contracting Party may request in writing, through diplomatic channels, a revision or amendment of the whole or part of this Agreement.
2. Any revision or amendment, which has been agreed to by the Contracting Parties, shall come into effect on a date to be mutually agreed upon and shall accordingly form part of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 10

### Dispute Settlement

Any difference or dispute arising out of the interpretation and implementation or application of any 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 11

### Entry Into Force, Duration And Termination

This Agreement shall enter into force on a date to be mutually agreed upon by the Contracting Parties, which shall be notified through the exchange of Diplomatic Notes. This Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period and may be terminated by either Contracting Party by notification through diplomatic channels, which shall enter into force ninety (90) days after the date of such notification. The termination shall not affect

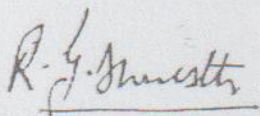
the rights of concerned nationals who have already entered the territory of the other Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Mbabane, Swaziland on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year two thousand eighteen in two (2) originals.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF

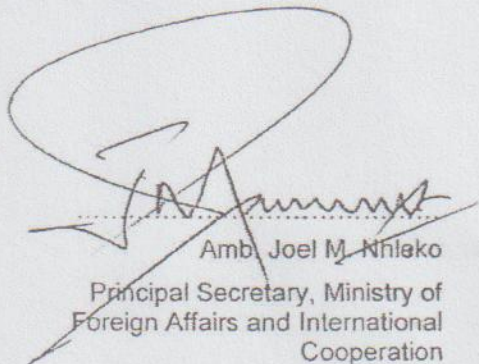
THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



.....  
Mr. R. Gaurav Shresth  
High Commissioner of India

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND



.....  
Amb. Joel M. Nhlako  
Principal Secretary, Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs and International  
Cooperation