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Presented by JIS
4/6/69

MINISTRY PAPER NO. 11

Visa Abolition Agreement - Jamaica and
Switzerland and the Principality of
Liechtenstein

Attached for the information of Members of this Honourable House are copies of letters dated the 8th of March, 1968, exchanged between the Ambassador of Switzerland to Jamaica and myself, which constitute a visa abolition agreement between Jamaica and Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein.

2. The agreement provides that citizens of the countries concerned may visit each other's countries for periods not exceeding ninety days, without visas, provided they hold valid national passports and do not take up employment, and provided they comply with the laws regarding entry and residence. The right of each country to refuse entry of undesirable citizens is preserved, and there is also an undertaking on each side to readmit the holders of valid national passports, even in the case of a person whose nationality is being contested. Provision is made for temporary suspension of the agreement, other than the undertaking for re-admission of the country's own nationals.

3. The agreement will come into effect thirty days after the date of signature, and can be revoked by either Government ninety days after notice of revocation has been given, in writing.

H. L. SHEARER
Prime Minister and Minister
of External Affairs.
8th April, 1968.

Ministry of External Affairs,
Kingston.
MEA C81/012

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8 March, 1968.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of today's date, no. C81/020 which reads as follows:

8 March, 1968.

"Your Excellency,

I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's knowledge that, in order to facilitate travel between Jamaica and Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Jamaican Government proposes to the Swiss Government the adoption of the following arrangements:

- 1) Jamaican citizens are free to enter Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, and to leave by any route, without a visa, provided that they are holders of a valid national passport.
- 2) Citizens of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein are free to enter Jamaica, and to leave by any route, without a visa, provided that they are holders of a valid national passport.
- 3) The facilities provided for in the preceding paragraphs are applicable only in the case of visits not exceeding ninety days.

It remains obligatory for the citizens of one of the contracting Parties, desirous of entering the territory of the other for a visit of more than ninety days, or of engaging in remunerative activities to obtain a visa prior to their arrival in the receiving territory.

- 4) The waiver of the visa requirement would not exempt Swiss citizens and the citizens of the Principality of Liechtenstein coming to Jamaica or Jamaican citizens proceeding to Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, from the necessity of complying with the respective laws and regulations of these territories concerning the entry, residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation of foreigners. Travellers who are unable to satisfy the immigration authorities that they comply with these laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to land.
- 5) Each of the contracting Parties reserves the right to refuse entry or sojourn into its territory to citizens of the other whom it considers as undesirable.

6)....

- 6) Each of the two contracting Parties undertakes to readmit, without formality, into its territory, any holder of one of the documents specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 and issued by it, even in the case of a person whose nationality is being contested.
- 7) Each of the two Governments reserves the right, for reasons of security, of law and order or of public health, to suspend temporarily the application of the present arrangements, except as regards those of the preceding paragraphs. Such a decision should be notified immediately through diplomatic channels and if possible, after previous agreement between the two contracting Parties. The same procedure will apply once the measure in question has been revoked.

I suggest that the present letter and Your Excellency's reply constitute the Travel Agreement concerning the suppression of visas between Jamaica and Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, which shall come into effect thirty days after the date of this reply and shall be revoked at any time by either Government, revocation taking effect ninety days after written notification has been given.

I take this opportunity of renewing to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

H. L. Shearer
Prime Minister and Minister of
External Affairs.

His Excellency Jean-Louis Pahud,
Ambassador of Switzerland,
Hamburg 66, Piso 5,
Mexico 6 D.F.
Apartado 1022,
Mexico 6 D.F. "

In reply I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the proposed arrangements are acceptable to the Government of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein who also regard Your Excellency's letter and this reply as constituting an Agreement between the three Governments in this matter which shall enter into force thirty days after the date of this reply.

Accept Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sgd. J. L. Pahud
Ambassador for Switzerland

The Honourable H. L. Shearer,
Prime Minister and Minister of
External Affairs,
24 East Race Course,
Kingston.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
24 EAST RACE COURSE
KINGSTON.

C81/012

8th March, 1968.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's knowledge that, in order to facilitate travel between Jamaica and Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Jamaican Government proposes to the Swiss Government the adoption of the following arrangements:

- 1) Jamaican citizens are free to enter Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, and to leave by any route, without a visa, provided that they are holders of a valid national passport.
- 2) Citizens of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein are free to enter Jamaica, and to leave by any route, without a visa, provided that they are holders of a valid national passport.
- 3) The facilities provided for in the preceding paragraphs are applicable only in the case of visits not exceeding ninety days.

It remains obligatory for the citizens of one of the contracting Parties, desirous of entering the territory of the other for a visit of more than ninety days, or of engaging in remunerative activities to obtain a visa prior to their arrival in the receiving territory.

- 4) The waiver of the visa requirement would not exempt Swiss citizens and citizens of the Principality of Liechtenstein coming to Jamaica or Jamaican citizens proceeding to Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, from the necessity of complying with the respective laws and regulations of these territories concerning the entry, residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation of foreigners. Travellers who are unable

to satisfy.....

His Excellency Jean-Louis Pahud,
Ambassador of Switzerland,
Hamburgo 66, Piso 5,
Mexico 6, D.F.,
Apartado 1027,
Mexico 1, D.F.

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to satisfy the immigration authorities that they comply with these laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to land.

- 5) Each of the contracting Parties reserves the right to refuse entry or sojourn into its territory to citizens of the other whom it considers as undesirable.
- 6) Each of the two contracting Parties undertakes to readmit, without formality, into its territory, any holder of one of the documents specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 and issued by it, even in the case of a person whose nationality is being contested.
- 7) Each of the two Governments reserves the right, for reasons of security, of law and order or of public health, to suspend temporarily the application of the present arrangements, except as regards those of the preceding paragraph. Such a decision should be notified immediately through diplomatic channels and if possible, after previous agreement between the two contracting Parties. The same procedure will apply once the measure in question has been revoked.

I suggest that the present letter and Your Excellency's reply constitute the Travel Agreement concerning the suppression of visas between Jamaica and Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, which shall come into effect thirty days after the day of this reply and shall be revoked at any time by either Government, revocation taking effect ninety days after written notification has been given.

I take this opportunity of renewing to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Sgd.) H. L. Shearer
Prime Minister and Minister
of External Affairs.