

Immigration Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) outcomes.

Presentation to the Portfolio Committee on Tourism

6 November 2015

Department of Tourism
www.tourism.gov.za



tourism

Department:
Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



APPLICATION IN PERSON

- within 3 months (Nov to Jan) -

Countries where no SA missions exist

- DHA will accept applications (visitor and medical visas) sent by post
- Biometrics and photos of travellers will be captured on arrival at ports of entry

DHA will:

- Implement biometrics (fingerprints & photos) at ports of entry
 - Pilot sites: OR Tambo Airport, King Shaka Airport and Cape Town International Airport;
- Introduce an Accredited Tourism Company (ATC) Programme
 - for China, India and Russia;
 - with possible extension to other visa requiring countries
- Continue to issue a long-term Multiple Entry Visa to frequent travellers
 - valid for a period exceeding 3 months but not exceeding 3 years.



APPLICATION IN PERSON

- within 3 months to 1 year-

DHA will:

- Increase Visa Facilitation Centres (VFC) in:
 - China, India, UK, Nigeria, DRC, Angola, Ghana, Kenya and Uganda;
- Fast-track the opening of VFC in:
 - Zimbabwe, UAE and Botswana.



APPLICATION IN PERSON

- beyond 1 year -

DHA will:

- Install systems for pre-flight checks (incl. operation-centres) at international airports;
- Upgrade Advance Passenger Processing (APP) systems;
- Implement a Passenger Name Record (PNR) to enhance risk assessment and
- Finalise the automation of the visa and permitting system.



CHILD-TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

- South African children – (Outbound travel)

- IMC accepted the implementation of the current child-travel requirements, including the parental consent affidavits as these seek to protect children.



CHILD-TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

- Foreign children – (Inbound travel)

- **Where visas are required**
 - provision of original birth certificates or certified copies of required documents continue during the visa application process.
 - this is in line with practise in many other countries.
- **For children from visa-exempt countries**
 - travellers will be strongly advised to bring along proof of the relation and consent from the absent parent/s or guardian/s



CHILD-TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

- within 3 months -

- **School principals will issue letters confirming the permission for children to travel on school tours**
 - this authority will also be extended to include registered sports bodies.
- Validity of the **Parental Consent Affidavit** will be extended to a period no longer than 6 months.



CHILD-TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

- within 3 months to 1 year-

- Term **‘Unabridged Birth Certificate’** will be changed to **‘Birth Certificate containing parental details’**
- **Details of parents will be printed in SA passports**
 - parents whose particulars are printed would not be required to carry birth certificates

GENERAL

- DHA to also consider the introduction of visas on arrival for nationals of visa requiring countries who hold valid visas for the UK, US and Canada (and other countries with stringent visa requirements)
- Other administrative issues affecting relevant departments will be resolved through inter-departmental engagements;
- DHA should facilitate the legal instruments to implement the recommendations;
- Relevant departments to engage their relevant stakeholders to present the approved recommendations;
- Cabinet extended the life of the IMC to deal with issues that may arise whilst implementing the Cabinet decision.



THANK YOU