



Brussels, 27.5.2020  
C(2020) 3328 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 27.5.2020**

**amending Implementing Decision C(2015) 6940 final, as regards the list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in India**

(Only the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish texts are authentic)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code)<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 48(1a) (a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 lays down procedures and conditions for the issuing of visas for transit through or intended stays on the territory of Member States that do not exceed 90 days in any 180-day period.
- (2) To ensure that the common visa policy is uniformly applied, Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 provides that harmonised lists of supporting documents should be drawn up within local Schengen cooperation in each jurisdiction so that local circumstances can be taken into account.
- (3) Local Schengen cooperation in India has confirmed the need to harmonise the list of supporting documents which is set out in Annex II to Commission Implementing Decision C(2015) 6940 final<sup>2</sup>.
- (4) Following a renewed assessment that takes local circumstances into account, the local Schengen cooperation has confirmed that the list of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants in India needs to be revised. The revision should take account of the experience gained from applying the previous harmonised list, the need to restructure the list and specify the documents to be submitted by certain categories of travellers and for certain travel purposes as well as the need to delete documents that have become obsolete.
- (5) For applicants that are known to consulates for their integrity and reliability, it should be possible for those consulates to waive the requirement to submit one or more of the listed supporting documents, in accordance with Article 14(6) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009. It should also be possible, in justified cases, for consulates to request additional documents during an examination of an application, in accordance with Article 21(8) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 243, 15.9.2009, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Commission Implementing Decision of 16 October 2015 establishing the list of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants in Afghanistan, India, Morocco, Singapore and Trinidad and Tobago (C(2015) 6940 final).

- (6) Given that Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 builds upon the Schengen *acquis*, Denmark, in accordance with Article 5 of Protocol No 5 on the position of Denmark annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty establishing the European Community and Article 4 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, notified the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 in its national law. Denmark is therefore bound under international law to implement this Decision.
- (7) This Decision constitutes a development of provisions of the Schengen *acquis* in which the United Kingdom does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2000/365/EC<sup>3</sup>. The United Kingdom is therefore not bound by it or subject to its application.
- (8) This Decision constitutes a development of provisions of the Schengen *acquis* in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC<sup>4</sup>; Ireland is therefore not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
- (9) As regards Iceland and Norway, this Decision constitutes a development of provisions of the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of the Agreement concluded by the Council of the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the latter's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*<sup>5</sup>, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Council Decision 1999/437/EC<sup>6</sup>.
- (10) As regards Switzerland, this Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*<sup>7</sup>, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Decision 1999/437/EC, read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2008/146/EC<sup>8</sup>.
- (11) As regards Liechtenstein, this Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of the Protocol signed between the European Union, the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein on the accession of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and

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<sup>3</sup> Council Decision 2000/365/EC of 29 May 2000 concerning the request of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43).

<sup>4</sup> Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20).

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 36.

<sup>6</sup> Council Decision 1999/437/EC of 17 May 1999 on certain arrangements for the application of the Agreement concluded by the Council of the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the association of those two States with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 31).

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 53, 27.2.2008, p. 52.

<sup>8</sup> Council Decision 2008/146/EC of 28 January 2008 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 53, 27.2.2008, p. 1).

development of the Schengen *acquis*<sup>9</sup>, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2011/350/EU<sup>10</sup>.

- (12) This Decision constitutes an act building upon, or otherwise related to, the Schengen *acquis* within, respectively, the meaning of Article 3(2) of the 2003 Act of Accession, Article 4(2) of the 2005 Act of Accession and Article 4(2) of the 2011 Act of Accession.
- (13) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Visa Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

Annex II to Implementing Decision C(2015) 6940 final is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

*Article 2*

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Estonia, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of Spain, the French Republic, the Republic of Croatia, the Italian Republic, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Poland, the Portuguese Republic, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden.

Done at Brussels, 27.5.2020

*For the Commission*  
*Ylva JOHANSSON*  
*Member of the Commission*



<sup>9</sup> OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 21.

<sup>10</sup> Council Decision 2011/350/EU of 7 March 2011 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol between the European Union, the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein on the accession of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*, relating to the abolition of checks at internal borders and movement of persons (OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 19).





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ANNEX

**ANNEX**

*to the*

**Commission Implementing Decision**

**amending Implementing Decision C(2015) 6940 final, as regards the list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in India**

## ANNEX

### “Annex II

#### List of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants in India

##### I. Documents to be submitted by all applicants:

1. Proof of intended means of transport and itinerary.
2. Proof of accommodation:
  - Hotel reservations, rental of holiday home or campus residence reservation.
  - If the applicant intends to stay with a family member or a friend, proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation from the host
  - If the applicant is travelling to several Member States, proof of accommodation in each of them.
3. Proof of financial means
  - Original private bank statement showing movements in the last three months, duly stamped and signed by the bank;
  - Indian income tax return acknowledgment for the last two assessment years;

In addition

- a) *If the applicant is employed:*
    - Pay slips for the last three months;
    - employment contract;
    - employers’ statement on approval for holidays.
  - b) *If the applicant is a company owner or self-employed:*
    - certificate of registration of the company, including its goods and services tax (GST) registration number for companies based in India.
  - c) *If the applicant is sponsored:*
    - proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation by means of the national form of the Member State concerned , if applicable (cf. the website of the Member State of destination)
  - d) *If the applicant is retired:*
    - pension statements for the last three months and/or
    - proof of regular income generated by ownership of property or business.
4. Minors:
    - If the minor is travelling with only one parent, written consent certified by public

notary of the other parent or guardian, except in cases of a parent having sole custody or guardianship of the minor, in which case a court order or other proof of sole custody or guardianship must be provided;

- If the minor travels alone (without parents), written consent, certified by public notary, of both parents or guardians having custody or guardianship of the minor;
- copy of identification document(s) (with signature and photograph) of the parent(s)/guardians having custody/guardianship of the applicant.

5. Students

- certificates of the establishment at which the applicant is enrolled.

## **II. Documents to be submitted depending on the travel purpose**

1. Business trip:

- invitation from the inviting company or organisation;
- cover letter from the applicant's employer.

Both letters must confirm, as a minimum:

- a) the applicant's identity;
- b) the purpose of the journey (meetings, conferences, training or business related events);
- c) the period and place of intended stay.

2. Journeys undertaken for the purpose of study, research, or other types of internship:

- certificate of admission or registration at an educational establishment for the purpose of attending academic or vocational courses, or cover letter from the inviting company.

3. Journeys undertaken for the purpose of tourism:

- certificate of the travel agency confirming the booking of an organised trip or any other appropriate document indicating the travel plans.

4. Journeys undertaken for the purpose of visiting family/friends:

- Invitation from the family member/friend, including their address and contact details, and intended period of stay.
- Evidence of legal residence of family/friends visited: copy of passport/national ID card, or residence permit as applicable.

5. Journeys undertaken to attend cultural, sports or religious events and for film crews:

- Invitation, entry tickets, enrolments or programs.
- For film crews:
  - a) letter from the film company specifying title, synopsis and shooting locations of film;



- b) complete list of names of travelling crew members along with their roles;
  - c) letter from the agency in the Schengen State confirming arrangements for film permits;
  - d) certificate of registration with the Indian Motion Pictures Producers Association or Film Chamber of Commerce.
6. Journeys of members of official delegations:
- copy of the official invitation:
  - *Note verbale* issued by the sending authority(ies) concerned confirming:
    - a) the identity of the applicant;
    - b) the purpose of the journey (meetings, consultations, negotiations or events held by intergovernmental organisations);
    - c) the period and place(s) of intended stay.
7. Journeys undertaken for the purpose of medical treatment
- certificate from a medical doctor or a medical institution confirming the need for specific medical treatment to be received in the Member State of destination;
  - official document from the receiving medical institution confirming that the specific medical treatment can be performed and patient be accepted accordingly;
  - proof of pre-payment of the treatment.
8. Seafarers:
- a) Employment contract/appointment letter (showing duration of employment)
  - b) Seaman's book
  - c) Invitation from the shipping company/ maritime agency of the Member State where the seafarer will join the boat. The invitation must be signed and bear the stamp of the company/agency and include the following data:
    - name and family name of the seafarer;
    - place and date of birth, passport number, seafarer's book number;
    - date of issue, period of validity of passport and the seafarer's book;
    - the seafarer's position on the vessel (if there are several seafarers, their information can be included in a list, signed and stamped, and annexed to the invitation letter);
    - name and flag of the boat;
    - port and date of boarding and disembarking;
    - itinerary that the seafarer will follow to arrive in the Member State of destination/ transit (including date and entry point (airport) to the Schengen area);
    - name and address of the Indian agency it is collaborating with and will be responsible for submitting the visa applications.
    - The shipping company/maritime agency based in the Member State is also required to indicate that it will bear all responsibility for the seafarer upon his/her arrival in the Member State (including in the event of repatriation) and ensure that he or she boards the ship.

- Flight reservation (if applicable)
9. Airport transit
- Visa or other entry permit for the third country of destination.
  - Documents in relation to the onward journey to the final destination after the intended airport transit.”