



Brussels, 28.7.2021
C(2021) 5457 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 28.7.2021

amending Annex III to Implementing Decision C(2014) 6146, as regards the list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in the Philippines

(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)¹, and in particular Article 14(5a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 lays down procedures and conditions for the issuing of visas for intended stays on the territory of Member States that do not exceed 90 days in any 180-day period.
- (2) In order to ensure a harmonised application of the common visa policy taking into account local circumstances, Article 48(1a), point (a), of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 provides that harmonised lists of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants should be drawn up within local Schengen cooperation in each jurisdiction.
- (3) Annex III to Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 6146² sets out the list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in the Philippines.
- (4) Following a renewed assessment taking local circumstances into account, the local Schengen cooperation has confirmed that the harmonised list of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants in the Philippines needs to be revised. That list should be restructured for the sake of clarity. The revision should also take account of the experience gained from applying the previous list by specifying the documents to be submitted by certain categories of travellers, for example minors, and for certain travel purposes, for example private visits. Documents that have become obsolete should no longer be included in that list.
- (5) With regard to applicants that are known to consulates for their integrity and reliability, it should be possible for those consulates to waive the requirement of Article 14(1) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009, in accordance with Article 14(6) of that Regulation. It should also be possible, in justified cases, for consulates to request

¹ OJ L 243, 15.9.2009 p. 1.

² Commission Implementing Decision of 3 September 2014 establishing the list of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants in Cape Verde, Kenya and the Philippines (C(2014) 6146).

additional documents during an examination of an application, in accordance with Article 21(8) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009.

- (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 Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC³; Ireland is therefore not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
- (8) 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 those State's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*⁴, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Council Decision 1999/437/EC⁵.
- (9) 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*⁶, 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/EC⁷.
- (10) 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 development of the Schengen *acquis*⁸, which fall within the area referred to in Article

³ 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).

⁴ OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 36.

⁵ 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).

⁶ OJ L 53, 27.2.2008, p. 52.

⁷ 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).

⁸ OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 21.

1, point B of Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2011/350/EU⁹.

- (11) 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.
- (12) Implementing Decision C(2014) 6146 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (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 III to Implementing Decision C(2014) 6146 final is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision

⁹ 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).

Article 2

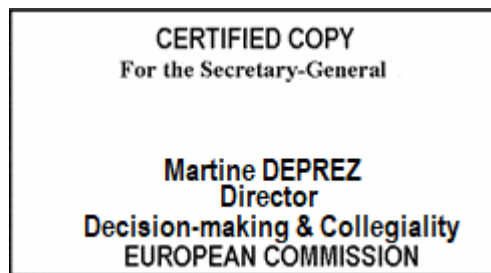
This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Estonia, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of Spain, the French Republic, the Republic of Croatia, the Italian Republic, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic 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, 28.7.2021

For the Commission

Ylva JOHANSSON

Member of the Commission





Brussels, 28.7.2021
C(2021) 5457 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Implementing Decision

**amending Annex III to Implementing Decision C(2014) 6146, as regards the list of
supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in the
Philippines**

ANNEX
‘ANNEX III

List of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in the Philippines

I. General requirements for all visa applicants¹

1. Proof of the applicant’s financial means
 - a) Bank certification, bank books, personal bank statements showing regular income, credit card statements or balance covering the last six months.
 - b) For minors: Proof of parents’ or legal guardian’s economic means (cf. the above).
2. Proof of travel arrangements
 - Copy of the travel itinerary.
3. Proof of ties in the Philippines
 - a) Proof of social security contributions, if relevant.
 - b) Copy of real estate property – title-deed, if relevant.
 - c) Proof of family ties in the Philippines (e.g. birth certificate of children or marriage certificate). These certificates should be issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
4. Proof of occupation
 - a) If employed:
 - Certificate of employment.
 - Certificate of leave absence.
 - Latest Income Tax Return.
 - b) If self-employed:
 - Proof of company registration issued by the Department of Trade Industry (DTI)/Securities Exchange Commission SEC registration of business.
 - Latest Income Tax Return.
 - Business Financial Statement.
 - c) If pupil or student:
 - Proof of enrolment.
 - Certificate of leave absence if travelling during school year.
5. If travelling with spouse and/or children
 - a) Marriage contract certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
 - b) Birth certificates of children certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
6. Proof of accommodation

¹ For seafarers: see part III.

- Proof of accommodation: confirmation of hotel booking, hotel voucher or letter of promise of accommodation by the host.
7. For non-Philippine applicants
- Copy of Alien Certificate Registration (ACR) valid at least three months beyond the date of departure from the territory of the Member States.
8. Minors
- If travelling alone or with only one parent: written consent of the non-travelling parent/legal guardian or proof of sole custody of the travelling parent or legal guardian.
 - If the name of the father does not appear in the PSA issued birth certificate, no consent is required.
 - Copy of bio data page of parent(s) or legal guardian's passport.
 - Birth certificate certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
 - If travelling alone: Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) clearance.

II. Documents to be submitted depending on the purpose of travel

1. Tourism

- Detailed day-to-day itinerary of the planned trip.

2. Family or friends visit

- a) Proof of sponsorship and/or proof of accommodation.
- b) Proof of relationship, such as birth certificate, marriage certificate or photocopy of the biodata page of the sponsor's passport.

3. Travelling for the purpose of business, cultural or sports event or an official visit

a) Certificate from the employer:

- letter of the Philippine company introducing the businessperson, purpose and duration of the visit(s), financial cover of the visit, short company profile, etc.

b) Invitation from the inviting company or organisation:

- the letter should contain the following information:
 - relevant personal data of the invited person,
 - the invited person's function,
 - length of the visit,
 - purpose of the visit and activity to be undertaken during the stay;
 - who is to cover the cost of the stay; and
 - name and position of the counter signing person.

c) Proof of recent business contacts:

- Proof of continued business relation between the two companies (e.g. contracts, invoices), if relevant.
4. Participants in commercial fair, congress, cultural or sports events:
- A personalised letter containing the relevant personal data of the invited person and his/her function and the name, contact details and position of the counter signing person as well as the length and purpose of the visit or activity.
5. 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.

III. Seafarers

- a) Employment contract
- b) Photocopy of the working contracts of the seafarer in order to board the ship (P.O.E.A. contract)
- c) Seaman's book, if relevant
- d) Invitation letter from the maritime agency of the Member State where the sailor will join the vessel. The signed invitation must carry the agency's seal and include the following data:
 - The seafarer's full name.
 - Place and date of birth, passport number, seaman's book number (if relevant), including the date of issue and period of validity.
 - Date of issue and period of validity of the invitation.
 - The seafarer's position on the vessel (for a group of seafarers this information may be included in a signed list carrying the agency's seal and attached to the invitation letter).
 - Date and airport of entry in the territory of the Member States
 - Name of the vessel.
 - Port of boarding.
 - Duration of the contract.
 - Itinerary that the seafarer will follow to arrive in the Member State of destination.
 - The name and address of the Philippine agency that will submit the visa application and, upon the seafarer's arrival, be in charge of transporting him to the vessel.
- e) If a Philippine maritime agency submits the visa application, a letter of invitation of the Philippine agency that in addition to the entries under d) includes the list of the seafarer(s), and carries the stamp or seal of the local Philippine port authority.'