

AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

ON

EXEMPTION FROM VISA REQUIREMENTS

FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC**

hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",
desiring to intensify their bilateral relations,
considering their interest in strengthening their existing friendly
relations and with a view to facilitating travel by nationals of the one
Party, holders of valid diplomatic passports, to the territory of the
other Party,
have agreed as follows:

Article 1

(1) Indian nationals holding valid Indian diplomatic passports, who are not appointed to the diplomatic mission or consular posts of the Republic of India in the Hellenic Republic or who are not representatives of the Republic of India to international organizations having their seat in the territory of the Hellenic Republic, shall be exempt from the visa requirement to enter, transit through, stay in and leave the territory of the Hellenic Republic for up to ninety (90) days (in one or several periods) within six (6) months, beginning on the day of first entry into the Schengen area.

(2) Greek nationals holding valid Greek diplomatic passports, who are not appointed to the diplomatic mission or consular posts of the Hellenic Republic in the Republic of India, or who are not representatives of the Hellenic Republic to international organizations having their seat in the territory of the Republic of India, shall be exempt from the visa requirement to enter, transit through, stay in and leave the territory of the Republic of India for up to ninety (90) days (in one or several periods) within six (6) months, beginning on the day of arrival.

(3) The exercise of paid activities, for which a work permit is required under the national legislation of the Parties, is not permitted.

Article 2

(1) This Agreement does not exempt nationals of either Party, holders of valid diplomatic passports who are appointed to the diplomatic mission or consular posts of that Party to the territory of the other Party or are representatives of that Party to international organizations having their seat in the territory of the other Party from

the requirement to obtain a visa for accreditation by the receiving State prior to their arrival.

(2) This Agreement does not exempt the family members of the persons mentioned in paragraph 1, who form part of their household, holders of valid diplomatic passports, from the requirement to obtain a visa by the receiving State prior to their arrival.

(3) The receiving State shall issue the visas mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 in accordance with its national legislation.

Article 3

The individuals mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 of this Agreement may enter or leave the territory of the State of the other Party at all border crossing points open to international passenger traffic.

Article 4

This Agreement shall not affect the obligation of the individuals referred to in Articles 1 and 2 above to respect the laws of the receiving State.

Article 5

This Agreement shall not affect the right of the competent authorities of either Party to refuse entry or prohibit the stay to those persons declared undesirable or who fail to meet the conditions in force for entry and residence in the territory of their States.

Article 6

(1) Either Party may suspend, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Agreement for reasons of national security, public policy or public health.

(2) The other Party shall be notified in writing about the suspension of the implementation of this Agreement through diplomatic channels, no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the entry into effect of such measure.

(3) The suspension of the implementation of this Agreement shall not affect the rights of the nationals of either Party mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 of this Agreement already present in the territory of the State of the other Party.

(4) The Party that has suspended the implementation of the Agreement shall notify the other Party in writing through diplomatic channels about the revocation of the suspension of the implementation of the

Agreement, no later than seventy-two (72) hours prior to entry into effect of such measure.

Article 7

(1) The Parties shall exchange specimens of their diplomatic passports through diplomatic channels within thirty (30) days after the receipt of the last written notification by which a Party informs the other, through diplomatic channels, about the completion of its relevant internal procedures, in accordance with Article 10.

(2) If a Party modifies its existing diplomatic passports or introduces new diplomatic passports, it shall provide the other Party, without delay, through diplomatic channels, with specimens of these documents. The Parties shall apply the standards for machine-readable travel documents recommended by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

(3) The Parties shall notify each other without delay of any changes in the national legislation regarding the issuance of diplomatic passports.

(4) In the case of loss, theft or invalidation of a diplomatic passport, the Parties shall notify each other without delay, through diplomatic channels.

Article 8

This Agreement may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties. Any amendments shall enter into force in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 10 for the entry into force of the Agreement.

Article 9

Any difference regarding the interpretation or the application of this Agreement shall be settled between the parties through diplomatic channels.

Article 10

This Agreement shall enter into force, thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of the last written notification by which a Party informs the other, through diplomatic channels, about the completion of its relevant internal procedures. It shall remain in force until terminated by either Party upon a three-month prior written notice to the other Party.

Done in Athens, on 1st Day of February 2013, in duplicate in the Hindi, Greek and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of

The Republic of India

For the Government of

The Hellenic Republic



Mrs. Preneet Kaur
Minister of State
for External Affairs



Dimitris Kourkoulas
Deputy Minister
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs