

Exchange of Notes at Tokyo October 8, 1998  
Entered into force December 7, 1998

**Exchange of Notes  
between  
the Government of the Republic of Korea and  
the Government of Japan  
concerning the Mutual Abolition of Visas  
on Diplomatic and Official Passports**

**(Japanese Proposing Note)**

Tokyo, October 8, 1998

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the recent consultation held between the representatives of the Government of Japan and of the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning waiver of visa requirements. I have further the honour to propose on behalf of the Government of Japan the following arrangements:

1. (1) Nationals of Japan or of the Republic of Korea holding valid diplomatic or official passports issued by the competent authorities of the country of which they are nationals and seeking entry into the other country for the purpose of exercising diplomatic or consular functions or other official duties of their Government may enter the other country without obtaining visas irrespective of the duration of stay in such other country.
- (2) Family members forming part of the households of such nationals as described in sub-paragraph (1) who are nationals of the same country, holding valid diplomatic or official passports issued by the competent authorities of the country of which they are nationals and seeking entry into the other country may also enter such other country without obtaining visas irrespective of the duration of stay in such other country.
2. Nationals of Japan or of the Republic of Korea holding valid diplomatic or official passports issued by the competent authorities of the country of which they are nationals may enter the other country without obtaining visas, if they seek entry into such other country for the purpose other than those referred to in paragraph 1 and with the intention of staying in such other country for a period not exceeding ninety consecutive days.
3. The waiver of visa requirements under paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 shall not apply to nationals of Japan or of the Republic of Korea who are seeking entry into the other country with the intention of seeking employment or of exercising a profession or other occupation (including public entertainment and sport for remunerative purposes).
4. The waiver of visa requirements under paragraphs 1 and 2 above does not exempt

the nationals of Japan or of the Republic of Korea entering the other country from the laws and regulations of such other country concerning entry, stay, residence, exit and other control over aliens.

5. Either Government reserves the right to temporarily suspend the application of all or any part of the foregoing measures for reasons of public policy including those relating to public security, order and health. Any suspension or the lifting of the suspension shall be notified immediately to the other Government through the diplomatic channel.

6. Either Government reserves the right to refuse entry into or stay in its territory to the nationals of the other country whom it considers undesirable.

7. The present arrangements shall be implemented in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in each country.

8. Either Government may terminate the present arrangements by giving thirty days' written notice to the other Government.

I have further the honour to propose that this Note and Your Excellency's Note in reply confirming the foregoing arrangements on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea shall be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments, which shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the date of Your Excellency's Note in reply.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Minister for Foreign Affairs of  
Japan

His Excellency  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
of the Republic of Korea

**(Korean Reply Note)**

Tokyo, October 8, 1998

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency 's Note of today 's date which reads as follows:

"..... Japanese Note ....."

I have further the honour to inform Your Excellency, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea, that the arrangements set forth in Your Excellency 's Note are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Korea and to confirm that Your Excellency 's Note and this Note shall be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments, which shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the date of this Note.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Hong Soon-young  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of  
the Republic of Korea

His Excellency  
Masahiko Koumura  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan