

The new immigration procedures for children under 18s who are traveling to/from South Africa		
Date 12 October 2014	Reference Number 201410121	Effective Date 01 June 2015

Further to Bulletin No. 201409141 dated 14 September 2014 regarding the immigration law procedures of the Republic of South Africa for children under 18 years, it has been decided to postpone their application to be provisioned starting from 01 June 2015 instead of the previously announced date of 01 October 2014.

Based on the instructions issued by the South African government to amend the immigration system regarding the travel of children under 18 years to / from South Africa, whom were allowed to travel with their parents or guardians without a birth certificate with complete information.

Starting from 01 June 2015 travelers TO/FROM South Africa accompanied by children under 18 years must carry a birth certificate with complete information for their children in order to ensure their safety and protection of child trafficking and hijacking.

The New procedures as below:

- ❖ **A child (under the age of 18) is traveling with his/her both parents; should produce:**
 - Unabridged birth certificate of the child reflecting the full information of both parents in arrival and departure through The Republic of South Africa.
- ❖ **A child (under the age of 18) is traveling with one of his/her parents; should produce:**
 - Unabridged birth certificate for the child reflecting the full information of the parents in arrival and departure through The Republic.
 - Consent, in the form of an affidavit from the other parent registered as a parent on the birth certificate of the child, authorizing him or her to enter into or depart from The Republic with the child he or she is travelling with.
 - A court order granting full parental responsibilities and rights or legal guardianship in respect of the child, if he or she is the parent or legal guardian of the child.
 - Where applicable, a death certificate of the other parent registered as a parent of the child on the birth certificate.
- ❖ **A passenger is travelling with a child (under the age of 18) who is not his/her biological child, he or she should produce :**
 - A copy of the unabridged birth certificate of the child reflecting the full information of both parents in arrival and departure through The Republic.
 - An affidavit from the parents or legal guardian of the child confirming that he or she has permission to travel with the child.
 - Copies of the identity documents or passports of the parents or legal guardian of the child.

- The contact details of the parents or legal guardian of the child.
- ❖ **A child is traveling as unaccompanied minor, should produce:**
 - Proof of consent from one or both of his or her parents or legal guardian in the form of a letter or affidavit for the child to travel into or depart from The Republic.
 - A letter from the person who is to receive the child in The Republic, containing his or her residential address and contact details where the child will be residing.
 - A copy of the identity document or valid passport and visa or permanent residence permit of the person who is to receive the child in The Republic.
 - The contact details of the parents or legal guardian of the child.

Notes:

- Travellers to South Africa must be in possession of a passport with two unused pages required for endorsements.
- Passports must be readable by passports reader devices at airport.
- Copies of documents should be certified by a Commissioner of Oaths or any delegated authority.

Therefore, all Travel Service Providers are requested to inform passengers who are traveling with children under 18s to The Republic to South Africa, to obtain a fully unabridged birth certificate, to avoid legal accountability and/or penalties.

For more information on the new regulation through The Embassy of the Republic of South Africa, the document can be downloaded through this link

http://www.dha.gov.za/images/final_Immigration_Regulations_2014_1.pdf

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