COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 6.8.2012

establishing the list of supporting documents to be presented by visa applicants in Chile, Kazakhstan (Almaty and Astana), Nicaragua and Nigeria (Abuja and Lagos)

(Only the Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, 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 48 (1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 lays down the Union rules for the issuing of visas for transit through or intended stays in the territory of Member States not exceeding three months in any six-month period.

(2) According to Regulation (EC) No 810/2009, visa applicants are required to present documents indicating among other things the purpose of their journey and the fact that they fulfil the entry conditions as set out in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing the Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code)². In order to ensure harmonised application of the common visa policy, Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 makes it necessary to complete and harmonise the lists of supporting documents to be assessed within local Schengen cooperation in each jurisdiction in order to take account of local circumstances.

(3) The local Schengen cooperation in Chile, Kazakhstan (Almaty and Astana), Nicaragua and Nigeria (Abuja and Lagos) have confirmed the need to harmonise the list of supporting documents and have accordingly drawn up lists.

(4) In individual cases it should still be possible for consulates to waive the requirement to submit one or more of the listed supporting documents in the case of an applicant known to them for their integrity and reliability in accordance with Article 14 (6) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 or, in justified cases, to request additional documents,

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

(5) Given that Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 builds upon the Schengen acquis, in accordance with Article 5 of the Protocol 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 the European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark notified the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 in its national law. It is therefore bound under international law to implement this Decision.

(6) 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 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. The United Kingdom is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application. This Decision should therefore not be addressed to the United Kingdom.

(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/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland’s request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis. Ireland is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application. This Decision should therefore not be addressed to Ireland.

(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 the association of those two States with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Council Decision 1999/437/EC of 17 May 1999 on certain arrangements for the application of that Agreement.

(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, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Council Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2008/146/EC.

(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

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3 OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43.
5 OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 36.
8 OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 31.
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\textsuperscript{10}, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B of Council Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2011/350/EU\textsuperscript{11}.

(11) As regards Cyprus, this Decision constitutes an act building upon, or otherwise related to, the Schengen acquis within the meaning of Article 3(2) of the 2003 Act of Accession.

(12) As regards Bulgaria and Romania, this Decision constitutes an act building upon, or otherwise related to, the Schengen acquis within the meaning of Article 4(2) of the 2005 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:

\textit{Article 1}

The list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in

a) Chile shall be as set out in Annex I;

b) Kazakhstan (Almaty and Astana) shall be as set out in Annex II;

c) Nicaragua shall be as set out in Annex III;

d) Nigeria (Abuja and Lagos) shall be as set out in Annex IV.

\textsuperscript{10} OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 21.
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 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, 6.8.2012

For the Commission
Cecilia MALMSTRÖM
Member of the Commission

CERTIFIED COPY
For the Secretary - General

.Jordi AYET PUICARNAU
Director of the Registry
ANNEX I

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

A. Supporting documents to be submitted by all applicants

(1) Residence permit

Applicants who are residents in Chile: a Chilean residence permit, valid for at least three months after the intended date of departure from the territory of the Member States.

(2) Travel reservation

Travel reservation to enter and leave the territory of the Member States.

(3) Other requirements

Proof of financial resources in Chile and proof of integration in the country (for example, proof of employment, ownership of real estate or family ties).

(4) Additional requirements for minors (under 18 years of age)

The consent of a parent or legal guardian is required only if the minor is going to travel alone or with only one of the parents. Exceptions will, of course, be made if the minor is going to travel with the person who has exclusive parental authority. 12

B. Additional supporting documents depending on purpose of journey

I. AIRPORT TRANSIT

Permission to enter the final destination

Proof of legal permission (visa, if necessary) to enter the country of final destination.

II. TOURISM

(1) Accommodation: copy of a hotel reservation or proof of other accommodation for the whole period of the stay in the country concerned.

(2) Travel schedule: Itinerary issued by travel agency, if applicable.

(3) Means of subsistence

– Bank statements for the last 3 to 6 months.
– Proof of payment for package holiday, if applicable.
– Proof of sufficient funds to cover expenses of stay (credit card valid abroad and amount available; travellers' cheques; access to current account from abroad, etc.).

12 Applicants are invited to consult the relevant Chilean legislation on travel by minors outside Chile.
The requisite amounts required by individual Member States are available via the links indicated\textsuperscript{13}.

III. VISIT TO RELATIVES/FRIENDS

(1) Invitation from relative or friend in the Member State of destination:

Official invitation document from a relative or a friend approved by the competent local authorities of the Member State of destination. Please check the specific national administrative formalities of the Member State of destination:

(a) If the person inviting the applicant pays for the applicant's stay in the territory of the Member States: an original certificate of sponsorship and accommodation validated by the local authorities in the Member State of destination:

– Austria: Elektronische Verpflichtungserklärung
– Belgium: Engagement de prise en charge (annexe 3bis)/Verbintenis tot tenlasteneming (bijlage 3bis)
– Czech Republic: Pozvani
– Switzerland and Liechtenstein: Verpflichtungserklärung/Déclaration de prise en charge/Dichiarazione di garanzia
– Germany: Verpflichtungserklärung
– Denmark: VU1 or VU2
– Greece: Ypeuthini dilosi/Υπεύθυνη δήλωση του Ν.1599/1986
– Spain: Carta de invitación
– France: Attestation d’accueil
– Hungary: Meghívólevél
– Italy: Lettera d'Invito
– Luxembourg: Engagement de prise en charge
– Malta: Declaration of proof
– The Netherlands: Bewijs van garantstelling en/of particuliere logiesverstrekking
– Norway: Garantiskjema for besøk
– Poland: Zaproszenie
– Portugal: Termo de responsabilidade

\textsuperscript{13} http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/doc_centre/borders/docs/notifications/handbook-annex_25.pdf
– **Sweden**: Inbjudan number 240011 and extract from the Swedish Population Register identifying the sponsor (personbevis), with copy of sponsor’s passport/ID card or residence permit, proof of employment with salary slips for the last three months, and bank statements for the last three months.

– **Slovenia** Garantno Pismo

(b) If the person issuing the invitation does not pay for the applicant's stay, a free format letter of invitation, or the specific form of invitation from the following Member States:

– **Belgium**: Engagement de prise en charge (annexe 3bis)/Verbintenis tot tenlasteneming (bijlage 3bis)

– **Denmark**: VU1 o VU2

– **Greece**: Ypeuthini dilosi/Υπεύθυνη δήλωση του Ν.1599/1986

– **Spain**: Carta de invitación

– **France**: Attestation d’accueil

– **Italy**: Lettera d'Invito

– **Luxembourg**: Engagement de prise en charge

– **Norway**: Garantiskjema for besøk

– **The Netherlands**: Bewijs van garantstelling en/of particuliere logiesverstrekking

– **Portugal**: Termo de responsabilidade

– **Sweden**: Inbjudan number 240011 and extract from the Swedish Population Register identifying the sponsor (personbevis)

(2) **Means of subsistence**

– Bank statements for the last 3 to 6 months.

– Proof of sufficient funds to cover expenses of stay (credit card valid abroad and amount available; travellers' cheques; access to current account from abroad; official document from relative/friend mentioning availability of means to cover applicant's expenses, etc.). The requisite amounts required by individual Member States are available via the links indicated\(^{14}\).

(3) **Accommodation**

If the applicant does not stay with the person issuing the invitation, a copy of a hotel reservation or proof of other accommodation for the whole period of the stay in the Member State of destination.

IV. BUSINESS TRIP

(1) Accommodation

Copy of a hotel reservation or proof of other accommodation for the whole period of the stay in the Member State of destination.

(2) Company document

Official document from the local company or institution and/or the company or institution in the country of destination, stamped and signed.

(3) Means of subsistence

Document or letter from organiser if organiser pays the travel and subsistence costs.

V. TRIP FOR CULTURAL, SPORTS, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, EDUCATIONAL OR RESEARCH PURPOSE

(1) Accommodation

Copy of a hotel reservation or proof of other accommodation for the whole period of the stay in the Member State of destination.

(2) Official invitation from organiser

Official document or letter of invitation from organiser of cultural, sports, vocational training, educational or research event, or letter of acceptance from university or institution in the Member State of destination, stamped and signed.

(3) Means of subsistence

Document or letter from organiser if organiser pays the travel and subsistence costs.
ANNEX II

List of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in
Kazakhstan (Almaty and Astana)

A. General requirements for all applicants

(1) Proof of sufficient means of subsistence:

(a) proof of employment with salary slips, if appropriate;

(b) bank statement for the last three months, traveller cheques, or sponsorship document.

(1) Proof of accommodation in the Member State concerned (if not invited or
covered by the host).

(2) Information enabling an assessment of the applicant’s intention to leave the
territory of the Member States before expiry of the visa applied for (e.g. the
return flight or train ticket reservation, proof of property, a work contract,
proof of family ties in Kazakhstan).

(3) Non Kazakh nationals: proof of residence in Kazakhstan

Valid residence permit

B. Additional documents to be submitted relating to the purpose of the journey

(1) Work-related travel

(1) Members of official delegations

– Copy of the official invitation from the Member State of destination or an
international organization.

Holders of diplomatic and service passports: Verbal Note from the Kazakh MFA
Holders of ordinary passports: Verbal Note or order of mission from the relevant
ministry or authority

(2) Business persons

– Invitation from a firm or authority to attend meetings, conferences or events
connected with trade, industry or work indicating the purpose and duration of stay
and whether the travel expenses and/or accommodation are covered by the inviting
entity. Invitation or guarantee according to the national legislation of the Member
State that processes the application.

– Letter from the employer or employment contract.

– For business owners and independent businesspersons: document proving the official
registration of the company's business activities. An invitation letter from the
company concerned which has been validated by the competent local authorities, if
required by the national legislation of the Member State.
The following Member States' consulates require that a specific form be used for the invitations: Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, France, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia. Please refer to the website of the Member State concerned for further information.

(2) Family or friends visit

(1) Close relatives (father, mother or child) of residents in a Member State
– Invitation issued by the Member State's competent authority, if required by the national legislation of the Member State, and copy of the ID card of the host
– Proof of the legal residence of the host (if he or she not a citizen of the Member State of residence)
– Proof of family tie (birth certificate)

The following Member States' consulates require that a specific form be used for invitations: Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia. Please refer to the websites of the Member State concerned for further information.

(2) Other private visitors

Invitation letter:
– An invitation letter signed by hosting family or friends, if required by the national legislation of the Member State.

The following Member States' consulates require that a specific form be used for invitations: Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia. Please refer to the websites of the Member State concerned for further information.

– Proof of the legal residence of the host (if not citizen of the Member State of residence)
– Proof related to the purpose of the journey: document related to accommodation

(3) Tourism

Documents relating to accommodation and itinerary (such as hotel reservations, confirmation of the booking of an organised trip or any other appropriate document indicating the envisaged travel plans)

(4) Study or training, events or other activities

Participants in scientific, cultural and artistic activities, sports or religious events; study and training:
– Invitation to participate, entry tickets, enrolments or programmes stating the name of the host organisation in the Member State and the length of stay or any other appropriate document indicating the purpose of the journey.
(5) Medical treatment
   – Medical report from a local doctor or hospital where applicable.
   – Proof of sufficient financial means to pay for the treatment
   – Confirmation from the hospital in the Member State that an appointment has been
     made and indicating the duration and estimated costs of the treatment, as well as a
     guarantee that all costs of the envisaged medical treatment will be covered.

(6) Transit

Visa or other entry permit for the country of final destination, tickets for the onward journey.

(7) Minors

(a) birth certificate.

(b) the consent of the parental authority or legal guardian should be required only if the
    minor travels alone or only with one parent. This does not apply if the travelling
    parent is a single parent or holds sole parental authority.
ANNEX III

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

Supporting documents to be submitted by all applicants

(1) Document proving legal residence in Nicaragua (residence card or proof of applying for it or other evidence of legal stay in Nicaragua). This document must be valid three months beyond the intended date of departure from the territory of the Member States.

(2) Documents explaining the purpose of the journey/stay in the Schengen area (explained in detail below depending on the purpose of the journey/stay).

(3) Documents proving that the applicant possesses sufficient means of subsistence, both for the duration of the intended stay and for the return to his country of origin or residence or for transit to a third country, such as:

– salary slips;
– recent personal bank statement or balance over last three months;
– credit cards and credit cards statements;
– travellers' cheques signed by the applicant;
– regular income generated by ownership of property;
– proof of sponsorship.

The amount of sufficient means required by individual Member States depends on national legislation. It is advisable to contact the Consulate in question to get precise information before presenting an application.

(4) Documents proving the applicant's willingness to leave the territory of the Member States such as:

– proof of employment;
– school attendance certificate for dependent children of the applicant;
– ownership of house/flat or other real estate;
– marriage certificate (if just one of the couple is travelling).

(5) Reservation of return ticket or itinerary of organised tour by tour-operator or proof of sufficient means to pay for transport to and from the territory of the Member States.

(6) Minors travelling alone or with one parent must present:
(a) letter of consent from both parents/legal guardian(s);
(b) copy of the birth certificate of the minor;
(c) ID card/passport of both parents/legal guardian(s).

The requirements under points a) and c) do not apply if the travelling parent is a single parent or holds sole parental authority.

I. Documents to be submitted depending on the purpose of stay

(1) Tourism
   – Evidence of accommodation in the Member State(s). For example, a confirmed reservation at a hotel or an invitation or an offer of accommodation by a private person.

(2) Family or friends' visit

The following Member States require national forms for giving proof of sponsorship and/or accommodation for visits to family members or friends to be presented:

– Austria
– Italy (http://www.esteri.it/visti/pdf/host_declaration.pdf)

(3) Business

(a) Invitation by a company or organisation from the Member State(s) with which commercial or other links exist or are to be established, or agenda of meetings confirmed by counterparts in Member State(s). The following Member States require national forms giving proof of sponsorship and/or accommodation for business visitors to be presented:
   – Austria
   – Italy (cf. http://www.esteri.it/visti/pdf/invito_l.pdf)

(b) Evidence of the existence of commercial, contractual or professional relations in the Member State of destination.

(c) Documents from the country of origin or country of legal residence proving the commercial, professional or financial status of the applicant (certificates from the Chamber of Commerce, commercial or professional licences etc.).
(4) Medical treatment

(1) Documentation:

(a) Medical certificate from the country of origin or from Nicaragua indicating the illness of the patient (applicant).

(b) Declaration by the medical entity (hospital, sanatorium, etc.) in the Member State confirming that it received the patient and indicating the kind of treatment, costs, the initiating date and the estimated duration of the stay.

(c) Documents from the medical entity in the Member State confirming the deposit of at least 30% of estimated medical treatment costs and proof of sufficient means to pay for the entire treatment.

(2) Evidence of possession of sufficient means for the duration of medical treatment and stay (accommodation, per diem, repatriation of the patient as well as of the accompanying person).

(5) Studies

(1) Evidence of subscription to or enrolment in a learning course at an educational institution in the Member State.

(2) Evidence of having obtained a scholarship for studies at an educational institution in the Member State. If the scholarship is not enough to cover the expenditures related to the stay in the country, the applicant should provide additional evidence proving his/her possession of sufficient means.

(3) Declaration of having at his/her disposal adequate accommodation and sufficient means in case of repatriation (return ticket).
ANNEX IV

List of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for short stay visas in
Nigeria (Abuja and Lagos)

(1) Documents to be provided by ALL VISA APPLICANTS:

(1) Copy of flight ticket or flight reservation including return flight.

(2) Verifiable evidence of sufficient means of subsistence during intended stay such as:
   – salary slips;
   – recent personal bank statement or balance over last three months;
   – regular income generated by property.

(3) Proof of accommodation for the whole duration of the intended stay; hotel reservations, rental of holiday home, campus residence reservation or proof of private accommodation (invitation) from the host.

(4) Additionally, for non-Nigerian nationals residing in Nigeria:
   – copy of the Nigerian residence permit.

(5) Minors travelling alone or with one parent must present:
   – letter of consent from both parents/legal guardian(s);
   – copy of the birth certificate of the minor;
   – ID card/passport of both parents/legal guardian(s).

(2) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling for the purpose of TOURISM:

(1) Proof of employment:
   – Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC) and Certificate of Business Incorporation paper for businesspersons;
   – Employment letter stating the days of leave for employees;
   – For scholars (professors, scholarship-holders, lecturers, instructors, etc.) and students, letter from school or university;

(2) Proof of commercial activities in Nigeria and overseas for businesspersons e.g. bills of lading, receipt book, etc.

(3) Any proof of ties in Nigeria (marriage certificate, proof of real estate property).

(3) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling for FAMILY VISIT:
(1) Proof of relationship between visa applicant and person to be visited (birth certificate, marriage certificate, correspondence, photos, etc.);

(2) Formal written and signed invitation or sponsorship document from the host in accordance with respective internal laws.

The following Member States require the inviting host/sponsor to fill in a specific form to be validated by the authorities in the Member State of destination: Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Germany, [Denmark (represented by Sweden)], France, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Slovakia.

(4) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling for BUSINESS:

(1) Invitation letter from the company based in the Member State of destination. The letter should contain relevant personal data on the invited person, purpose of the visit and duration of stay.

(2) TCC (Tax Clearance Certificate) and Certificate of Business Incorporation (certificate of registration of a company or business).

(3) Proof of commercial activities in Nigeria and recent business contacts, ongoing commercial relationship with the company that invites the person (contracts, bills, commercial correspondence, etc.).

(4) In the case of participation in conferences, fairs, seminars, congresses, etc.:
   – An invitation from a company or an authorised body to attend events connected with trade, industry or work;
   – Proof of registration and entry tickets for events, if applicable;
   – Other documents proving the existence of trade or work relations.

(5) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling for MEDICAL TREATMENT:

(1) Certificate from the applicant's physician or a hospital in Nigeria, verified – if necessary – by another independent medical body, confirming the need for specific medical treatment to be provided in the country of destination.

(2) An official document of the receiving medical institution in the Member State confirming that it can perform the specific medical treatment and the patient will be accepted accordingly.

(3) Proof of pre-payment of the treatment or other proof of sufficient financial means to cover the medical treatment and related expenses, such as additional insurance coverage.

(4) Any other correspondence between the sending and receiving sides, if available.

(6) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling for RESEARCH or TRAINING:
(1) Certificate of enrolment at an educational establishment for the purpose of studying, undertaking scientific or practical trainings (including vocational training) or other activities that could help enhance the professional and intellectual skills of the applicant.

(2) Student cards or certificates in respect of the courses to be attended.

(3) Proof of pre-payment of courses or training activities, if applicable.

(7) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling on an OFFICIAL MISSION or OFFICIAL PURPOSES:

A verbal note issued by the Nigerian Ministry for Foreign Affairs confirming that the applicant is a member of an official delegation or on an official mission to a Member State.

Invitation letter or confirmation of registration from the host organisation.

(8) Documents to be provided by applicants travelling for SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, CULTURAL, SPORTS OR RELIGIOUS EVENTS OR OTHER REASONS:

– Copy of the official invitation.

– Invitation, entry tickets, enrolments or programmes stating (wherever possible) the name of the host organisation, the length of stay or other documents proving the purpose of the journey.