**Agreement**

**between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Visa Exemption for Holders of Service Passports**

The Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, hereinafter referred to as “the Contracting Parties”,

Desiring to further strengthen the friendly relations between the two states,

On a reciprocal basis, by facilitating the travel of the nationals of the States of the Contracting Parties, who are holders of service passports,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

The nationals of the State of each Contracting Party, holders of valid service passports, may enter, transit, or stay without a visa in the territory of the State of the other Contracting Party, for a period not exceeding 90 (ninety) days within any 180 days (one hundred and eighty days).

Holders of valid service passports of the State of either Contracting Party, who are planning to stay in the territory of the State of the other Contracting Party for a period longer than that stated in this Agreement, when entering the country an entry visa and while being in the country a document attesting the residence shall be obtained in compliance with national laws and regulations.

**Article 2**

This Agreement does not exempt holders of valid service passports of the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Azerbaijan assigned to diplomatic or consular mission from the visa obligation.

The above mentioned persons after accreditation may enter, depart from and stay in the territory of the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Azerbaijan without a visa during the term of their assignment in accordance with national laws and regulations.

Same rules shall apply to the family members of the persons mentioned in the paragraph 1 of this Article, provided that they hold valid service passports.

**Article 3**

The nationals of the States of the Contracting Parties, holders of valid service passports, referred to in this Agreement, may enter into and depart from the territory of the State of the other Contracting Party at any border crossing point opened for international passengers’ traffic.

**Article 4**

The duration of service passports of nationals of the State of either Contracting Party shall be valid for at least 3 (three) months after the intended date of departure from the territory of the State of the other Contracting Party.

**Article 5**

This Agreement does not exempt nationals of the State of each Contracting Party from the obligation to comply with the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party concerning foreigners’ entry into, departure from the state, as well as temporary and permanent residence, engagement in employment in the state.

The Contracting Parties reserve the right to refuse the entry to or shorten the stay of persons considered undesirable or likely to endanger the public order, the public health or the national security.

**Article 6**

The Contracting Parties shall exchange through diplomatic channels samples of their respective service passports as soon as possible but not later than 30 (thirty) days after the date of signing of this Agreement.

In the event of the introduction of new service passports, or the replacement of the existing ones, the Contracting Parties shall exchange such specimens, through diplomatic channels, 30 (thirty) days prior to the introduction.

The Contracting Parties shall duly inform each other about any modification of their respective national laws and regulations related to passport issuance.

**Article 7**

Each Contracting Party may temporarily suspend the implementation of this Agreement either in whole or in part, for the reasons of protection of public order, public health or national security.

The suspension shall take effect thirty (30) days after the notification thereof has been sent to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels. The Contracting Party that has suspended the application of this Agreement shall immediately inform the other Contracting Party once the reasons for the suspension no longer exist.

**Article 8**

Any disagreement arising out of the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties.

**Article 9**

Any additions and amendments may be made to this Agreement by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties. Such additions and amendments shall be made in a form of separate Protocols being an integral part of this Agreement and shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of this Agreement.

**Article 10**

This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the receipt of the last written notification through diplomatic channels by which the Contracting Parties notify each other that the internal legal procedures necessary for its entry into force have been fulfilled.

Each Contracting Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other Contracting Party, through diplomatic channels. This Agreement shall cease to be in force 30 (thirty) days from the receipt of such notice by the other Contracting Party.

Done at on 20\_\_, in duplicate, in Latvian, Azerbaijani and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergences in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For the Government of the For the Government of the**

**Republic of Latvia Republic of Azerbaijan**

20.12.2016. 10:24

883

K.Auziņš

Konsulāri tiesisko jautājumu nodaļas pirmais sekretārs

67016141, kaspars.auzins@mfa.gov.lv