

# TRACTATENBLAD

VAN HET

KONINKRIJK DER NEDERLANDEN

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JAARGANG 1952 No. 36

Overgelegd aan de Staten-Generaal door de Minister  
van Buitenlandse Zaken

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A. TITEL

*Overeenkomst inzake de afgifte van een reisdocument aan  
vluchtelingen die ressorteren onder het Intergouverne-  
mentele Comité voor Vluchtelingen, met Bijlage;  
Londen, 15 October 1946*

B. TEKST

**Agreement relating to the issue of a travel document to refugees  
who are the concern of the Intergovernmental Committee  
on Refugees**

The Contracting Governments,

Having examined a Resolution adopted by the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees at its Plenary Session on 17th August, 1944, relating to the establishment of an identity and travel document for refugees who are the concern of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees,

Having regard to the international measures previously taken in the matter of travel documents for certain categories of refugees,

Convinced of the necessity of taking similar measures on behalf of the refugees referred to in the above-mentioned Resolution, with a view, in particular, to facilitating the movement of these refugees,

Considering that the making of arrangements for the emigration of refugees who cannot be absorbed in the countries in which they have taken refuge is an essential part of the work undertaken for the benefit of the said refugees,

Have agreed as follows:

#### Article 1

1. Subject to the further provisions laid down in Articles 2 and 16, a travel document, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3, shall be issued by the Contracting Governments to refugees who are the concern of the Intergovernmental Committee, provided that the said refugees are stateless or do not in fact enjoy the protection of any Government, that they are staying lawfully in the territory of the Contracting Government concerned, and that they are not benefiting by the provisions regarding the issue of a travel document contained in the Arrangements of 5th July, 1922, 31st May, 1924, 12th May, 1926, 30th June, 1928, 30th July, 1935, or the Convention of 28th October, 1933.

2. The said document will be issued to refugees who apply for it for the purpose of travel outside their country of residence.

#### Article 2

As a transitional measure, the document referred to in Article 1 may, at the discretion of the Government concerned, be issued to refugees who, while fulfilling the other conditions laid down by the present Agreement, are not staying lawfully in the territory of the Contracting Government concerned on the date of the coming into force of the present Agreement, provided that they report themselves to the authorities within a period to be prescribed by the Government concerned and which shall not be less than three months.

#### Article 3

1. The travel document referred to in the present Agreement shall be similar to the attached specimen (see Annex).

2. It shall be made out in at least two languages—French, and the national language or languages of the authority which issues the document.

#### Article 4

Subject to the regulations obtaining in the country of issue, children may be included in the travel document of an adult refugee.

#### Article 5

The fees charged for issue of the travel document shall not exceed the lowest scale of charges for national passports.

#### Article 6

Save in special or exceptional cases, the documents shall be made valid for the largest possible number of countries.

## Article 7

The document shall have a validity of either one or two years, at the discretion of the issuing authority.

## Article 8

1. The renewal or extension of the validity of the document is a matter for the authority which issued it, so long as the holder resides lawfully in the territory of the said authority. The issue of a new document is, under the same conditions, a matter for the authority which issued the former document.

2. Diplomatic or consular authorities, specially authorised for the purpose, shall be empowered to extend, for a period not exceeding six months, the validity of travel documents issued by their Governments.

## Article 9

Each Contracting Government shall recognise the validity of the documents issued in accordance with the provisions of the present Agreement.

## Article 10

The competent authorities of the country to which the refugee desires to proceed shall, if they are prepared to admit him, affix a visa on the document of which he is the holder.

## Article 11

The authorities of the territories to which the present Agreement applies undertake to issue transit visas to refugees who have obtained visas for the territory of final destination.

## Article 12

The fees for the issue of exit, entry or transit visas shall not exceed the lowest scale of charges for visas on foreign passports.

## Article 13

When a refugee has lawfully taken up residence in another territory to which the present Agreement applies, the power to issue a new travel document will be transferred to the competent authority of that territory, to which the refugee shall be entitled to apply.

## Article 14

The authority issuing a new document shall withdraw the old document.

## Article 15

1. The travel document shall entitle the holder to leave the country where it has been issued and, during the period of validity

of the said document, to return thereto without a visa from the authorities of that country, subject only to those laws and regulations which apply to the bearers of duly visaed passports.

2. The Contracting Governments reserve the right, in exceptional cases, when issuing the document, to limit the period during which the refugee may return, the said period being not less than three months.

#### Article 16

1. Subject only to the terms of Article 15, the present provisions in no way affect the laws and regulations governing the conditions of admission to, transit through, residence and establishment in, and departure from, the territories to which the present Agreement applies.

2. Nor do they affect the special provisions concerning persons coming under the present Agreement in the territories to which it applies.

#### Article 17

Neither the issue of the document nor the entries made thereon determine or affect the status of the holder, particularly as regards nationality.

#### Article 18

The issue of the document does not in any way entitle the holder to the protection of the diplomatic or consular authorities of the country of issue, and does not confer on these authorities a right of protection.

#### Article 19

Travel documents issued before the entry into force of the present Agreement to persons benefiting by the provisions of Articles 1 and 2 shall remain valid until they have expired.

#### Article 20

In the event of the transfer to any other international organisation of the functions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, all the provisions in the Agreement relating to the Intergovernmental Committee shall be deemed to apply to the said organisation.

#### Article 21

The present Agreement, of which the English and French texts are both authentic, shall bear to-day's date and shall remain open for signature, in London, by the Governments Members of the Intergovernmental Committee, and also by non-member Governments.

#### Article 22

The Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is designated as the authority to give notice of each

signature and the date thereof to all Governments Members of the Intergovernmental Committee and to any non-member Governments whose signature has been appended.

#### Article 23

1. The present Agreement shall come into force ninety days after it has been signed on behalf of six Governments.

2. In respect of each of the Governments on whose behalf a signature is subsequently deposited, the present Agreement shall come into force ninety days after the date of such deposit.

#### Article 24

1. The present Agreement may be denounced by any one of the Contracting Governments after the expiry of a period of one year as from the date on which it came into force, by written notification addressed to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who shall inform all Governments referred to in Article 22 of each notification, specifying the date of its receipt.

2. The denunciation shall come into effect six months after the date of the receipt of the notification by the Government of the United Kingdom.

#### Article 25

1. Any Contracting Government may at any time after the coming into force of this Agreement in accordance with Article 23, declare in writing to the Government of the United Kingdom that the Agreement applies to all or any of its colonies, overseas territories, protectorates and territories under mandate or trusteeship, and the Agreement shall apply to the territory or territories named in the declaration from the date thereof.

2. The participation of any territory to which the Agreement has been applied under the preceding paragraph may be terminated by a notification in writing addressed to the Government of the United Kingdom, and the Agreement shall cease to apply to the territory or territories named in the notification six months after the date of the receipt thereof.

3. The Government of the United Kingdom shall inform the Governments referred to in Article 22 of all declarations received under paragraph 1 of this Article and all notification received under paragraph 2, and of the date on which such declarations or notifications take effect.

In faith whereof the undersigned have affixed, in the name of their respective Governments, their signatures to the present Agreement.

Done in London, the fifteenth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, in French and English, in a single copy,

which shall remain deposited in the archives of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and certified true copies of which shall be transmitted to all Governments referred to in Article 22.

Argentina:

FELIPE A. ESPIL

This signature is *ad referendum*

Australia:

Belgium:

A. HERMENT

Brazil:

MONIZ DE ARAGÃO

(*Ad referendum*)

Chile:

MANUEL BIANCHI

Dominican Republic:

A. PASTORIZA

Ecuador:

HOMERO VITERI LAFRONTÉ

(*Ad referendum*)

France:

M. BAUDOUY

Greece:

EMANUEL MANGLIS

India:

S. RUNGANADHAN

Luxembourg:

A. J. CLASEN

Netherlands:

J. F. BOER

Sweden:

J. SETTERWALL

Switzerland:

O. SCHÜRCH

A. FISCHLI

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

C. D. CAREW ROBINSON

Venezuela:

A. RODRÍGUEZ AZPÚRUA

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**ANNEX**

**SPECIMEN TRAVEL DOCUMENT**

The document will be in booklet form (approximately 15 cm. × 10 cm.).

It is recommended that it be so printed that any erasure or alteration by chemical or other means can be readily detected, and that the words "Agreement of 15th October, 1946" be printed in continuous repetition on each page, in the language of the issuing country.

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(Cover of booklet)



**TRAVEL DOCUMENT**  
(Agreement of 15th October, 1946)

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(1)

## TRAVEL DOCUMENT

(Agreement of 15th October, 1946)

This document expires on ..... unless its validity is extended or renewed.

Name .....

Forename(s) .....

Accompanied by ..... child (children).

1. The holder of this document is the concern of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees.

2. This document is issued solely with a view to providing the holder with a travel document which can serve in lieu of a national passport. It is without prejudice to and in no way affects the holder's nationality.

3. The holder is authorised to return to .....  
(State here the country whose authorities are issuing the document) on or before ..... unless some later date is hereafter specified. (The period during which the holder is allowed to return must not be less than three months.)

4. Should the holder take up residence in a country other than that which issued the present document, he must, if he wishes to travel again, apply to the competent authorities of his country of residence for a new document.

(This document contains 32 pages, exclusive of cover)

(2)

Place and date of birth .....

Occupation .....

Present residence .....

\*Maiden name and forename(s) of wife .....

\*Name and forename(s) of husband .....

## DESCRIPTION

Height .....

Hair .....

Colour of eyes .....

Nose .....

Shape of face .....

Complexion .....

Special peculiarities .....





(5)

EXTENSION OR RENEWAL OF VALIDITY

Fee paid: From .....

To .....

Done at ..... Date .....

Signature and stamp of authority  
extending or renewing the valid-  
ity of the document:

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EXTENSION OR RENEWAL OF VALIDITY

Fee paid: From .....

To .....

Done at ..... Date .....

Signature and stamp of authority  
extending or renewing the valid-  
ity of the document:

(This document contains 32 pages, exclusive of cover)

(6)

EXTENSION OR RENEWAL OF VALIDITY

Fee paid: From .....

To .....

Done at ..... Date .....

Signature and stamp of authority  
extending or renewing the valid-  
ity of the document:

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EXTENSION OR RENEWAL OF VALIDITY

Fee paid: From .....

To .....

Done at ..... Date .....

Signature and stamp of authority  
extending or renewing the valid-  
ity of the document:

(This document contains 32 pages, exclusive of cover)

(7-32)

VISAS

The name of the holder of the document must be repeated  
in each visa

(This document contains 32 pages, exclusive of cover)

De Overeenkomst is voorts, in overeenstemming met artikel 21, ondertekend door de volgende Staten:

Italië .....	1 October 1947
China .....	23 Februari 1948
Unie van Zuid-Afrika .....	8 Maart 1948
Noorwegen .....	6 Juli 1949
Liberia .....	16 Augustus 1950
Denemarken .....	30 November 1950
Bondsrepubliek Duitsland <sup>1)</sup> .....	21 Maart 1951

<sup>1)</sup> Mede voor de westelijke sectoren van Berlijn.

#### G. INWERKINGTREDING

De Overeenkomst is ingevolge artikel 23, eerste lid, in werking getreden op 13 Januari 1947 voor de Staten, waaronder Nederland (Rijk in Europa), die haar op 15 October 1946 zonder voorbehoud „ad referendum” ondertekend hadden; voor de Staten die haar nadien ondertekenden, ingevolge artikel 23, lid 2, negentig dagen na de ondertekening; en voor de gebieden waarop de Overeenkomst toepasselijk is verklaard, ingevolge artikel 25, lid 1, op de dag der toepasselijkverklaring.

#### H. TOEPASSELIJKVERKLARING

Overeenkomstig artikel 25 is de Overeenkomst door Groot-Britannië en Noord-Ierland toepasselijk verklaard op de volgende gebieden:

Bahama-eilanden .....	28 Februari 1948
Bermuda .....	28 Februari 1948
Brits Guyana .....	28 Februari 1948
Brits Honduras .....	28 Februari 1948
Gambia .....	28 Februari 1948
Kenya .....	28 Februari 1948
Nyasaland .....	28 Februari 1948
Serawak .....	28 Februari 1948
Seychellen .....	28 Februari 1948
Tanganyika .....	28 Februari 1948
Trinidad .....	28 Februari 1948
Uganda .....	28 Februari 1948
Zuid-Rhodesië .....	6 October 1948
Noord-Rhodesië .....	19 Juli 1950
St. Vincent .....	23 Mei 1951

## J. GEGEVENS

I. De volgende Staten hebben aan de Regering van Groot-Britannië en Noord-Ierland medegedeeld dat zij reisdocumenten, op grond van de Overeenkomst afgegeven, erkennen:

Australië, Canada, Ierland, Nieuw-Zeeland, Guatemala, Honduras (alleen voor doorreis), Haiti, Liechtenstein, Ceylon, Portugal (onder voorbehoud dat de erkenning te allen tijde, na voorafgaande kennisgeving, mag worden opgeschort) en Libanon.

De bedoelde reisdocumenten worden tevens erkend in de volgende gebieden:

Britse Benedenwindse Eilanden, Falkland-eilanden, Fidji, Maleise Federatie, St. Helena, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, West-Pacific Eilanden, Zanzibar, Barbados (alleen voor doorreis), Gibraltar (alleen voor doorreis), Malta (alleen voor doorreis) en Singapore.

De Overeenkomst zal, op grond van artikel 37 van het op 28 Juli 1951 te Genève voor ondertekening opengestelde Verdrag betreffende de status van vluchtelingen (*Tractatenblad* 1951 No. 131), door dat Verdrag vervangen worden voor wat de Staten betreft die daarbij Partij zijn. Ingevolge artikel 28, lid 2, van het Verdrag blijven de reisdocumenten, op grond van de Overeenkomst afgegeven, echter erkend. Het Verdrag is nog niet in werking getreden.

In overeenstemming met artikel 102 van het Handvest der Verenigde Naties is de Overeenkomst op 26 November 1947 geregistreerd bij het Secretariaat van de Verenigde Naties onder No. 150. De Engelse en de Franse tekst van de Overeenkomst zijn afgedrukt in „*Recueil des Traités*” der Verenigde Naties, deel 11, blz. 73.

II. Het Intergouvernementele Comité voor Vluchtelingen, waaronder de in de Overeenkomst bedoelde vluchtelingen ressorteerden, is opgericht op een te Evian van 5 tot 15 Juli 1938 gehouden conferentie. Het heeft, in overeenstemming met artikel 20 van de Overeenkomst, op 1 Juli 1947 zijn taken overgedragen aan de Internationale Vluchtelingen Organisatie (*Staatsblad* No. I 499), die op haar beurt een aantal van haar taken aan de Hoge Commissaris voor Vluchtelingen heeft overgedragen, en die thans in liquidatie is. Zie uitgave No. 22 (April 1950, blz. 171 e.v.) en uitgave No. 25 (April 1951, blz. 180 e.v.) van het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken.

De Regeling van Genève van 5 Juli 1922 betreffende de uitreiking van identiteitscertificaten aan Russische vluchtelingen, naar welke Regeling in artikel 1 van de Overeenkomst wordt verwezen, is afgedrukt in „*Recueil des Traités*” van de Volkenbond, deel XIII, blz. 237. Op 1 December 1922 is Nederland tot deze Regeling toegetreden.

De Regeling van Genève van 31 Mei 1924 betreffende de uitreiking van identiteitscertificaten aan Armeense vluchtelingen, naar welke Regeling in artikel 1 van de Overeenkomst wordt verwezen,

is afgedrukt in het Volkenbonds Document C.L. 72 (a) 1924 (zie ook Hudson, „International Legislation”, deel 2, blz. 1288). Nederland is bij deze Regeling geen partij.

De Regeling van Genève van 12 Mei 1926 betreffende de uitreiking van identiteitscertificaten aan Russische en Armeense vluchtelingen, aanvullende en wijzigende de Regelingen van 5 Juli 1922 en van 31 Mei 1924, naar welke Regeling in artikel 1 van de Overeenkomst wordt verwezen, is afgedrukt in „Recueil des Traités” van de Volkenbond, deel LXXXIX, blz. 247. Nederland is bij deze Regeling geen partij.

De Regeling van Genève van 30 Juni 1928 betreffende de uitbreiding tot andere categorieën vluchtelingen van bepaalde maatregelen ten gunste van Russische en Armeense vluchtelingen genomen, naar welke Regeling in artikel 1 van de Overeenkomst wordt verwezen, is afgedrukt in „Recueil des Traités” van de Volkenbond, deel LXXXIX, blz. 63. Nederland is bij deze Regeling geen partij.

Het Plan van Genève van 30 Juli 1935 voor de uitreiking van identiteitscertificaten aan vluchtelingen uit het Saargebied, naar welk Plan in artikel 1 van de Overeenkomst wordt verwezen, is afgedrukt in de „Official Journal” van de Volkenbond, December 1935, blz. 1681 (zie ook Hudson „International Legislation”, deel 7, blz. 161). Nederland is bij dit Plan geen partij.

De Overeenkomst van Genève van 28 October 1933 betreffende de internationale status van vluchtelingen, naar welke Overeenkomst in artikel 1 van de onderhavige Overeenkomst wordt verwezen, is afgedrukt in „Recueil des Traités” van de Volkenbond, deel CLIX, blz. 199. Nederland is bij deze Overeenkomst geen partij.

Uitgegeven de *elfde* Maart 1952.

*De Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken,*  
STIKKER.