



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Consular Department
Foreigner's Visa Section**

Number: 291

Date: 14 Apr 2015

**Guidelines for Expedited Issuance and Extension of Visas for US and
NATO Contractors and their Employees**

Basis

Article Number 1:

These guidelines are implemented pursuant to the Presidential Decree Number 38 dated 10/10/1393 of the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan concerning the implementation of the Bilateral Security Agreement and NATO Status of Forces Agreement.

Purpose

Article Number 2:

These guidelines are issued in accordance with the Presidential Decree Number 38 to establish expedited issuance of one-year multiple entry visas for the United States and NATO contractors and their employees who travel to Afghanistan and are to be implemented by all Afghan Embassies and Consulates worldwide.

Definitions

Article Number 3:

“NATO Contractors” means persons and legal entities who are supplying goods and services in Afghanistan to or on behalf of NATO Forces under a contract or subcontract with or in support of NATO, NATO Members States or Operational Partners.

“United States contractors” means persons and legal entities who are supplying goods and services in Afghanistan to or on behalf of the United States forces under a contract or subcontract with or in support of United States forces.

Procedures

Article Number 4:

Directorate of Consular Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Afghan Embassies and Consulates overseas are required to act based on these guidelines in the issuance of one year multiple-entry visas with a specific visa fee for NATO and United States contractors and their employees.

Article Number 5:

Pursuant to the Presidential Decree Number 38, the contractors may submit group applications for visas to the concerned authorities.

Article Number 6:

Contractors shall provide an official letter from a senior representative of the contractor which provides a list of the contractor’s employees who are applying for visas with their first name, surname, citizenship and passport number, as well as the name of the representative who will drop off and pick up the passports. Then, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will forward the information to the related Political representations and Consular Offices.

The contractors or designated representative submits the following documents to the embassies or consular Offices:

- Original passport with at least six months validity,
- Visa application form,
- One 4x5 photo
- Appropriate fee for a one-year multiple entry visa and \$200 visa fee for first-time visa applicants.

This list constitutes all contents of a complete visa application. Applicants may submit their visa application in person or through the designated representatives of company.

Article Number 7:

Consular Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs overseas are bound by the Bilateral Security Agreement and NATO Status of Forces Agreement to provide one-year multiple

entries visa and renewals of such visas with a specific revenue fee to NATO and United States contractors and their employees through their political representations and consular Offices overseas.

Article Number 8:

Based on Presidential Decree 38, the United States and NATO contractors and their employees are not required to obtain a work permit from the Government entities to perform jobs in Afghanistan.

Article Number 9:

Afghan Political representations and Consulate Offices overseas are responsible to implement this decree. According to the decree, they are responsible to collect the visa fee from the contractors and their employees and an additional \$200 one-time fee from the applicants who apply for an Afghan visa for the first time. The applicant will get the cash receipt for the paid fee.

Article Number 10:

The United States and NATO Contractors and Contractor employees are exempt from any legal prosecutions and payment of fines due to not having Afghan visa until 1 June 2015.

End