



7th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

4-8 December 2018, Durban, South Africa

“Beyond 2020: Shaping flyway conservation for the future”

VISA INFORMATION SHEET

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Participants are responsible for making their own arrangements for obtaining their entry visa for South Africa. Requirements for entry into South Africa differ from country to country and are subject to change. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat strongly recommends that you enquire with the nearest South African mission or consulate whether or not you need to apply for a visa.

More information is available at: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/apply-for-a-south-african-visa>

Countries exempt from visas: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries>

List of South African missions abroad: http://www.dirco.gov.za/foreign/sa_abroad/index.htm

For nationals of countries requiring visas, application of the visa must be made **well in advance of your departure and one month in advance at the very latest**. Visas are *not* issued on arrival.

To support participants' visa applications the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will provide an **official visa support letter from the Government of South Africa**, as well as a **note verbale from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat** to all participants, who request a visa letter in their online registration form. Please notify the organizers (christina.irven@unep-aewa.org) if there is anything else you require, or if you have any questions regarding the procedure.

Please note that a **yellow fever certificate** is required for your visa application if the journey starts or passes through the [yellow fever belt of Africa](#).

The following documents are required for visa applications to South Africa (requirements might vary therefore please verify with your nearest South African mission or consulate):

- A passport or travel document valid for no less than 30 days after the expiry of your intended visit. Whilst technically a minimum validity of 30 days is sufficient, some immigration officials still request that a passport should have at least 6 months validity on the date of entry to South Africa. To avoid problems at the airport on arrival we recommend you meet this requirement.

Your passport must have at least one unused page for entry / departure endorsements;

- A completed [Form BI-84](#) (application for a visa);
- Payment of the prescribed fee;
- A yellow-fever vaccination certificate (if required);
- Statement and/or documentation confirming the purpose and duration of your visit (visa support letter and note verbale will also confirm this);
- Two colour passport photographs;
- A return or onward ticket if you are travelling by air;

- Proof of financial means to pay for your living expenses while in South Africa in the form of bank statements, salary advances, undertakings by the host(s) in South Africa, bursary, medical cover or cash available (including credit cards and travellers' cheques).

Please note: In the case of delegates being sponsored by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, this will be confirmed in the visa support letter and note verbale.

If you have not already applied for your visa, please do so as soon as possible, and at the very latest one month before your departure, at your nearest South African Embassy / High Commission, as visa processing times can be long.

Please ensure that you have sufficient travel and health insurance coverage for your journey to/from and your stay in South Africa.