2004 No. 1304

IMMIGRATION

The Immigration (Passenger Transit Visa) (Amendment) Order 2004

Made - - - - 11th May 2004

Laid before Parliament 12th May 2004

Coming into force - - 13th May 2004

In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 41 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999(a) hereby makes the following Order:

- **1.** This Order may be cited as the Immigration (Passenger Transit Visa) (Amendment) Order 2004 and shall come into force on 13th May 2004.
 - 2.—(1) The Immigration (Passenger Transit Visa) Order 2003(b) shall be amended as follows.
 - (2) In article 3A (Exemption from the requirement for a transit passenger to hold a transit visa):
 - (a) in paragraph (1) (a), after "via the United Kingdom", there shall be inserted "as part of a journey";
 - (b) for paragraph (1) (b), there shall be substituted:
 - "(b) a valid airline ticket for travel via the United Kingdom as part of a journey from Canada or the United States of America to another country or territory, provided that the transit passenger does not seek to travel via the United Kingdom on a date more than six months from the date on which he last entered Canada or the United States of America with a valid visa for entry to that country or territory;";
 - (c) after paragraph (1)(h), there shall be inserted:
 - "(i) a diplomatic or official passport issued by Vietnam."; and
 - (d) paragraph (2) is hereby revoked.
 - (3) In Schedule 1:
 - (a) after "Ivory Coast", there shall be inserted "Kenya"; and
 - (b) after "Sudan", there shall be inserted "Tanzania".

Home Office 11th May 2004 Des Browne Minister of State

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order amends the Immigration (Passenger Transit Visa) Order 2003 ("the 2003 Order"). The 2003 Order requires, subject to certain exemptions, a transit passenger (as defined) to obtain a transit visa when passing through the United Kingdom from one country or territory on his way to another country or territory.

The amendment made by article 2(2)(a) amends article 3A(1)(a) to clarify that a passenger who intends to travel from another country or territory via the United Kingdom as part of a journey to Canada or the United States and who holds the documents set out in that article is exempted from the need for a transit visa.

Article 2(2)(b) substitutes a new paragraph (b) in article 3A of the 2003 Order. This new paragraph provides that a transit passenger who holds, or has held on his behalf, a valid airline ticket for travel via the United Kingdom as part of a journey from Canada or the United States of America to another country will not require a transit visa, provided that he does not seek to travel via the United Kingdom on a date more than six months from the date on which he last entered Canada or the United States of America with a valid visa for entry to that country. As a result, the definition of "valid visa" which appeared in article 3A(2) of the 2003 Order is revoked by article 2(2)(d).

Article 2(2)(c) inserts a new exemption from the need to hold a transit visa which applies to those holders of a diplomatic or official passport issued by Vietnam.

Article 2(3) adds Kenya and Tanzania to the countries listed in Schedule 1 to the 2003 Order as being countries or territories whose nationals or citizens do not need a transit visa.

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