

**ANNEX 9-B**  
MOVEMENT OF NATURAL PERSONS SUPPLYING SERVICES

ARTICLE 1: SCOPE

1. This Annex shall apply to measures by a Party affecting the movement of natural persons who are service suppliers of the other Party, and natural persons of the other Party who are employed by a service supplier of the other Party, in respect of the supply of a service, as provided for in the Party's schedule of specific commitments.
2. The Agreement shall not apply to measures affecting natural persons seeking access to the employment market of a Party, nor shall it apply to measures regarding citizenship, residence or employment on a permanent basis.
3. Natural persons covered by a specific commitment shall be allowed to supply the service in accordance with the terms of that commitment.
4. This Agreement shall not prevent a Party from applying measures to regulate the entry of natural persons into, or their temporary stay in, its territory, including those measures necessary to protect the integrity of, and to ensure the orderly movement of natural persons across, its borders, provided that such measures are not applied in such a manner as to nullify or impair the benefits accruing to any Party under the terms of a specific commitment.<sup>1</sup>

ARTICLE 2: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

This Annex reflects the preferential trading relationship between the Parties, the common objective to facilitate entry and temporary stay of highly skilled natural persons on a mutually advantageous basis in accordance with the Parties' schedules of specific commitments, and the need of establishing transparent, secure, effective and comprehensive information regarding entry, temporary stay and work.

ARTICLE 3: PROVISION OF INFORMATION

1. Each Party shall make publicly available information necessary for an effective application for the grant of entry, temporary stay and work in its territory of natural persons covered by this Annex. Such information shall be kept updated.
2. No later than twelve (12) months after the date of entry into force of this

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<sup>1</sup> The sole fact of requiring a visa for natural persons shall not be regarded as nullifying or impairing benefits under a specific commitment.

Agreement, each Party shall prepare, publish or otherwise make available, explanatory material<sup>2</sup> in English regarding the requirements for entry and temporary stay of categories of natural persons, as set out in the schedule of specific commitments of each Party, in such a manner as will enable interested persons of the other Party to become acquainted with them.

3. Information referred to in paragraph 1 shall include in particular descriptions of:
  - (a) all categories of visas and work permits relevant to the entry, temporary stay and work of natural persons covered by this Annex;
  - (b) requirements and procedures for application for, and issuance of, firsttime entry, temporary stay and, where applicable, work permits, including information on documentation required, conditions to be met and method of filing; and
  - (c) requirements and procedures for application for, and issuance of, renewed temporary stay and, where applicable, work permits.
4. Each Party shall provide the other Party with details of relevant publications or web-sites where information referred to in paragraph 3 is made available.

#### ARTICLE 4: CONTACT POINTS

1. Each Party shall establish Contact Points to facilitate the implementation and provide the information relating to this Annex, when reasonably requested by the Contact Point of the other Party.
2. The contact points referred to in paragraph 1 are:
  - (a) For the Republic of Panama:

*National Directorate for International Trade Agreement Administration and Commercial Defense of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries (Dirección Nacional de Adiministración de Tratados y Defensa Comercial del Ministerio de Comercio e Industrias);*
  - (b) for the State of Israel:

*Ministry of Economy, Foreign Trade Administration*

or their respective successors.

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<sup>2</sup> For greater certainty, the material is informational in content and is not intended to replace applicable laws.

#### ARTICLE 5: PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

1. The competent authorities of each Party shall promptly process, taking into account the migration measures, necessary procedures and the relevant circumstances, applications for granting entry and temporary stay submitted by service suppliers of the other Party, in accordance with its schedule of specific commitments, including applications for extension thereof.
2. Where the competent authorities of a Party require additional information from the applicant in order to process his or her application, they shall notify the applicant, or his or her legal representative in the territory of the Party providing the notification, without undue delay.
3. Upon request of the applicant, the competent authorities of a Party shall provide, without undue delay, information concerning the status of his or her application.
4. The competent authorities of each Party shall promptly notify the applicant for entry and temporary stay of the outcome of his or her application, after a decision has been made. The notification shall include the approved period of stay and any other terms and conditions.

#### ARTICLE 6: TRANSPARENCY

Each Party shall establish or maintain appropriate mechanisms to respond to inquiries from interested persons regarding applications and procedures relating to the temporary entry of natural persons in accordance with the Party's schedule of specific commitments.