

TOURIST AGENCIES – CALL FOR ACCREDITATION

All interested tourist agencies and tour operators are invited to file a request for the accreditation from 15 January 2014 – 15 March 2014, because otherwise they will not be able to file tourist group visa applications.

ACCREDITATION OF ORGANIZERS OF GROUP TOURIST TOURS

Foreign travel agencies accredited with a DM/CP (Diplomatic Mission/Consular Post) may act as intermediaries in the lodging of applications and obtaining visas for aliens exclusively for the purpose of tourist visits.

1. ACCREDITATION PROCEDURE

1.1. A foreign travel agency seeking accreditation with a DM/CP shall address exclusively the competent DM/CP, from 15 January to 15 March of the year for which the accreditation is required.

1.2. A foreign travel agency shall submit the following to the DM/CP:

- (a) a request for accreditation with the DM/CP,**
- (b) a license for operating in the area of tourist activities (appropriate certified photocopy, translated into the Croatian or English language),**
- (c) a contract with an appropriate legal entity in the Republic of Croatia, containing elements pertaining to accommodation capacities (private or hotel accommodation),**
- (d) a contract with an airline company or another carrier dealing with transport of tourists,**
- (e) a contract with an insurance company on group or individual travel insurance for tourists,**
- (f) a framework assessment of the number of tourists,**
- (g) a power of attorney for the authorized travel agency representative(s) who will lodge visa applications and pick them up at the DM/CP, a photocopy of their passports and identification cards, and one color photograph, 35x45 mm.**

1.3. The Croatian legal person with whom the agency has concluded a contract shall submit an excerpt from the court register (not older than six months) or a certified photocopy of the commercial court's decision.

1.4. On the basis of available documents and data indicating the (lack of) credibility of the agency (collected within the framework of local consular co-operation with representatives

of DM/CPs of the EEA Member States in the receiving country), the DM/CP shall submit the ministry competent for foreign affairs an elaborated proposal on establishing co-operation with the foreign travel agency.

1.5. The ministry competent for foreign affairs shall decide, within a period of 15 days, whether the concerned travel agency should be granted accreditation or not. In the course of the decision-making process, the Croatian legal person referred to before may be requested to submit additional documents.

1.6. On the basis of the decision of the ministry competent for foreign affairs, the DM/CP shall notify the foreign agency of the granting/refusal of accreditation.

1.7. The accreditation shall be valid until March 15 next year. Should a new request for accreditation be filed for the next year the accreditation from previous year shall be valid until the decision regarding the new request has been reached.

2. Obligations of foreign travel agencies

2.1. Foreign travel agencies shall immediately notify the DM/CP of any change of facts on the basis of which the accreditation was issued, and especially as regards:

- (a) Cancellation of the contract with a Croatian legal person,
- (b) Concluding of a new contract with another Croatian legal person,
- (c) Change of authorized representatives, etc.

Without this accreditation touristic agencies and tour operators will not be able to file tourist group visa applications.