Users’ Office News

• Introduction of the VIS system for Swiss Visas
• Work on the Grey Book
• User Statistics

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Head of Users Office
Introduction of the VIS Information System for Swiss VISA

- Biometry is being introduced for the request procedure for Swiss VISAS for Schengen
- Requires personal presence at the respective Swiss embassy when requesting a VISA
- The biometric data remain valid for 5 years
Introduction of the Visa Information System (VIS)

On 11 October 2011 the Schengen member states introduced the Visa Information System (VIS). The VIS is used to store the biometric data (fingerprints and the facial image) of visa applicants.

Therefore, all Swiss diplomatic representations connected to the VIS capture the biometric data of persons applying for a Schengen visa. The Swiss diplomatic representations will be gradually connected to the system region by region according to the following timetable (as far as known):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of connection</th>
<th>Swiss diplomatic representations concerned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 October 2011</td>
<td>Cairo, Tunis, Algiers, Rabat, Tripoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 May 2012</td>
<td>Amman, Beirut, Tel Aviv Ramallah (Camposax currently closed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 October 2012</td>
<td>Riyadh, Jeddah, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, Tunis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March 2013</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Abidjan, Kinshasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 June 2012</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Antananarivo, Harare, Zimbabwe, Nairkuri, Pretoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 September 2013</td>
<td>South America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 November 2013</td>
<td>CIS-Central Asia, Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An information leaflet Visa Information System (VIS) is available in different languages regarding the introduction of the VIS and the capturing of biometric data can be found below.

Information leaflet Visa Information System (VIS):
- English (999 Kb, pdf)
- German (844 Kb, pdf)
- French (576 Kb, pdf)
- Arabic (2923 Kb, pdf)
- Spanish (833 Kb, pdf)
Grey Book – historical data

Verification, correction and completion of data of early experiments thanks to a collaboration between

the former editor of the Grey Book Brian Powell,
the head of the CERN library Jens Vigen,
the Grey Book Secretaries Gaelle Duperrier and Claudia Dupraz

Corrected:
19 experiments within the range S97-S103
25 experiments within the range PS140-PS211
A few deletion of duplicates'

Addition of historical experiments in the grey book

30 experiments listed to be added soon, more to come
Number of User contracts during the year 2012: 12207
Short Term contracts

- Number of User contracts with a contract length of up to 3 months in 2012

A total of 970 short term contracts were issued by the User’s Office 01-JAN-2011 and 31-OCT-2011
New contracts

Number of new contracts issued by the User’s Office
01-JAN-2012 and 31-December 2012

A total of 3369 new contracts were issued by the Users’ Office in 2012;
(not including prolongations)
This number is relatively stable since 2008
Statistics

1.6. 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Users</th>
<th>10294</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COAS (Cooperation Associates)</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISC (Visiting Scientists)</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPAS</td>
<td>609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>11144</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The increase of the maximum contract length is well appreciated. Today 1572 Users have already a contract length of more than two years.