



TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON MOVEMENT OF BUSINESS PERSONS

REPORT OF 3RD TTC-MBP, MAURITIUS, NOVEMBER 2014

Movement of business persons within the TFTA – Annex 12

Article	Title
1	Objectives
2	Scope
3	Definitions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Business visitors</i>• <i>Contractual service suppliers</i>• <i>Independent or self-employed service suppliers</i>• <i>Traders and investors</i>• <i>Professionals</i>• <i>Intra-company transferees</i>

Article	Title
4	Business visitor
5	Entry, stay and exit
6	Identification of a business person
7	Traders and investors
8	Limitations
9	Sub-Committee on Movement of Business Persons

3RD TMSC

- ▶ The meeting agreed that the issue of Movement of Business Persons falls under its competence and guided as follows:
 - ▶ Movement of Business Persons should not be incorporated in the TFTA; and
 - ▶ the TTC-MBP should develop content and define the appropriate legal instrument to be used.
- ▶ The meeting directed that work on Movement of Business Persons be fast tracked and future reports should be submitted to this Ministerial Committee.

Business needs

1. Common business visa free entry document
 - a) Without fees and additional documentation
 - b) Similar to APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC)
2. Eventually, business passport for region
3. Elimination of visa fees in the region

APEC business mobility - KPIs

Area	Action	KPI
Streamline and standardize procedures to enhance the mobility of business people engaged in the conduct of trade and investment	Implement and promote the ABTC and/or visa waiver arrangements	1. Total number of ABTC card holders and variation from previous year
		2. Percentage of expired ABTC holders who have re-applied
		3. Total pre-border application time saved by ABTC
		4. Total time saved clearing immigration at border
		5. Total cost savings in business entry fees by ABTC
	Streamline arrangements for intra-corp transferees (ICTs)	6. Processing time for ICTs
Enhance the use of ICT for e-processing to facilitate movement across borders	Introduce e-lodgement arrangements for temporary visa applications	7. Processing time for business visa/entry

Aim of ABTC

- ▶ To reduce trade transaction costs associated with business travel in the region:
 - ▶ time costs in completing visa applications
 - ▶ time costs in completing immigration processing
 - ▶ cost of visa application fees
- ▶ In other words, a trade facilitation initiative for business travel



OPTIONS FOR TRIPARTITE MBP AGREEMENT

Options for possible scope of agreement

- a. Business mobility facilitation
 - ▶ See APEC Business Travel Card
 - ▶ Other APEC initiatives / SAFTA provisions
- b. Market access / national treatment
 - ▶ E.g. GATS
 - ▶ Not limited to service suppliers
- c. Immigration and labour facilitation
 - ▶ Simplification / standardization of documentation and procedures
 - ▶ Cooperation between authorities
 - ▶ Exchange of confidential information

Temporary movements only

“The Agreement shall not apply to measures affecting natural persons seeking access to the employment market of a Member, nor shall it apply to measures regarding citizenship, residence or employment on a permanent basis.”

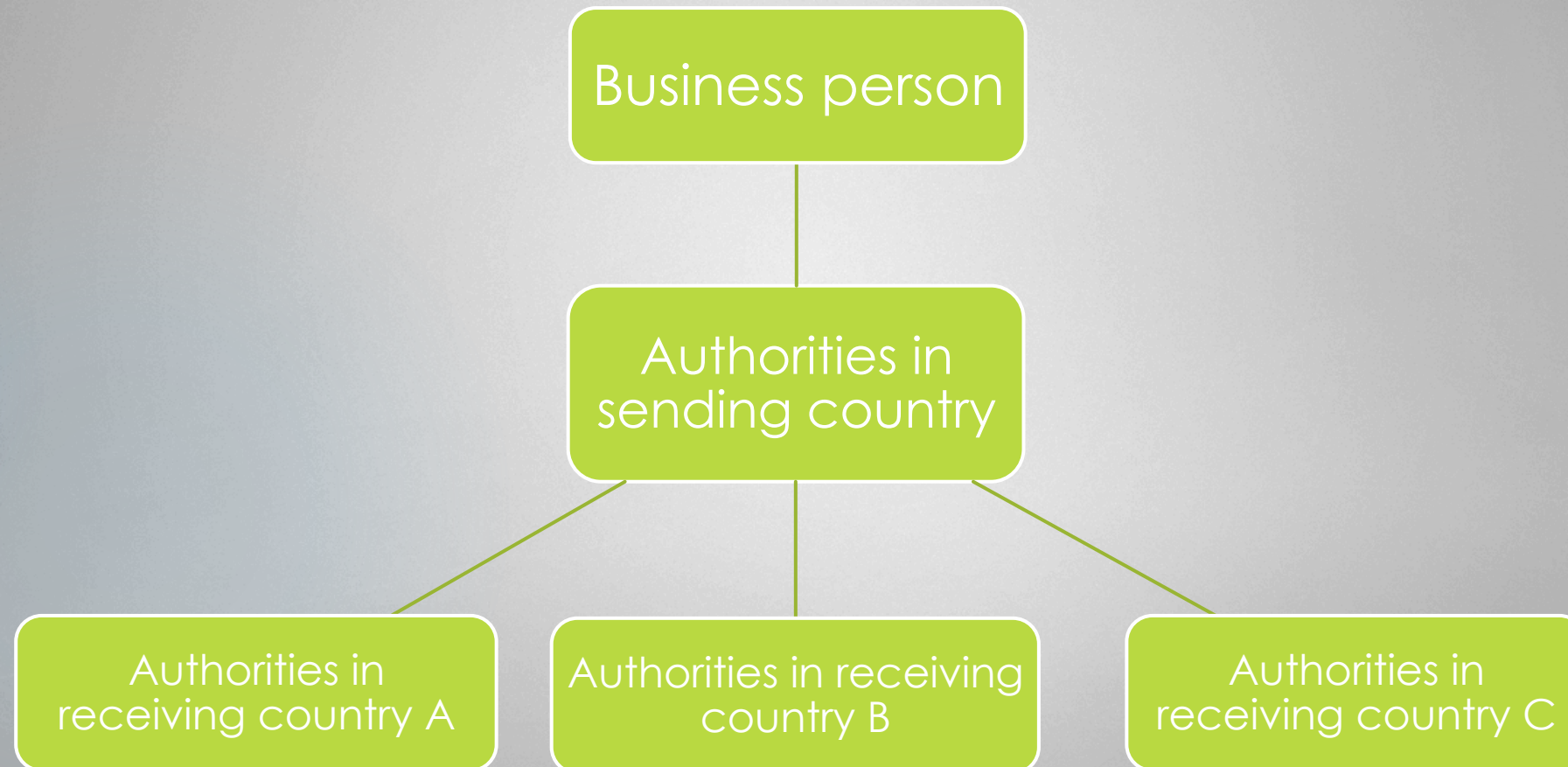
GATS Annex on Movement of Natural Persons

Possible structure of TMBPA

Article	Heading
Preamble	
1	Objective
2	Scope and definitions
3	MFN
4	Short-term temp movement
5	Entry, stay and exit
6	Identification of a business person
7	Long-term temp movement
8	Market access

Article	Heading
9	National treatment
10	Transparency
11	Simplified procedures and documentation
12	Visa fees and formalities
13	Expedited processing
14	Immigration and security
15	Cooperation between relevant authorities
16	Implementation [+ dispute res]

Multi-entry multi-country visa - concept



Draft Tripartite Agreement on Movement of Business Persons

Article	Title
Preamble	
1	Definitions
2	Citation
3	Establishment
4	Objectives
5	Guiding principles
6	Scope
7	Undertakings
8	[Most-favoured nation]
9	Temp entry, stay and exit of BP
10	[Identification of a business person]

Article	Title
11	Transparency
12	Simplified documentation and procedures
13	Fees and charges
14	[Multiple-entry multi-country visas]
15	[Cooperation between relevant authorities]
16	Expedited processing
17	Immigration and security measures
18	Dispute settlement mechanism
19	Oversight committee
20-27	General and final provisions