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எனது குறிப்பு
My Ref.

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உமது குறிப்பு
Your Ref.

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திகதி
Date

Information Note

Italy – Sri Lanka Bilateral Agreement on the conversion of Driving Licences.

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Rome continues to liaise with the Italian and the Sri Lankan authorities on the implementation of the bilateral Agreement on the conversion of Driving Licences. The Embassy in Rome continues to be in **daily contact**(telephone, fax and email) with the Italian and Sri Lankan authorities in this regard, with a view to have the implementation process expedited.

Under the agreement, it is essential that all necessary procedures are fully completed by both the Italian and Sri Lankan governments before the Agreement can be operationalized.

- The Agreement between the two countries was signed on 20th May 2011. This is a major step forward after almost 2 years of negotiation between the two governments.
- The signature of the agreement reflects the warm and cordial relations between Sri Lanka and Italy.
- It is also a recognition and appreciation of the Sri Lankan community in Italy by the Italian authorities especially the substantive contribution made to Italy, both socially and economically, by the Sri Lankan community in Italy.
- operationalization of the Agreement will be based on the two sides informing each other in writing that the respective agencies are ready to accept applications under this Agreement and the applicable date
- thus, in the case of resident Sri Lankans in Italy, the applications to obtain an Italian licence through conversion of a Sri Lankan Driving Licence should be made only after the date announced by Italian authorities stating that they are ready to accept applications under the bilateral agreement. This is expected soon, given the very large of administrative and legal procedures
- The eligibility criteria to obtain an Italian Licence through conversion includes but not limited to:
 - Possession of a valid and permanent(non-temporary) Sri Lankan driving licence obtained prior to applicant's registration of residency in Italy.
 - applicants should have obtained residency in Italy within a period of less than 4 years on the date of application
 - on a date to be announced, applications should be made to the Italian dept which receives applications, i.e. Motorizzazione.
 - The issuance of a driving licence will remain the sole prerogative of the Italian government
 - the Italian government is the final authority regarding residency and eligibility for the conversion of Sri Lankan driving licences into an Italian Driving licence
- on the completion of all procedures by the two Governments, the Embassy will make a public announcement shortly for:
 - Obtaining of the *Certificate of Authenticity and Validity* from the Embassy
 - Date on which the Italian *Motorizzazione* will accept applications for conversion under this Agreement.
- the Embassy of Sri Lanka continues to make every effort to expedite the processes given the immense benefit this Agreement has for the Sri Lankans in Italy.

Embassy of Sri Lanka, Rome, 5 October 2011



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