



Quick Reference Guide

Entry and residence regulations
for people living with HIV

2012 | 2013

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Preface

The worldwide use of our data for entry and residence regulations makes it vital for us to update this overview regularly, in order to be able to provide PLHIV with access to the most current information at all times. This new issue is based on the results of a new worldwide survey of the foreign representatives of 200 countries, made between November 2007 and June 2008 with the support of the German foreign ministry. All changes that have occurred since then are integrated in this update. This new edition of the Quick Reference guide contains all the changes we have become aware of up to the beginning of 2012.

All data presented here are publicly available at the website www.hivrestrictions.org, created in cooperation between us, the International AIDS Society (IAS), the European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG) and the Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+). On the website www.hivtravel.org we continually integrate the latest information about travel and migration and add any changes as we learn of them. Experience has shown that information often has a short “shelf-life” and such regulations can change quickly – in both positive and negative ways.

Since October 2009 our webpage has been connected with the GNP+ database on the criminalization of HIV transmission (<http://criminalisation.gnpp-lus.net>). We welcome this integration, because both subjects clearly demonstrate the global scale of ignorance and discrimination still faced by people living with HIV today.

The data collection can stay up to date owing to the participation of many people worldwide: reports from our readers, NGO workers and government organizations all over the world, and people travelling with HIV. We would like to offer them all our most sincere thanks for the support they have provided over the past years. Please continue to contact us if you have information which is not yet available to us or if you see errors in our database.

We thank our colleagues and partners at the EATG, GNP+, IAS, and our colleagues from UNAIDS, especially David Haerry, Moono Nyambe, Ron McInnis, Susan Timberlake and Jason Sigurdson, for their cooperation and support!

Last but not least, we gratefully thank our colleagues from different European NGOs. It would not have been possible to produce the various translations without their efforts.

Karl Lemmen
Peter Wiessner
 Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe e.V.
 Berlin, January 2012

Mobility: A basic right for people living with HIV!

In the USA, the ban on mobility for people with HIV was removed in January 2010. The legislative change in the USA and the changes announced in China received broad media coverage. We very much hope that these examples will have a domino effect, resulting in the revision of legislation in other countries.

These expectations turned into reality in some countries: The Governments in Namibia, Ukraine, Morocco, Moldova, Belize, Armenia and Georgia changed their legislation and abolished HIV related restrictions.

For many people, travel is an important aspect of quality of life. Others have to stay in foreign countries for longer periods for personal or professional reasons. Up-to-date information helps them to decide on the most appropriate behaviour. This data collection not only provides a reliable orientation for PLHIV, but also indicates the extent of discrimination against people with HIV.

Starting with an initial survey of foreign representatives in Germany and German representatives in foreign countries in 1999, we wanted to document the official legal regulations concerning entry and residence for PLHIV, and also to find out about their implementation in practice. The data collected through our own research complemented other available information. In the subsequent years, feedback and information from all over the world was included in the continuous process of updating the data.

A new survey of all diplomatic representatives in 2007/2008 aimed to ensure that the data was up to date and gather current, reliable data on 192 countries.¹

There is no information for only 5 out of the 200 countries included in our survey. 61 of the 195 countries we have information about have special entry regulations for PLHIV.

The majority of countries with entry restrictions require obligatory HIV tests. It is sad enough that so many countries continue to exclude PLHIV. However, the fact that 29 (!) countries are willing to de-

port PLHIV or ask them to leave the country if HIV is diagnosed is frightening.

Countries which force HIV-positive foreigners to leave are:

1. Bahrain
2. Bangladesh
3. Brunei
4. Egypt
5. Equatorial Guinea
6. Hungary
7. Iraq
8. Jordan
9. Kazakhstan
10. Korea (North)
11. Korea (South)
12. Kuwait
13. Lebanon
14. Malaysia
15. Mongolia
16. Oman
17. Panama
18. Qatar
19. Russia
20. Saudi Arabia
21. Singapore
22. Solomon Islands
23. Sri Lanka
24. Syria
25. Taiwan
26. Turkmenistan
27. United Arab Emirates
28. Uzbekistan
29. Yemen

¹ References to "countries" in this document also include territories and areas. Please note that the designations employed and the presentation of the material in this paper do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the authors concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

There is a distinction between entry regulations for tourists (tourist visa for a 1–3-month stay) and regulations for longer stays. The positive aspect of this is that tourist visits only rarely become a problem even for PLHIV.

Longer stays, for instance for study purposes and for work, often require special permits from which PLHIV are excluded. In a few cases, there are also regulations for a country's own citizens when they return from abroad.

TIP OF THE ICEBERG

Entry prohibitions generally affect people who want to stay in a country for longer periods. It depends on the duration of the stay whether or not an HIV test must be presented for approval of the stay. HIV-positive test results generally lead to refusal of entry or to being forced to leave if one is already in the country. Such regulations limit PLHIV in the selection of educational opportunities and places of work. This discrimination cannot be accepted in view of the change of HIV to a treatable chronic disease, since PLHIV – just like any other citizens today – need to plan their education and pursue a profession.

PLHIV are at constant risk of losing what they have built up: their workplace, their financial basis, access to the health care system, their home, their friends and family, and even their life. In this regard, some countries in Asia and the Middle East set particularly poor examples. We have anecdotal reports of people dying in deportation confinement while waiting to return to their homeland without having received access to treatment. This usually affects migrant workers who have been confined for deportation when diagnosed with HIV. The excuse is given of legal problems between the authorities involved. Authorities even make it harder for their own citizens to enter if it becomes known that they are infected with HIV or have AIDS.

There are currently still 14 countries with legislation that allows a categorical refusal of entry to PLHIV. Disclosure of a person's immune status in the visa application form or at entry can lead to the refusal of entry or to immediate deportation.

Countries that categorically refuse entry are:

1. Bahamas
2. Brunei
3. Equatorial Guinea
4. Iraq
5. Jordan
6. Papua New Guinea
7. Qatar
8. Russia
9. Singapore
10. Solomon Islands
11. Sudan
12. Suriname
13. United Arab Emirates
14. Yemen

19 countries request the disclosure of HIV status even for short-term stays (under 3 months). It is important to be careful since such a disclosure can have negative and severe consequences.

Countries with restrictions for short-term stays are:

1. Bahamas
2. Bhutan
3. Egypt
4. Equatorial Guinea
5. Iran
6. Iraq
7. Jordan
8. Kyrgyzstan
9. Libya
10. Papua New Guinea
11. Qatar
12. Russia
13. Singapore
14. Solomon Islands
15. Sudan
16. Suriname
17. Taiwan
18. Turks and Caicos Islands
19. Uzbekistan

THE TRUE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM IS UNKNOWN

The data compiled here can only provide a description of the statutory regulations. The true extent of daily discrimination against PLHIV cannot be described. There is no system and no organization which centrally collects relevant cases and reports on them. We only have individual, anecdotal reports. Further uncertainty about the true extent of these regulations is created by the fact that existing laws are sometimes not applied or only applied by some officials. The following information provides an overview of the extent of the problem:

- Approx. 40 million people worldwide are living with HIV. Most of the affected persons live in the so-called developing countries. Many of them have an urgent need for treatment options in order to survive.
- According to figures from the United Nations World Tourist Organisation (UNWTO), there were approx. 900 million international arrivals worldwide in 2007.
- Approx. 191 million migrant workers live outside their own countries, according to estimates by the IOM. The refugee commission of the United Nations (UNHCR) assesses the number of refugees and people seeking asylum at 20.8 million worldwide.

With respect to the countries with discriminatory entry regulations, more reliable monitoring of actual conditions is required for the future. This is the only way we can show how PLHIV suffer disadvantages and discrimination on a global level.

A HEAVY BURDEN FOR PLHIV

Application forms for entry visas often contain questions about general health, such as “Do you suffer from a communicable disease?” Those who decide to tell the truth must expect entry to be refused. If HIV-positive travellers decide to answer this question untruthfully, they have the problem of needing to hide medications which they have brought along and needing to give the healthiest possible impression to the border official(s). At border checks, it is

the job of officials to look at luggage and/or check completed forms. The checks may also include checks of physical appearance.

Information about how to deal with this is available at www.hivrestrictions.org.

If health certification is required when applying for the visa or at the border, the required tests and examinations must frequently be carried out by contractual doctors or other official bodies. Only those who subject themselves to these regulations have a chance of entering the chosen country – apart from the option of paying bribes, as anecdotal reports suggest.

Some countries require foreigners to have regular routine examinations which may include an HIV test. The costs for all these tests must naturally be covered by the affected person, putting financially weaker groups of people at a disadvantage.

Other checks are performed by agencies whose task it is to hire workers in foreign countries. In applications for healthcare professions (physicians, nurses, etc.) a negative HIV test is a prerequisite for even being invited to an interview. In this manner, for instance, medical personnel is recruited from South Africa to work in the rich north. Other employers and other institutions such as universities also often openly require HIV tests as a prerequisite for employment, allocation of study places, and grants.

In principle, anyone entering a country may find themselves in the position of having to provide information about “suspicious” fellow travellers. This happened to an HIV-positive passenger from Japan on his way to China: he was sent back on the next airplane after a fellow passenger on the plane had listened in on a conversation about HIV.

There is especially significant strain when a traveller’s physical appearance makes it impossible to hide or deny illness. It is then often at the discretion of the border official to order an examination. People who refuse to subject themselves to this will not have the option to enter the country, as examples from Malaysia and other countries show.

POSITIVE EXAMPLES ARE RARE

Positive examples are rare, but should give us courage that cooperative commitment can bring about change. There are some countries which have eased or removed their restrictions in recent years. The examples of the United States of America and China are an important victory in the fight against the global discrimination against PLHIV.

Canadian HIV and human rights activists did good work in advance of the World AIDS Conference in Toronto 2006 and obtained changes in the entry regulations for short-term visas. This made it possible for PLHIV to participate in the conference and of course had longer-term benefits as well.

Following this, in 2007 the International AIDS Society (IAS) re-stated that it would not hold an international AIDS conference in any country which refuses entry to PLHIV.

Pressure by the Global Fund to cancel a working meeting in China if the Chinese government did not strike questions about HIV from the entry application form shows that this subject has reached the global HIV community.

The creation of an international Task Team by UNAIDS is another positive sign that the situation regarding entry regulations for PLHIV is changing. Last but not least, the request of the UN general secretary Ban Ki-Moon in June 2008 to end this form of stigmatization has met with worldwide resonance. Let us hope that Ban Ki-Moon's authority paves the way for the elimination of the harsh restrictions in South Korea, his home country.

A prerequisite for these positive developments was and is that the scope of the problem must be pointed out again and again. We are glad to see that our data collection has proved to be an extraordinarily strong political instrument in these processes.

The examples given encourage us to keep combating the negative perception of PLHIV (cost factor, virus carriers, source of danger) which are the background of such discriminatory regulations. Clarifying how HIV has changed in recent years and the contribution which PLHIV make to society is an important step against the policy of exclusion.

Even after the legislative changes in the USA, the world at present is still not a very open place for PLHIV. In order to change the situation we need to fight for fundamental human rights, closely connected with the lifesaving ability to secure financial survival and access to treatment and care. To reach these goals, we require your support.

Literature:

UNAIDS/IOM Statement on HIV/AIDS related travel restrictions, June 2004: http://www.iom.int/en/PDF_Files/HIVAIDS/UNAIDS_IOM_statement_travel_restrictions.pdf

Compulsory HIV testing from a public health and human rights perspective. A summary of key arguments to support a wider discussion, June 2004, By Haerry, Wasserfallen and Wiessner.

<http://archives.healthdev.net/pwha-net/msg00589.html>

International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights, Office of the United Nations, 1998

Developments and tendencies in recent years – an overview²

2001 – global

Finalisation of the UNGASS Declaration: “By the year 2003, we obligate ourselves to introduce, affirm and enforce suitable laws and other measures which are suited to eliminating any form of discrimination to which PLHIV and members of other vulnerable groups are exposed and to provide them with full access to all fundamental human rights and freedoms.”

2002 – Canada

Introduction of mandatory HIV tests for all foreigners who want to stay in Canada for more than 6 months. Stays not approved for the majority of HIV-positive foreigners.

2002 – Australia

Drastically restrictive entry regulations are introduced. Introduction of individual cost assessment based on life expectancy, treatment costs and total expenses for medical treatment. PLHIV are increasingly being denied immigration.

2003 – United Kingdom

The government suggests that people seeking asylum should receive mandatory HIV testing. The Terence Higgins Trust successfully pursues a comprehensive campaign against the planned measures.

2004 – New Zealand

Immigration services confirm that from 2005 immigrants will be tested for HIV. A quota regulation will be implemented: a maximum of 20 HIV-positive persons will be accepted per year.

2004 – El Salvador

The country decides to remove its existing entry and residence regulations.

2004 – Switzerland

According to press reports, the authorities responsible for public healthcare plan to introduce mandatory HIV tests in people seeking asylum. After protests by the press and experts, the test remains voluntary.

2004 – global

IOM/UNAIDS publishes a joint position statement about entry regulations. The document vehemently opposes mandatory HIV testing and HIV-related discrimination.

2004 – United Kingdom

The government decides against mandatory HIV testing of people seeking asylum.

2004 – USA

On 10 July 2004, Senator Kerry promises that HIV-related entry restrictions will be lifted if he is elected as president. The re-election of George W. Bush temporarily removes the subject from the agenda.

2006 – Canada

In advance of the World AIDS Conference in Toronto, the effective lobbying work of Canadian activists is able to change restrictions for short-term stays. In the future, Canada will not require the disclosure of HIV infections for short-term stays.

2006 – France

Activists around the openly HIV-positive representative Jean-Luc Romero launch a media offensive to draw attention to the discriminatory entry regulations of the USA.

2006 – USA

On 1 December, the American president George W. Bush announces plans to change the entry regulations for short-term tourism visas and business trips.

2007 – Australia

In advance of an international HIV conference which is taking place in Sydney, Australia's prime minister John Howard explains how PLHIV can be better monitored, since they are a public health risk. In the context of the conference, this leads to massive protests by the global HIV community.

2007 – Norway

Norway's foreign ministry, together with activists from the HIV community, announces a two-day conference in Oslo in October at which the various facets of discriminatory entry regulations – particularly with reference to migrants – will be discussed.

2007 – China

The Global Fund negotiates with the Chinese government on a change in regulations so that international meetings can continue to take place in China in the future.

2007 – global

The International AIDS Society authors a statement which again confirms that major HIV conferences will, in future, only be held in countries that do not require disclosure of HIV at entry.

2007 – Norway, Sweden, Denmark

The foreign ministers of Norway, Sweden and Denmark address their American colleague Condoleezza Rice with an open letter requesting reconsideration of the regulations directed against PLHIV. This is the first time that the dispute is taken to the state level. The foreign ministers have not yet received a response.

2008 – global

In February, UNAIDS sets up an international Task Team on HIV-related entry regulations. The commu-

nity, NGOs, governments and international bodies such as IOM, ILO, WHO, UNAIDS, UNHCR, etc., are represented. The goal is to put the subject on the political agenda and work out suggestions for solutions.

2008 – Europe

The European Parliament asks the European commission to remove HIV-positive Europeans from the Visa Waiver Programme in the visa negotiations between Europe and the USA. Instead, all Europeans are to be treated equally. 309 Parliament representatives vote for this motion, 218 vote against it, and 4 abstain.

2008 – Suriname

The Republic of Suriname intensifies regulations regarding the entry of PLHIV from specific regions. Incoming persons requiring visas and coming from Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe must, in addition to health insurance, also show a health certificate which proves that neither leprosy nor sexually transmitted diseases, Hepatitis B, TBC or HIV are present.

2008 – global

In the context of the UNGASS meeting in New York, the subject of entry regulations plays an important role. In open letters, representatives of the community point out the hypocrisy that the top-level HIV meeting is taking place in a country which grossly discriminates against PLHIV. It is emphasized that there cannot be "Universal Access" as long as PLHIV are excluded by restrictions. A letter signed by 345 organizations referring to the results of our work is passed on to the ambassadors of the countries with restrictive entry regulations.

2008 – United Nations – New York

On 11 June, the General Secretary of the United Nations, Ban Ki-Moon, asks the countries of the world to waive HIV-related entry conditions. He defines these regulations as an affront against humanity. Discrimination like this, he says, will drive the virus underground, where it will spread in the darkness.

2008 – Europe

The EU Civil Society Forum on HIV adopts a policy paper to request a change of legislation by those countries in Europe that still have discriminatory restrictions in place. This is to happen by the time of the International AIDS Conference in Vienna in

2010. The paper requests NGOs and intergovernmental bodies like UNAIDS, WHO Europe and IOM to concentrate their efforts to change the situation in Europe.

2009 – Czech Republic

The Czech Republic announces in May 2009 that visa applicants from 10 countries must present an HIV test in order to enter the country. The new legislation applied to citizens from Congo, Kenya, Moldova, Mongolia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Vietnam. The discriminatory proposition is withdrawn after mass protest by the HIV community throughout Europe, including an open letter by the EATG (<http://www.eatg.org/eatg/Position-statements/Open-letters/Letter-on-Czech-Republic-Visa-Restrictions-for-People-Living-with-HIV>). The administration quietly drops the plan.

2009 – South Korea

For many years the country has been among the most restrictive in the world. The government may prohibit entry of foreigners who are suspected of carrying HIV/AIDS any time at its discretion. This applies mainly for long-term stays. In addition, the legislation allows the deportation of HIV-positive foreigners. After protests from human rights experts and a lawsuit in December 2009 which resulted in the deportation of an HIV-positive migrant worker being interrupted, the legislation in South Korea awaits revision. Foreigners residing in the country are currently required to undertake an HIV test once a year.

2009 – European Commission

The new communication from the European Commission's Action Plan to combat HIV in Europe 2009–2013 explicitly condemns HIV-related entry restrictions: "HIV/AIDS as an issue of concern for migrants is addressed differently across Europe. Several European countries maintain restrictions on entry, stay and residence based on HIV status. These provisions are discriminatory and do not protect public health".

2010 – USA

On 30 October 2009, during a ceremony at the White House, US President Barack Obama announces on that all restrictions affecting people with HIV from entering or migrating to the United States will be lifted. The legislation banning entry for PLHIV has

been in effect since 1987. The new legislation takes effect on 4 January 2010.

This great success is due to the tireless efforts of many NGOs globally. The international cooperation between DAH, IAS, EATG, ILGA, GNP+, UNAIDS and the Global Fund put real pressure on the US.

2010 – China

The refusal of entry to the HIV-positive Australian novelist Robert Dessaix to participate in a literature festival in Chengdu and Beijing in March 2010 creates a broad media echo. More than 90 Australian writers join to sign a protest letter condemning China's discriminatory entry policies.

In April the Chinese government announces the lifting of the 20-year-old entry ban affecting people living with HIV. This is a great step forward, but a number of critical questions remain unanswered: at the time of writing, we have not seen translations of the new entry and residency regulations nor the new visa application forms. It is therefore not clear how the new law will be implemented in practice and how fast this is happening. It is furthermore unclear whether prospective visitors will be asked to declare their HIV status on visa application forms at entry.

2010 – Bulgaria

Bulgaria revises its legislation on entry and residence for people with HIV. New rules on HIV testing are effective from March 2010 onwards. Under the old rule, mandatory HIV tests were possible at entry for foreigners suspected of being a danger to public health. Mandatory HIV tests are now only possible for certain groups, like people who need blood dialysis.

2010 – Namibia

Shortly prior to the International Aids Conference in Vienna the Namibian Government decided to abolish its HIV related restrictions. The conference was used to hold a press conference in order to applaud this step and to empower Governments from other countries to do the same.

2011 – Armenia

According to information from the UNGASS report the country changed its policy already in 2009. Laws

contradicting Human Right and internationally accepted guidelines were abolished. There is no HIV test necessary for stays exceeding three months; the possibility to deport people based on their HIV status is abolished.

2011 – Ukraine

Ukraine has updated its Law on Prevention of AIDS and Social Protection of Population. Among other changes, restrictions on entry for HIV-positive people have been removed.

2012 – Moldova

Representatives from the Government announced in summer 2011 to abolish its restrictions by January 2012. The new law is already adopted by the Government; final decisions need to be made by the Parliament. The new law does not allow any discrimination on entry and residence based on HIV status, mandatory HIV tests are prohibited.

² Compiled by Peter Wiessner und David H. U. Haerry

Tips for using the Quick Reference Guide

- The Quick Reference Guide provides current **information on 200 countries**. If no information is available about entry regulations, this means that we have not found anything or that the previously existing information is no longer up to date.
- The section **“Entry regulations”** provides information for tourist stays of around one month. Luckily, there are only a few countries with a strong tourism sector which completely refuse entry to PLHIV.
- The section **“Residence regulations”** refers to longer stays (usually longer than 3 months), often in relation to a permit to undertake studies or employment.
- The section **“Comments”** offers information from various sources, including references to contradictions in available data. Information on yellow fever regulations is included. Large amounts of other information (the original texts from the embassies) can be found in the list of sources (revised version 2010 and at our webpage at www.hivrestrictions.org).
- Fundamentally, even for countries with restrictive regulations there are generally no problems for tourists as long as their HIV status remains unknown. If, however, someone is suspected of being HIV positive, the authorities can refuse entry without stating other reasons. This applies particularly to the countries that categorically refuse entry for PLHIV or that request the disclosure of HIV status even for short-term stays. Red Ribbon pins or other clear indicators of HIV should not be worn during entry.
- There may be problems for people who need HIV medication if they have to take the medication with them. We recommend repackaging the medication into neutral containers.
- Depending on the situation, it may be advisable to take along a doctor's letter (in English or in the national language of the country into which one wants to travel) which notes the reasons for which the tablets are taken. It should also be stated that the medication was prescribed by a doctor (necessary for entry to the USA since January 2010); the name of the medical condition does not need to be mentioned.
- An important aspect is the **“Vaccine regulations”**: some of these regulations are not problematic for PLHIV, while others may carry serious health risks (particularly yellow fever vaccination). Since such regulations can change at short notice, we recommend discussing this and other questions with the treating doctor or the tropical medicine institutes.

DISCLAIMER

Our references are based on information available and reliable at the given time from different sources/providers. We cannot guarantee the accuracy and completeness of the information and cannot take responsibility for any possible harm. The situation in the respective countries is sometimes confusing and can change rapidly. The decision to travel to a country is at your discretion alone. The legal situation can change at any time without anybody informing us. In case of doubt we advise you

- to consult our webpage at www.hivrestrictions.org (legal changes will be noted there promptly), and
- to get in contact with your embassy or consular representation in the target country.

About the symbols in the Quick Reference Guide

- (#) Some sources contain ambivalent or contradictory information. We recommend closely checking the sources in the long version of the list of sources and – depending on the situation of the person(s) seeking advice – taking all of them into account in the assessment. The sources of the information used in the table are indicated in the last column by a number. Sources are only indicated in the individual fields if there is additional or contradictory information from differing sources.
- 1 Information from the embassy of the target country in Germany
 - 2 Information from the German embassy in the target country
 - 3 Aids Info Docu Switzerland. Source: Federal Department for Foreign Affairs, Bern/CH, DP VI/Section of Consular Protection, 15.03.2000
 - 4 Homepage of the US State Department; Travel Publications, April 2012:
<http://travel.state.gov/search.php?query=HIV&metaname=swishdefault&sort=swishtitle&start=0>
 - 5 Information from an NGO working in the respective country
 - 6 Press reports
 - 7 Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada web site, April 2012;
<http://www.voyage.gc.ca/index-eng.asp>
 - 8 Information from UNAIDS, May 2010
 - 9 User feedback from our webpage at: www.hiurestrictions.org

Afghanistan

| Source: 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for people with HIV/AIDS (4).

Residence regulations

According to current information from our Consular Section and our contacts in the Ministry of Health there are no entry restrictions for people living with HIV in Afghanistan. The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV and AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Afghanistan (4).

Albania

| Source: 1, 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2, 5).

Algeria

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

No special regulations for entry and residence. Foreigners whose HIV infection is detected are not targeted by special regulations (1).

Andorra

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for tourists (1).

Residence regulations

Special regulations exist for individuals applying for residence or work permits. Applications will be denied if the applicant does have a disease a) representing a possible threat to public health and b) preventing the pursuit of employment (1).

Notes

5 known cases of denied applications since 2005; there have been accusations that tests are carried out without informed consent (1). Restrictions apply to all foreigners, including EU citizens (Andorra is not a member of the European Union).

Angola

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 4).

Residence regulations

No special regulations for entry and residence. Foreigners whose HIV infection is detected are not targeted by special regulations (2).

Notes

International Certificate of Vaccination required on entrance. Certificate must show inoculations against yellow fever (4).

Antigua and Barbuda

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No special regulations for short-term entry according to information from the Foreign Ministry (2).

Residence regulations

Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be completely ruled out. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined. The embassy is not aware of health checks at borders (2).

Notes

The Government is concerned that HIV-positive individuals might have sexual contacts with the general population; this might worsen the already difficult financial situation of the health authorities (2).

Argentina

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Armenia

| Source: 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

According to information from the UNGASS report the country changed its policy already in 2009. Laws contradicting Human Rights and internationally accepted guidelines were abolished. There is no HIV test necessary for stays exceeding three months; the possibility to deport people based on their HIV status is abolished (5).

Aruba

No information available

Australia

| Source: 2, 3, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for tourists (2, 3, 5).

Residence regulations

Residence permit for individuals with HIV is possible if certain criteria apply (2, 3, 5). Those who want to reside in Australia have to convince the authorities that they are a) no financial burden to the health care system b) no danger to public health c) don't limit access of Australian citizens to the healthcare system (5).

Notes

Long-term visitors with precarious health status have to undergo health checks by assigned physicians prior to departure. This applies especially to young travellers with chronic diseases on pensions (5). Immigration officers are authorised to deny entry if a person appears to be ill (2).

Austria

| Source: 1, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 5).

Azerbaijan

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

At the moment no restrictions in place. However, a draft law is currently under review. The new legislation might introduce restrictions (mandatory HIV testing for residency purposes) (8).

Notes

Any new information will be published at www.hivrestrictions.org

Bahamas

| Source: 4

Entry regulations

Restrictions for short-term stays. The Ministry of Health has recommended that persons who are HIV-positive not be admitted to The Bahamas (4).

Residence regulations

Immigration does not routinely require testing for persons arriving for less than 30 days. Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for other visitors to and foreign residents of The Bahamas (4).

Bahrain

| Source: 1, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for tourists (4).

Residence regulations

Pre-employment examinations, including HIV tests, are carried out for 2-year visa applications for foreign workers. The regulations apply especially for healthcare workers, “barbies” (sex workers), housemaids, people working in hotels and restaurants. Some companies have their own rules (1). Some HIV/AIDS restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Bahrain (4).

Notes

A visa granted will be withdrawn if a person tests HIV positive. The person will be deported after he or she has received counselling (1). While Americans do not have to declare their HIV status upon applying for entry into Bahrain, the government revokes the visas of non-Bahrainis who are discovered to be HIV positive (4). We don’t know how these regulations are carried out in practice and whether HIV tests are required for stays not exceeding two years.

Bangladesh

| Source: 2, 4, 8 (#)

Entry regulations

No legal restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8). No HIV testing on entry (2).

Residence regulations

The Government of Bangladesh has no written policy regarding the entry of individuals with HIV/AIDS. However, according to anecdotal reports, some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions may exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh has informed the Embassy that a health officer or immigration officer at the airport who has concerns about an individual’s possible HIV/AIDS status will make a case-specific decision regarding that individual’s entry (4).

Notes

Expulsion is possible if the authorities are aware of a person’s HIV status (2). The information provided here is vague and contradictory. We need further information.

Barbados

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No information about restrictions concerning entry or residence regulations for PLHIV (2, 4).

Residence regulations

Regulations for residency cannot completely be ruled out. It is very likely within the discretion of the immigration officer to ask for documents regarding the health of applicants for work permits. Explicit regulations don’t seem to exist (2).

Notes

In the context of employment and care there are reports of work permits of HIV-positive workers not being renewed, and HIV positive non-nationals do not have access to HIV treatment and services (8).

Belarus

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restriction for tourist stays up to three months (1).

Residence regulations

Entry or residency permits are granted to people with HIV/AIDS. However, there are specific regulations targeting students: foreigners and stateless people studying in Belarus for more than 3 months have to undergo testing within 10 days of entering Belarus, and again after 6 months (maximum twice per year) (2). Long-term residents or students must obtain an HIV/AIDS test in Belarus and submit the results to the Department of Citizenship and Migration when applying for an extension of stay or residency in Belarus (4). HIV/AIDS is not a reason to deny entry or residency in Belarus. There are no health checks at the border (1).

Notes

HIV has to be declared to the authorities in order to receive counselling on behaviour and not to endanger other people (1). HIV status does not seem to influence decision-making on residency permit applications. In 2008-2009 no refusals were made due to HIV status (8).

Belgium

| Source: 1, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 5)

Belize

| Source: 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (5)

Benin

| Source: 1, 4, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays (1).

Residence regulations

No special regulation for long-term stays for PLHIV, no controls at borders, no special regulations if foreigners test positive for HIV (1, 4, 5).

Notes

Proof of yellow fever vaccination required (4).

Bermuda

No information available.

Bhutan

| Source: 4

Entry regulations

No disclosure regulations for PLHIV who enter Bhutan on a tourist visas for a maximum two-week visit (4).

Residence regulations

For longer stays applicants must present the results of an HIV/AIDS test completed within the six months prior to their visit. The test can also be administered by Bhutanese officials upon arrival (4).

Notes

We don't have information about the consequences of HIV-positive test results. We need more information.

Bolivia

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No specific entry or residence regulations, no problems at entry (2).

Residence regulations

No specific residence regulations for PLHIV (2).

Notes

In August 2006 Bolivia introduced a new law on prevention of HIV. The law contains anti-discrimination clauses to protect the rights of PLHIV.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

Restrictions in Republika Srpska. No restrictions for people with HIV/AIDS in other zones of Bosnia and Herzegovina (1).

Residence regulations

The Republika Srpska has a law on population protection from infectious diseases. The law requires that foreigners with long-term residency status (i.e. staying for more than 3 months) have to undergo regular medical examinations. Related testing includes HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B and C. At application, test results should be no older than 3 months (2).

Notes

The existing law may be replaced by a new one soon (2).

Botswana

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

Students enrolling for studies at the University of Botswana have to be tested for HIV (2).

Brazil

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Brunei

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No testing for short-term tourist stays. However, PLHIV are in principle not allowed to enter the country (2).

Residence regulations

HIV testing for students and employees applying for a work and residence permit (2). The Ministry of Health (MOH) of Brunei requires all travellers entering Brunei to fill out a Health Declaration Card and submit it to the MOH Officer-In-Charge upon disembarkation. Travellers may be subjected to a medical examination upon arrival in Brunei Darussalam (4).

Notes

Residency status will be annulled if HIV is detected, individuals will be deported by the authorities. Physicians are requested to immediately notify the Ministry of Health of any HIV-positive test results (2). Travellers also may be quarantined if infected or suspected to be infected with an infectious disease or if they have had contact with such a person (4).

Bulgaria

| Source: 1, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 5).

Residence regulations

No restrictions based on HIV status affecting foreign visitors or alien residents in Bulgaria (1).

Notes

Bulgaria has revised its law and adopted new legislation on HIV testing effective March 2010. Under the old rule, mandatory HIV tests were possible at entry for foreigners suspected to be a danger to public health. Mandatory HIV tests are now only possible for certain groups, like people who need blood dialysis.

Burkina Faso

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Proof of yellow fever immunization mandatory; cholera vaccination recommended (4).

Burundi

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Proof of yellow fever immunization required (4).

Cambodia

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Cameroon

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Yellow fever and cholera immunizations are required (4).

Canada

| Source: 1, 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays, no HIV certificates have to be presented at entry (1, 2). Individuals applying for a visa to enter Canada as short-term visitors are NOT required to disclose known HIV infection on the visa application form. Canada does NOT routinely impose mandatory HIV testing on short-term visitors, nor does it categorically bar visitors based on their HIV-positive status (5).

Residence regulations

Starting from 2002 a HIV test is an obligatory part of medical routine checks. The majority of HIV-positive foreigners will no longer have access to a residence permit. HIV-positive status does NOT prevent a person from visiting Canada, except for the rare and exceptional circumstance where the person's health condition is such that they are assessed as likely to require health and social services during their stay in Canada, that will create an excessive demand on Canada's public system (e.g., hospitalization). This is the same standard applicable to all persons (5).

Notes

HIV-positive refugees, as well as HIV-positive relatives of persons with a residence permit, are allowed to enter Canada (5). Additional information: <http://www.aidslaw.ca/>

Cape Verde Islands

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Cayman Islands

| Source: 4 (#)

Entry regulations

Although no HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to the Cayman Islands, persons suffering from HIV/AIDS can be denied permission to land (4).

Residence regulations

This can happen if a Health Officer certifies that their entry to the Islands would be dangerous to the community pursuant to Section 82 (c) of the Cayman Immigration Law, revised in 2007 (4).

Notes

We need more information about how the law is applied in practice.

Central African Republic

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any specific regulations concerning entry for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

The embassy is not aware of any specific regulations concerning residence for PLHIV (2, 4). No restrictions for PLHIV (8).

Notes

Yellow fever immunization required at entry (4).

Chad

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Chile

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

China

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

On 28 April 2010, the Government of China announced it would lift the entry bar against people with HIV/AIDS with immediate effect. At the time of writing, we have not seen translations of the new entry and residency regulations nor the new visa application forms. It is therefore not clear how the new laws will be implemented in practice and how fast this is happening. It is unclear at this time if prospective visitors will be asked about their HIV status on visa entry forms.

Notes

Until we know more about China's new policy, we recommend the following: Refrain from declaring your status on the visa application form. Historically, people declaring their status truthfully have been denied entry. Be careful with voluntary status declaration (refrain from wearing red ribbon pins, etc.). For a long-term business stay in China (longer than six months): check the situation carefully. Until now, a negative HIV status has been mandatory for foreigners staying in China on long-term permits. Tests have also been performed in China without the consent of those concerned. A positive test result has led to immediate deportation, job loss and unemployment. Check www.hivrestrictions.org for updated information.

Colombia

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 5 (#)

Entry regulations

Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays.

Residence regulations

The Columbian embassy in Brazil says that Columbian authorities have never requested HIV-specific information at entry (5). On entry, an “international health certificate” must be presented. This applies to all persons needing a visa – in particular students, immigrants and refugees (1). Colombia has imposed HIV/AIDS travel restrictions on groups of travellers subject to restrictions or bans. Entry is restricted for PLHIV (4).

Notes

Proven HIV infection has a negative impact on applications to the authorities for visa renewal (1). We don't have experience of how this law is implemented. But we are sure that the information is correct when it comes from the Columbian embassy in Berlin (2). The information provided here is contradictory. We need more information.

Comoros

| Source: 8

Entry regulations

No known HIV-specific restrictions on entry and stay (8).

Notes

A draft law has been developed that prohibits mandatory testing for the purpose of obtaining a residency permit (8).

Congo (Brazzaville)

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (8).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever vaccination is required for entry (4).

Congo, Democratic Republic of (Zaire)

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever vaccination is required for entry (4).

Costa Rica

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV. No HIV testing (2).

Croatia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Cuba

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays up to 3 months (2).

Residence regulations

Students wishing to obtain a scholarship for Cuba must undergo HIV testing (2). Cuban authorities do not demand HIV tests of travellers to Cuba, with the exception of foreign students on scholarships (4). No scholarships in Cuba for students with „limited life expectancy“ (HIV). HIV test necessary for the renewal of residence permits (2).

Cyprus

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (1, 2).

Residence regulations

Foreign nationals applying for a residence permit for work or study must undergo a Health Ministry medical examination to confirm there is no infection with HIV, hepatitis B/C or syphilis (1). Legislation mandates that aliens known to have certain communicable diseases and HIV be denied entry into the country (4).

Notes

HIV tests particularly important for construction workers, barmaids, housemaids, people working in the tourism industry; exceptions for employees from international enterprises and the UN. If the result of the examination is positive, no residence permit is granted. This does not apply to citizens of the EU (2, 1).

Czech Republic

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

According to information from the National AIDS programme, the Health Ministry has cancelled the requirement of HIV tests for long term visa applicants.

Notes

The Health Ministry announced that, effective in June 2009, visa applicants from Congo, Kenya, Moldova, Mongolia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Vietnam are required to present health certificates stating the absence of tuberculosis, syphilis and HIV. This populist proposal was dropped after elections took place.

Denmark

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Djibouti

| Source: 1, 4

Entry regulations

There are no specific entry or residence regulations for PLHIV. No HIV test result is required when entering the country (1).

Residence regulations

A known HIV infection will not lead to deportation or the termination of a person's stay (1).

Notes

Proof of yellow fever immunization required (4).

Dominican Republic

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. The embassy is not aware of any rules concerning short- or long-term entry of people living with HIV (2).

Residence regulations

Residency is restricted for people with infectious diseases. A positive test will result in denial of residence application. The same happens if a person refuses to be tested (8).

Notes

It is very likely within the discretion of the officer in the immigration office to ask for documents regarding the health of applicants for work permits (2).

Ecuador

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays (2).

Residence regulations

Foreign nationals applying for longer-term residence are generally requested to present an HIV test result (2).

Notes

Foreigners with residency status will not lose their status if they become HIV positive (2).

Egypt

| Source: 2, 4, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays (2, 4).

Residence regulations

HIV test required for study and work permits (2, 4). Foreign residents and their dependents aged 15 or older who are in Egypt applying for work, study or training permits and staying longer than 30 days require HIV testing (4). Tests have to be taken at the central laboratory of the Ministry of Health. Tests taken externally will not be accepted (2).

Notes

A foreigner already in the country will be deported if an HIV infection is detected (2). Proof of yellow fever immunization is required for persons arriving from an infected area (4). Egypt is extremely hostile towards PLHIV. Since October 2007, Cairo police have arrested a dozen men on suspicion of being HIV positive. The prisoners who tested HIV positive were chained to their beds in hospitals for months (5). According to the National AIDS Program, between 1986 and 2006, 722 cases of HIV/AIDS were detected among foreigners, 90 percent of which affected Africans. All foreign nationals detected as being HIV positive have been deported (5).

El Salvador

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term stays (1, 2).

Notes

In 2004 the General Direction of Migration repealed existing regulations requiring HIV testing for temporary and permanent residence permit applicants (1).

Equatorial Guinea

| Source: 7

Entry regulations

HIV test certificate may be required (also for tourist travel) (7).

Notes

Positive status could lead to refusal of entry or deportation. Yellow fever vaccination required (7).

Eritrea

| Source: 2, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

No specific entry regulations for PLHIV, no restrictions at entry (2).

Residence regulations

No specific residence regulations for people with HIV (2). Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Eritrea (4). Foreigners and citizens who want to marry have to take an HIV test (2). The consequences are unknown.

Notes

The information concerning residency regulations and regulations for people who want to marry are vague and contradictory. We need more information.

Estonia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Ethiopia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Yellow fever immunization is recommended (4).

Fiji

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

No reliable information about restrictions for short-term stays.

Residence regulations

HIV testing required for stays exceeding 6 months (8). Fiji may impose HIV/AIDS travel restrictions on some visa applicants for work permits. Applicants must obtain a medical clearance, and the work permit committee will make the decision to grant the permit on a case-by-case basis (4).

Notes

Draft legislation is currently under consideration by the Government. It might lead to the elimination of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence (8). Please check latest developments on our webpage at: www.hivrestrictions.org

Finland

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

An HIV diagnosis neither gives reason to deny entry nor rules out the granting of a residence permit. A residence permit may be denied if the foreigner is perceived as a threat to public order, safety or health or a danger to Finland's international relations (2).

Notes

HIV/AIDS does not give reason to refrain from deportation if there is treatment and care available in the country of origin. The standard of care does not have to be the same as in Finland (2).

France

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Gabon

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Yellow fever vaccination required at entry (4).

Gambia

| Source: 1, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 8).

Notes

Proof of yellow fever vaccination required (1).

Georgia

| Source: 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (5).

Notes

Until February 2010 a health certificate was necessary for the application of permanent residency status.

Germany (Bavaria, Saxony, Brandenburg)

| Source: 1, 5

Entry regulations

No specific entry regulations for PLHIV. No problems for short-term entry up to three months (1).

Residence regulations

Germany is a federal country. HIV tests may be requested in certain states (Bundesländer) for visa applications that exceed 3 months. It is within the discretion of the local departments for foreigners to ask for medical certificates that exclude active tuberculosis, infectious syphilis or HIV infection (1). Rules of this kind apply for the states of Saxony and Brandenburg (5).

Notes

The law in Bavaria and Saxony allows mandatory HIV tests for Asylum seekers. A positive test result will not have any impact on the legal status (5).

Ghana

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

Proof of yellow fever vaccination required (4).

Greece

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

Checks for individuals wanting to work in Greece cover TB and hepatitis B but not HIV (1). Sex workers wishing to work in Greece are the only group subjected to HIV tests (1).

Notes

Work permits for sex workers are not granted if HIV is detected; free HIV treatment is offered (1).

Grenada

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

At present, no information about restrictions on entry or residence regulations for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

Regulations for residency cannot be completely ruled out. It is very likely within the discretion of the immigration officer to ask for documents regarding the health of applicants for work permits. Explicit regulations do not seem to exist (2).

Guatemala

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Guinea

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

International vaccination record showing current yellow fever vaccination required (4).

Guinea Bissau

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Visa application form may include questions relating to communicable diseases (2).

Guyana

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

At present, no information about restrictions concerning entry or residence regulations for PLHIV available (2).

Residence regulations

Regulations for residency cannot be completely ruled out. It is very likely within the discretion of the immigration officer to ask for documents regarding the health of applicants for work permits (2).

Notes

Explicit regulations do not seem to exist (2).

Haiti

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No HIV testing on entry (2).

Honduras

| Source: 2, 3, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

No specific residence regulations for PLHIV (2). Special regulations for individuals wishing to settle in Honduras (3). Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Honduras. For these individuals, medical certificates are required (4).

Notes

The information concerning residency regulations is contradictory. More information is needed.

Hong Kong

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Hungary

| Source: 2, 4, 5 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (2).

Residence regulations

The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Hungary (4). A positive test result will not automatically lead to expulsion from the country. It depends on the social security status of the person concerned - if they have valid insurance at home, the Hungarian Social Security Fund may be willing to negotiate about providing services to the person at the expense of their original insurance, provided that they have taxable income in Hungary and pay social security contributions (5).

Notes

HIV infection, along with TBC, infectious syphilis, typhus and hepatitis B, is considered a disease threatening public health. Deportation may take place if it is advised by the authorities responsible for public health (2). It is not entirely clear how the above regulations are implemented in practice. We need more information.

Iceland

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

India

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

In a communication to embassies and consulates dated September 17, 2010, the Ministry of External Affairs clarified that there are no travel or residency restrictions for People Living with HIV coming to India.

Indonesia

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Iran

| Source: 2, 3

Entry regulations

No restrictions for tourist and business stays from European countries for up to 3 months (2).

Residence regulations

Foreign nationals applying for a work or residence permit must present a health certificate including a negative HIV test result (2, 3).

Notes

Special regulations for short-term entry may exist for individuals coming from non-European destinations. For example, there is information that HIV tests are required for short-term tourist stays for citizens from Azerbaijan (2).

Iraq

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

Iraq does not allow visitors with HIV/AIDS to enter the country (4). HIV tests are necessary for all those wishing to stay longer than 10 days (2).

Residence regulations

In order to obtain a residency stamp, applicants must produce HIV test results (4).

Notes

We don't know whether an HIV-positive test result still leads to immediate expulsion, as was stated by the German embassy in 1999.

Ireland

| Source: 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 5).

Israel

| Source: 1, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

Documented migrants coming from endemic regions must undergo testing (1). HIV testing required for migrant workers (1).

Notes

Foreigners are advised to purchase health insurance if they stay in the country. Migrant workers are obliged to do so (1). The Ministry of Health reserves the right to deny entry to visitors who declare their positive HIV status (4).

Italy

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Ivory Coast

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

An international health certificate showing current yellow fever immunization is required for entry into the Ivory Coast (4).

Jamaica

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

Foreign nationals with proven HIV-positive status are not subject to any special residence regulations (2).

Japan

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Jordan

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No discrimination and no restrictions for short-term tourist stays (2). Jordan does not permit entry or residency for foreign nationals with HIV/AIDS. Travellers known to have HIV are denied entry at ports of entry, including land border crossings (4).

Residence regulations

Any foreigner applying for a work or residence permit is required to undergo a medical examination including an HIV test. This has to happen within one month after arrival (1). HIV tests are obligatory for stays longer than 2 months. In the case of a positive test result, the applicant must leave the country as soon as possible (2). Travellers seeking residency are required to have an AIDS test performed at a government medical facility (4).

Notes

If the HIV test is positive, the national programme to fight HIV is informed. The minister of the interior is then informed for the purpose of expulsion (1). Europeans who are able to afford medication will very likely not face deportation if HIV is detected, but it is within the discretion of the authorities to grant or deny yearly visa extensions (2). Those who fail to submit to the test or who test positive for HIV are deported (4).

Kazakhstan

| Source: 2, 3, 4, 5, 9

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays (2).

Residence regulations

Applications for a work permit or a permanent residence permit (3 months or more) must be accompanied by a negative HIV test result (2, 3). Visitors applying for a work or residency permit, required for Americans who wish to spend more than 6 months in Kazakhstan, must submit negative HIV test results with their application to the Migration Police in the city where they intend to work or reside. The results must be less than three months old. The city HIV clinic in the place of registration can conduct the test or may certify test results performed abroad. If the original test results are in a language other than Russian or Kazakh, they must be accompanied by an official translation (4). There is no requirement to submit an HIV test result in order to obtain a visa or work permit to/in Kazakhstan. There are no new visa rules and other legislation on migration and HIV/AIDS setting such requirements. There is some confusion, as many people avoid obtaining a work permit through a complicated procedure. They prefer to apply for a permanent residency permit, in which case a negative HIV-test result is mandatory (5, 9).

Notes

It is advisable to take along a certified copy of the test result certificate (in Russian) to avoid having to undergo an HIV test in Kazakhstan, which in some cases has to be repeated every three months. The authorities do not always accept tests taken abroad and might insist that the test is repeated in Kazakhstan (2). If a foreigner tests positive for HIV in Kazakhstan, he or she must depart the country (4).

Kenya

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever immunization may be requested (1, 4).

Kirghizia

| Source: 4

Entry regulations

Restrictions exist, even for short-term stays (4).

Residence regulations

Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of the Kyrgyz Republic. The law states that visitors staying more than one month must present evidence that they are HIV negative (4).

Notes

This restriction has not been actively enforced, but enforcement could begin without notice (4). The information concerning residency regulations is vague and contradictory. We need more information.

Kiribati

No information available.

Korea (North)

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

Officially, no legal provisions relating to the entry of PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

Some people, but not everybody, will be asked to present health certificates including HIV tests at entry (1).

Notes

Anyone whose HIV-positive status becomes known is sent back to her/his country of origin. The reason given for this is the lack of experience with HIV/AIDS, and the lack of treatment options (1).

Korea (South)

| Source: 2, 6

Entry regulations

Foreigners who are carrying an epidemic disease and HIV/AIDS are prohibited from entering the country. Foreigners who stay in Korea for less than 91 days are not required to document HIV tests (2).

Residence regulations

The government may prohibit entry to foreigners who are suspected of carrying HIV/AIDS, at any time and at their discretion. Test results have to be provided by foreign workers prior to entry and certain foreigners (entertainment industry, sports, show business), will be denied entry if the test result is HIV positive. If the foreigner

fails to submit the test certificate before entering, the test has to be done within 62 hours after arrival at an institution designated by the government (2).

Notes

Immigration law allows the government to deport those with serious or infectious diseases; the government of Korea has been reported as deporting people who are HIV positive. According to the Korea Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, 521 of 546 foreigners diagnosed as HIV positive were forced to leave the country (*Korea Times*, 03.03.2008) (6). There is some confusion about the situation in Korea at this point, after the UNAIDS announcement that the country has lifted entry restrictions. Please check our webpage www.hivrestrictions.org for new information.

Kosovo

| Source: 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (5).

Kuwait

| Source: 2, 4, 6

Entry regulations

No special entry regulations apply for short-term stays. No HIV testing at borders (2).

Residence regulations

The visa application for a long-term stay requires a doctor's certificate. In cases of HIV infection, no visa is granted (2). The government of Kuwait has strict regulations regarding certain diseases such as HIV/AIDS and hepatitis. Medical examinations are required for all residency applications and any applicants who are found positive for these restricted diseases will be asked to leave the country immediately and will be permanently barred from re-entry (4).

Notes

If an HIV infection or HIV-related illness becomes known, the residence permit is withdrawn. The person involved is obliged to leave Kuwait, or is expelled (2, 4). Kuwaiti authorities are recommending the implementation of infectious disease „check points“ to screen expatriates and exclude certain „high risk“ nationalities from entering the country. Medical check points are to be equipped with the latest technology to offer results quickly at the airport and exit borders (6).

Laos

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Latvia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Lebanon

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No special entry regulations for PLHIV, no restrictions for short-term tourist stays. The embassy of Lebanon dissuades PLHIV to seek entry in Lebanon (1).

Residence regulations

In accordance with Lebanese labour laws, all new migrants are required to submit negative HIV and STD lab test results along with their application for a work permit. Migrant workers testing positive are deported and, in accordance with the law, repatriation costs are borne by the recruitment agency. As of 2007, however, in such cases foreigners are given access to ARV treatment prior to deportation (5). The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors although individuals applying for a work permit to Lebanon must submit to a laboratory exam in order to prove that s/he is seronegative (4).

Lesotho

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No special regulations for entry and residence of PLHIV. No HIV testing at entry (1, 2).

Notes

Decisions on entry into Lesotho are at the discretion of the border police (2, 4). However, no medical checks are carried out (2).

Liberia

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (8).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever vaccination required (4).

Libya

| Source: 2, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

No special regulations for entry and residence for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Libya (4).

Notes

The information concerning residency regulations is contradictory. We need more information.

Liechtenstein

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Lithuania

| Source: 1, 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Residence regulations

The application form for residency permits requests the applicant to indicate whether he/she has any public-health threatening diseases. HIV is not regarded as a public-health threatening disease (5).

Notes

The immigration department reserves the right to exclude foreigners who present a public-health threat. HIV-positive people are advised not to indicate that they have a public-health threatening disease while filling in applications for residency in order to avoid possible problems (5).

Luxembourg

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Luxembourg law allows entry to be denied on health grounds. However, there are no special legal provisions for the entry of PLHIV (2).

Macedonia

| Source: 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (5).

Madagascar

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever immunization is required for all travellers who have been in an infected zone within 6 months of their arrival in Madagascar (4).

Malawi

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

Travellers need a yellow fever immunization if they are arriving from an infected area (2).

Malaysia

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No regular HIV tests at borders but border officers are entitled to require an HIV test from anybody wishing to cross the border; no entry if individuals don't comply (2).

Residence regulations

Some companies and universities require HIV tests; people are advised to seek information about this beforehand. The general director of migration can withdraw entry permits if individuals violate national security, public health or moral standards (2).

Notes

Deportation of HIV-positive individuals is possible by law. In practice mostly, if not only, migrant workers are deported within three days after HIV is detected. HIV tests at borders are only done if border officers become suspicious; carrying a large amount of medication might alert them (2).

Maldives

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

Tourists entering the country with a valid one-month visa are not asked about any illnesses and are not subject to any restrictions (2).

Residence regulations

Special residence regulations do not exist (2).

Notes

Travellers need a yellow fever immunization if they arrive from an infected area (4).

Mali

| Source: 1, 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2, 8).

Notes

Yellow fever vaccination is required (1).

Malta

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Marshall Islands

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term stays (up to 90 days) (8).

Residence regulations

HIV test required for stays over 90 days (8). Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (4).

Notes

However, medical restrictions generally do not apply to US citizens entering the Marshall Islands (4). Information provided here is vague and relates partly to U.S. citizens. We need more information.

Mauritania

| Source: 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever vaccination required (4).

Mauritius

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

Entry and temporary stay allowed for PLHIV (8).

Residence regulations

Migrant workers have to submit results of their HIV test for employment. No employment if the test result is positive (8).

Notes

Travellers coming from yellow fever infected areas may be asked to present a yellow fever vaccination certificate (4).

Mexico

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Micronesia

| Source: 8

Entry regulations

Very likely no restrictions for PLHIV.

Residence regulations

No restrictions for Pohni State. Status of other states in Micronesia is unknown (each has its own border control policies and regulations) (8).

Notes

Information provided here is vague. We need more information.

Moldova

| Source: 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (5).

Residence regulations

The new law does not allow any discrimination on entry and residence based on HIV status, mandatory HIV tests are prohibited (5). In the past foreigners staying longer than 3 months were required to take HIV tests.

Notes

Representatives from the Government announced in summer 2011 to abolish its restrictions by January 2012. The new law is already adopted by the Government; final decisions need to be made by the Parliament. Any new information will be published at www.hivrestrictions.org.

Monaco

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Mongolia

| Source: 2, 7

Entry regulations

No information about restrictions for short-term tourist stays. There are very likely no problems.

Residence regulations

HIV tests are mandatory for foreigners planning to stay in the country for a longer period. This applies especially to foreign workers, students and trainees; tests have to be repeated whenever the visa is renewed (2). Visitors must register with the Office of Immigration, Naturalization, and Foreign Citizens within one week of arrival if they are staying for more than 30 days. An HIV test is required for those staying over 3 months. The Civil Registration Office will accept „internationally recognized“ test results from abroad (7).

Notes

The information about the regulations in the country seems to be inconsistent and contradictory; also, the law and regulations do not always correlate with the practice (2). PLHIV can be deported if they don't comply with the advice of Mongolian health authorities (2).

Montenegro

| Source: 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 5).

Montserrat

| Source: 2, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any regulations concerning entry and residence of PLHIV. Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays, no health checks at borders (2).

Residence regulations

Anyone who does not appear to be in good health may be required to undergo a medical examination (including HIV test) prior to being granted or denied entry (4). It is very likely within the discretion of the immigration officer to ask for documents regarding the health of applicants for work permits. Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined (2).

Notes

The information concerning residency regulations is vague and contradictory. We need more information.

Morocco

| Source: 1, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 5).

Residence regulations

The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Morocco (4).

Notes

Previous information from the US Consulate in Casablanca stating that HIV tests are mandatory to apply for permanent residency is outdated.

Mozambique

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Travellers coming from yellow fever infected areas may be asked to present a yellow fever vaccination certificate (4).

Myanmar (Burma)

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No specific regulations for PLHIV. No HIV testing at entry (2).

Residence regulations

No special residence regulations for foreign nationals with HIV. In practice no HIV-related questions are raised, either at entry or for visa extensions (2).

Notes

Myanmar is not a state under the rule of law. Arbitrariness and corruption are common. Therefore it is difficult to judge how the public authorities would react if the HIV infection of a foreigner became public (2).

Namibia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Existing restrictions were abolished prior to the International AIDS Conference in Vienna (2010).

Nauru

| Source: 4 (#)

Entry regulations

We are unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Nauru (4).

Notes

The Ministry of Health of Nauru is currently considering whether to put restrictions in place (4). More information is needed. Any new information will be published at www.hivrestrictions.org.

Nepal

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Netherlands

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Notes

A danger to public health may be grounds for denying entry, but it does not apply to HIV (1).

New Zealand

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays up to 3 months (2).

Residence regulations

From early 2005 on, New Zealand has been undertaking HIV screening for migrants. This decision was made as part of a comprehensive review of New Zealand's health screening requirements. The full set of changes, including screening for HIV, and a wider and updated set of tests for other expensive-to-treat conditions, will be implemented in early 2005, for individuals intending to stay in New Zealand for longer than 12 months (1).

Notes

HIV screening will also be carried out for individuals proposed for the Refugee Quota program. A maximum of 20 HIV-positive individuals will be accepted as Quota refugees any year (1). While HIV-positive individuals may not, prima facie, meet the definition of "acceptable standard of health", waivers of this requirement will be available for family members of New Zealand citizens and residents, and for refugees (1).

Nicaragua

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays up to 3 months (2).

Residence regulations

For stays longer than 3 months, the residence permit must be renewed at the immigration authority. A doctor's certificate is required for this (2).

Notes

Only in exceptional cases are HIV-positive persons granted permission for a longer stay (2).

Niger

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

International vaccination certificate for yellow fever mandatory; cholera vaccination is recommended (4).

Nigeria

| Source: 2, 4, 8 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 8).

Residence regulations

Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Nigeria. The Nigerian authorities have the discretion to deny entry to foreigners who are "undesirable for medical reasons" and may require HIV tests for foreigners marrying Nigerian citizens (4).

Notes

The information provided here is contradictory. We need more information.

Norway

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Residence regulations

Individuals remaining in Norway for longer than 3 months are offered a tuberculosis test and an HIV test, in order to arrange for any necessary treatment as fast as possible (1).

Notes

It is permitted to import small amounts of HIV medication for private use. A permit is required for larger amounts (2).

Oman

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 5

Entry regulations

No HIV tests required for tourists (1). No special regulations for short-term stays (2).

Residence regulations

HIV tests are part of the medical examination process for work and residence permits (1, 4). In the event that a person tests positive he or she is required to go back to the country of citizenship (1). All applications for residence permits necessitate medical examinations (2).

Notes

HIV-positive test results lead to deportation (2). Evidence of yellow fever immunization is required if the traveller enters from an infected area (4). For tourists with HIV it is allowed to bring at entry their medication along with them (5).

Pakistan

| Source: 1, 2, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2, 8).

Panama

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

Very likely no restrictions for short-term tourist stays.

Residence regulations

Panamanian immigration does not require an HIV/AIDS test, but Panamanian law does allow for deportation upon discovery by immigration (4). The old law on entry, stays and residence for PLHIV has been removed. The new legislation does not contain articles related to HIV testing for foreigners applying for tourist, residence or labour visas (8).

Notes

Embassy Panama is not aware of any American citizens who have been deported due to HIV/AIDS (4). The information we have is vague. We need more information.

Papua New Guinea

| Source: 1, 4

Entry regulations

Restrictions for short-term stays are possible. HIV test required for entry permit applicants over 16 years of age (1).

Residence regulations

Travellers requesting residency or who intend to remain long term in Papua New Guinea are required to have an AIDS test performed at a US Government medical facility (4). All applicants seeking to travel to PNG must be of good health and good character. In some cases, medical documentation, including a HIV test, and a local police clearance certificate will be required. This will depend on the purpose and duration of the visit (please refer to the appropriate entry category). Failure to disclose this information may result in the entry permit being refused, cancelled or deemed void (1) (www.pngcanberra.org).

Notes

Entry permits may be cancelled by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration. Grounds for Entry Permit Cancellation include: The entry permit holder is suffering from a disease which presents a danger to the community. (source: www.pngcanberra.org)

Paraguay

| Source: 2, 8 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (2).

Residence regulations

Anyone entering Paraguay with the intention of taking up permanent residence there is obliged to undergo an HIV test at the regional medical laboratory (2). Restrictions removed through adoption of a new HIV law in November 2009 (8).

Notes

No residence permit is granted if the HIV test result is positive (2). Information provided here is contradictory. We need more information.

Peru

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Those wishing to marry in Peru (applies to Peruvians and foreigners in some parishes) need to take an HIV test. A marriage permit may be denied if the HIV test is positive (2).

Philippines

| Source: 1, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (1).

Residence regulations

U.S. citizens applying for residency status in the Philippines can be excluded based on HIV (4).

Notes

The information provided here is contradictory. It is possible that the information provided by US sources is incorrect. Please check www.hivtrestrictions.org for updated information.

Poland

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays, no health checks at borders (1).

Residence regulations

HIV tests are offered for pregnant women or babies who are suspected of being HIV positive and who wish to stay longer than 3 months. HIV is not a reason for deportation (1).

Notes

Refugees receive information in their own language explaining the necessity of taking test for infectious illnesses like TB or HIV. The decision to take the test is voluntary. (Source: The National AIDS Centre in Poland)

Portugal

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

No controls at borders. According to Portuguese law, individuals with HIV are not questioned about their serological status; tests and certificates are not required. HIV is not a reason for deportation (1).

Notes

Denial of entry based on public health reasons can only be applied in the case of diseases defined within WHO application instruments, or in the case of other infectious or contagious parasites that involve protection measures in national territory (1).

Qatar

| Source: 2, 4, 6

Entry regulations

No HIV testing on entry. However, individuals whose HIV-positive status is known to the authorities are refused entry (2). Qatar does not allow individuals with HIV/AIDS to enter the country (4).

Residence regulations

Medical examinations are required for all long-term visitors and residents (4). Employers have to take newly arriving employees to a medical check within three days of their arrival. Many families who recruit domestic workers fail to do so. This can be dangerous as workers have direct contact with family members especially children. Recruiting agencies are supposed to conduct health tests in the employees' country of origin. This procedure is not obligatory but can save the cost of repatriating people found to be unfit for working in Qatar (6). Visitors who intend to stay for more than one month should undergo a medical examination including HIV testing. Only tests performed in the country are recognized. No HIV testing upon entry (source: Mission of the State Qatar at the United Nations).

Notes

Immediate deportation of tourists and business travellers if an HIV-related illness is discovered (2). Individuals who have HIV/AIDS may be subject to deportation. (4). Planned legislation will include mandatory HIV testing for those wanting to marry and for certain groups of people who have lived abroad for more than two years; this applies especially to housemaids, domestic workers and junior staff (law planned in 2008) (6). Residency and work permit applicants must undergo HIV testing at the designated governmental facility within one month. Those testing positive will be denied work visas and will be deported. Residents contracting HIV during their stay in Qatar will not be deported. They can access treatment equally with nationals and are allowed to practise their daily life (source: Mission of the State Qatar at the United Nations).

Romania

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Russian Federation

| Source: 2, 4, 5, 9

Entry regulations

For short-term tourist stays (up to 3 months) no HIV testing is required on entry (2, 4).

Residence regulations

For longer stays (more than 3 months), for students and for foreign employees, an HIV test result and/or a doctor's certificate must be presented (2). Applicants for longer-term visas or residence permits may be asked to undergo tests not only for HIV/AIDS but also for tuberculosis and leprosy (4). Non-Russian citizens who don't need a visa have to provide a certificate of their HIV-negative status when submitting a request for temporary residence, within 30 days of submitting the temporary residence application (5). In January 2011 the Government adopted a new regulation on HIV prevention. The document states that entry restrictions and deportation based on HIV status are an appropriate preventive measure (9).

Notes

Foreign nationals found to be HIV positive have to leave to country within 3 months (2). In 2008, 1,579 legal migrants were tested positive for HIV. Fourteen people were hospitalized in Russia and 198 people were deported (Federal Hygiene and Epidemiology Centre of Rospotrebnadzor).

Rwanda

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 5, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2, 5, 8).

Residence regulations

No HIV-related residency restrictions (1, 2, 5).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever immunization recommended (4).

Samoa

| Source: 8

Entry regulations

No information on short-term stays.

Residence regulations

HIV tests required for stays over 90 days (8).

San Marino

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

São Tomé and Príncipe

| Source: 4

No information available.

Notes

Proof of yellow fever vaccination is required for entry (4).

Saudi Arabia

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

Very likely no problems for short-term tourist stays (2).

Residence regulations

All travellers who are coming to work must undergo a medical examination and present a medical report confirming that they are free from contagious diseases, including HIV/AIDS. Any worker testing positive for HIV/AIDS would not be allowed to work in Saudi Arabia (4). The visa will not be granted if the test result is positive (2).

Notes

It is very likely that deportation will take place if HIV is detected.

Senegal

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever immunization is required if the traveller enters from an infected area (4).

Serbia

| Source: 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 5).

Seychelles

| Source: 4, 5, 7, 9

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (5).

Residence regulations

To work on the Seychelles, a work permit is required. A full medical examination is required and all tests are compulsory, including HIV. According to a potential employer, they (the consulate/decision makers) are not fussy if you have a health condition, „unless you are HIV positive“. This means quite clearly that you would still be open to discrimination (9). The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Seychelles (4). No special regulations concerning residency for PLHIV, no discrimination (5).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever immunization is required if the traveller enters from an infected area (7).

Sierra Leone

| Source: 1, 4, 8

Entry regulations

There are no restrictions affecting entry or stay of persons living with HIV/AIDS in Sierra Leone (1, 8).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever immunization required (4).

Singapore

| Source: 2, 5

Entry regulations

No restriction for tourist stays (up to 30 days). No HIV testing on entry (2).

Residence regulations

There are special regulations for PLHIV who want to stay in the country for a longer period. Applicants for a Social Visit Pass, Employment Pass, Long Term Immigration Pass or Permanent Residence in Singapore have to undergo a medical examination including TB x-ray and HIV tests. Entry for PLHIV will on principle be denied, but there are no tests for short-term visits, only individuals looking unhealthy might be examined (2).

Notes

HIV-positive foreign spouses of Singaporeans are allowed to remain in Singapore (2, 5). HIV-positive foreigners will be deported immediately (2).

Slovak Republic

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 5

Entry regulations

No specific entry regulations for PLHIV. No controls at borders (1).

Residence regulations

Foreign nationals applying for a long-term stay must prove that they are not suffering from diseases that are a threat to public health (2). PLHIV will not get a residence permit in Slovakia (1). We are unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors; however, a medical examination including HIV/AIDS test is required for obtaining a residency permit for the Slovak Republic (4).

Notes

A health certificate is required when applying for a work permit. The certificate includes HIV, hepatitis, syphilis and other STDs. In some cases, applications by individuals who tested positive were denied. Individuals who want to stay in Slovakia for more than three months without working have the option of leaving the country for a few days after 3 months. When they re-enter, the 3-month visa will be granted again (5).

Slovenia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Solomon Islands

| Source: 1, 4, 8

Entry regulations

Entry can be refused at the border if it becomes known that somebody has a communicable disease (1).

Residence regulations

Border officers may require a medical certificate; HIV test required for stays over 90 days (8).

Notes

Any immigration officer is entitled to request a medical examination from anyone entering the country (1).

An immigration officer can bar a visitor from entering the country or deport an immigrant if he or she refuses to submit to an examination by a government medical officer after being required to do so (4).

Somalia

| Source: 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions and no HIV testing for travellers (8).

South Africa

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Notes

Travellers entering South Africa from countries where yellow fever is endemic are often required to present their yellow World Health Organization (WHO) vaccination record or other proof of inoculation (4).

Spain

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (1).

Sri Lanka

| Source: 2, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

There are no special entry regulations for individuals with HIV. At the Sri Lankan border no questions about HIV are asked (2).

Residence regulations

The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Sri Lanka; however, Sri Lankan law does allow immigration officials to refer visitors and foreign residents to a physician for examination if a public health risk is suspected. In practice this is a rare occurrence, but travellers should be aware that Sri Lankan law allows for the denial of entry to any foreigner who, upon referral from an immigration officer, is certified by a physician as posing a public health risk. Travellers who refuse a medical examination under these circumstances may be refused entry (4).

Notes

Foreign PLHIV whose infection is known will be repeatedly requested to leave the country. Individuals convicted for sexual assault will be routinely tested for HIV (2). Travellers must have yellow fever and cholera immunizations if they are arriving from an infected area (4). More information is needed.

St. Kitts and Nevis

| Source: 2, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any regulations concerning entry and residence of PLHIV. Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays, no health checks at borders (2).

Residence regulations

HIV/AIDS entry restrictions may exist for visitors to and foreign residents of St. Kitts and Nevis (4). Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined (2).

Notes

The information concerning residency regulations is vague and contradictory. We need more information.

St. Lucia

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any regulations concerning entry and residence of PLHIV. Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays, no health checks at borders (2).

Residence regulations

Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined (2).

Notes

The information concerning residency regulations is vague. We need more information.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

| Source: 2, 4, 8 (#)

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any regulations concerning entry and residence of PLHIV. Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays, no health checks at borders (2).

Residence regulations

HIV/AIDS entry restrictions may exist for visitors to and foreign residents of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (4). Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined (2).

Notes

In the context of employment and care, work permits are not renewed and HIV-positive non-nationals do not have access to HIV treatment and services (8). The information concerning residency regulations is vague and contradictory. We need more information.

Sudan

| Source: 2, 4, 5, 8

Entry regulations

PLHIV are not granted a visa and are not permitted to enter Sudan. To obtain a visa at a Sudanese embassy or at Khartoum Airport, a negative HIV test result must be presented (2). These regulations are very likely not carried out in practice (5).

Residence regulations

According to Sudanese law, foreign nationals with HIV are not permitted to remain in Sudan. However, in practice checks and deportations are not carried out (2). A negative HIV test result must be presented at a Sudanese embassy or at Khartoum airport in order to obtain a visa. However, anecdotal reports indicate this requirement is not enforced in practice (4). HIV tests required for foreigners who want to stay 3 months or more (8).

Notes

No HIV test result has to be presented when applying for a tourist or business visa at a Sudanese embassy or at Khartoum airport. The regulations are not applied (5).

Suriname

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 6 (#)

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any regulations concerning entry and residence of PLHIV. Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays, no health checks at borders (2).

Residence regulations

As recently as 5 May 2008, the Republic of Suriname has adopted and is now enforcing a policy of travel restrictions to Suriname for persons living with HIV from selected parts of the world. In addition to proof of travel insurance, a health certificate is required, stating that all visa-requiring travellers to Suriname from Africa, Asia and Eastern European Countries have no leprosy, no TB, no STI, no hepatitis B and no HIV (6). It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined (2).

Notes

Migrant workers do not have to be tested for HIV in order to receive work permits, but employers can ask the migrant to be tested. There is no law that forbids this (1). Travellers arriving from Guyana, French Guiana and Brazil are required to show proof of a yellow fever vaccination (4). The information provided here is vague and contradictory. We need more information.

Swaziland

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Notes

Foreigners living with HIV are not subject to any restrictions in Swaziland (1).

Sweden

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Switzerland

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Syria

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing at entry for tourists (1, 2).

Residence regulations

HIV tests are mandatory for foreign nationals between 15 and 60 years of age who wish to settle in Syria or renew their residence permits. The test has to be taken in Syria. No residence permit will be granted if the test result is positive (4).

Notes

Foreigners whose HIV infection is detected will be deported (1, 2). Foreigners wishing to marry a Syrian national are required to take an HIV test (4).

Tajikistan

| Source: 2, 4, 5, 8

Entry regulations

No health checks at borders or restrictions concerning residence (2).

Residence regulations

Visitors who remain in the country for more than 90 days must present a medical certificate showing that they are HIV-free, or submit to an HIV test in Tajikistan. HIV is a growing health threat in Tajikistan (4). Part of the existing law has been repealed, removing the provision that foreigners found to be HIV positive are deported from the country. However, there is still mandatory testing for people entering the country for longer than 3 months. It is not clear yet how this provision will be implemented (5, 8). According to the new version of the HIV Law, foreigners coming for more than 3 months either submit their recent HIV test result or must be tested within 10 days of their arrival. Once every 6 months foreigners repeat their HIV test. Those tested positive for HIV will NOT be deported from the country (*Global Fund*, March 2010).

Notes

The embassy advises visitors to leave the country if an urgent illness occurs. The situation in local hospitals by no means guarantees the necessary treatment (2). Foreigners found to be HIV positive will no longer be deported from the country (5, 8).

Taiwan

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 5

Entry regulations

A health check is not part of the entry procedures to Taiwan (2). There seem to be no restrictions for short-term tourist stays. Taiwan does not ask short-term visitors about their HIV status if the visitors apply for landing visas or enter under visa-exempt status (stay of less than 30 days) or apply for a visitor visa (stay of less than 2 months) (4).

Residence regulations

People applying for resident visas – usually those who plan to work or join family – must have a health certificate. If the health certificate indicates that the visa applicant is HIV positive, the applicant will not receive a visa even though Taiwan's visa law does not mention HIV (4). HIV tests are required for stays longer than 3 months, for work permits and applicants for residence (1). Foreigners with confirmed HIV infection will lose their residence permit (2).

Notes

HIV-positive foreigners must leave the country within 3 months of learning of their result. People have been forcibly deported within days of discovering their condition. The names of these individuals are placed on a black-list, and none of them are allowed to re-enter the country for any reason (5). The Taiwanese authorities are likely to require people who test positive for HIV to leave Taiwan even though Taiwan law does not require authorities to deport people who are HIV positive (4).

Tanzania

| Source: 2, 4, 8 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Residence regulations

The Immigration Act of 1995 prohibits entry and stay of persons with contagious or infectious diseases, including people with HIV (8).

Notes

Travellers may be required to prove yellow fever immunizations if they are arriving from an infected area (4). The information provided here is contradictory. We need more information.

Thailand

| Source: 2, 5, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2, 5, 8).

Timor-Leste

| Source: 4, 7

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

A certificate to proof vaccination against yellow fever is required for people coming from regions where yellow fever is endemic (7).

Togo

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

Notes

Vaccination against yellow fever is required before entry (4).

Tonga

| Source: 4, 8 (#)

Entry regulations

No information about restrictions for short-term stays.

Residence regulations

HIV test required for stays over 90 days (8). The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Seychelles (4).

Trinidad and Tobago

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2, 8).

Residence regulations

The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Seychelles (4).

Notes

Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays are not defined (2). CDC continues to recommend yellow fever vaccine for travel to Trinidad & Tobago (4).

Tunisia

| Source: 1, 2 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV for short-term stays (1, 2).

Residence regulations

No restrictions for residence permits (long term stays) (1). Special rules apply for long-term stays. The approval of applications for work and residence permits may be linked to HIV status and may be denied in case of HIV (2). People staying for more than 30 days in Tunisia have to provide a negative test result (user feedback).

Notes

The information concerning residence or work permits is contradictory. We need more information.

Turkey

| Source: 1, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

No specific residence regulations for foreigners living with HIV (1). The US Department of State is unaware of any specific HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Turkey. However, Turkey will generally deport foreigners once their HIV positive status is discovered (4).

Notes

It is likely that the information provided by US sources concerning deportation is incorrect. Please check www.hivrestrictions.org for updated information.

Turkmenistan

| Source: 1, 4

Entry regulations

HIV tests are not required for applicants requesting tourist visas (4).

Residence regulations

Foreigners who want to visit Turkmenistan as tourists, to study or for business reasons will only be issued a visa if the HIV test is negative (1). Should an individual be discovered to be HIV positive, that status would be grounds for denial of a visa or deportation. All individuals requesting residence visas are required to submit to an HIV test (4).

Notes

Foreigners or stateless persons refusing tests or other preventive measures are deported (1).

Turks and Caicos Islands

| Source: 4, 5

Entry regulations

No HIV testing for visa less than 30 days. No health related controls on entry (5).

Residence regulations

HIV test is mandatory for residence and work permits for anyone staying longer than 30 days. Tests taken abroad are not accepted and tests must be renewed whenever the visa permit needs to be extended (5). The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Seychelles (4).

Notes

PLHIV are not allowed to work on the islands. The work permit will be not extended if HIV is diagnosed (5).

Tuvalu

No information available.

Uganda

| Source: 1, 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry (1, 2).

Notes

Evidence of yellow fever vaccination is required (4).

Ukraine

| Source: 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (5).

Notes

Ukraine has updated its Law on Prevention of AIDS and Social Protection of Population. Among other changes, restrictions on entry for HIV-positive people have been removed (5).

United Arab Emirates

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

Short-term entry for tourist stays is possible due to a lack of checks at borders, but risky since PLHIV are not allowed to enter the country (2).

Residence regulations

Health examinations, including HIV tests, are required in order to obtain a residence permit for long-term stays (2). A full medical examination is required for work or residence permits and includes an HIV/AIDS test. Testing must be performed after arrival (4).

Notes

Individuals testing HIV positive may be deported even if they are already working in the country (2). It is not permitted to bring HIV medication for personal use into the country (2). Americans have been detained and deported for testing positive for HIV or hepatitis (4).

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

| Source: 1, 5

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 5).

Uruguay

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (2).

USA

| Source: 1

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1).

Residence regulations

U.S. President Barack Obama has announced that restrictions affecting people with HIV from entering or migrating to the United States are lifted as of 4 January 2010. Customs regulations require people entering with prescription medication like antiretroviral drugs to carry a doctor's certificate in English, stating that the drugs are required to treat a personal condition. This requirement applies to all prescription drugs.

Notes

Important note for visitors under the visa waiver program (for countries where a visa is not required to travel to the USA) who are living with HIV: please note that HIV is no longer considered a communicable disease for entry purposes. When submitting the online ESTA form to clear your entry to the US, it is important that you do check “no” for the question about communicable diseases. HIV is no longer considered as such by the US authorities.

Uzbekistan

| Source: 1, 2, 4, 8

Entry regulations

No restrictions for tourist stays up to 3 months (2).

Residence regulations

Uzbek law requires that visitors carry a medical certificate attesting that they are not infected with HIV and that visitors staying more than 15 days be tested. However, this requirement is rarely enforced except in cases of long-term visitors on work permits (4). An HIV certificate has to be presented for stays exceeding 3 months (2, 8). There are fewer checks at entry by land than at airports (checks are sporadic) (2).

Notes

HIV-positive foreigners or stateless persons residing in Uzbekistan may be expelled (1, 8). Immediate deportation if HIV is detected. The reason given for this practice is that there are no clinics specializing in HIV treatment. However, it is unclear whether these regulations are applied in practice. The embassy is not aware of any cases where foreigners with HIV were expelled or denied entry (2).

Vanuatu

| Source: 4, 8

Entry regulations

No known restrictions (8).

Residence regulations

The Government of Vanuatu does not impose any entry restrictions for persons with the HIV/AIDS virus, as long as they include the information on the arrival form (4).

Notes

The information provided here is vague and can be interpreted as a threat. We need more information.

Vatican City

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

The State of Vatican City has no separate entry regulations (2).

Notes

Related tasks are carried out by the Italian authorities (2).

Venezuela

| Source: 2, 4

Entry regulations

No restrictions for entry of PLHIV. No HIV test required at entry (2).

Notes

Travellers entering Venezuela from certain countries are required to have a current yellow fever vaccination certificate (4).

Vietnam

| Source: 2, 8

Entry regulations

There are no special entry and residence regulations for PLHIV. Neither a doctor's certificate nor an HIV test is required on entry (2).

Residence regulations

No HIV-related entry, stay or residence restrictions (8).

Virgin Islands

| Source: 2, 4 (#)

Entry regulations

The embassy is not aware of any regulations concerning entry and residence of PLHIV. Very likely no problems at entry for short-term stays, no health checks at borders (2).

Residence regulations

Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not. Explicit regulations for long-term stays, mentioning what documents are necessary, are not defined. The embassy is not aware of health checks at borders (2). Anyone who does not appear to be in good health may be required to undergo a medical examination, including an HIV test, prior to being granted or denied entry (4).

Notes

Restrictions for long-term stays cannot be ruled out completely. It sometimes depends on the immigration officer whether health checks are carried out or not (2). The information concerning residency is vague. We need more information.

Yemen

| Source: 2

Entry regulations

Entry even for short-term tourist stays will not be granted if the authorities are aware of an existing HIV infection (2).

Residence regulations

Foreigners wishing to stay longer than 3 months or applying for a work permit have to present a negative HIV test result in order to receive the permit (2).

Notes

Any foreigners testing HIV positive are obliged to leave the country. Any existing residence or other permits (work permit, etc.) will be withdrawn (2). There is a high level of discrimination in the country, and HIV-positive people might even be deported from hospitals. There is no legal basis for these regulations; the authorities refer to internationally accepted best practice models. The regulations described are put into practice. The only chance foreigners might have to circumvent an HIV test is to pay a bribe (2).

Zambia

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

Zimbabwe

| Source: 1, 2

Entry regulations

No restrictions for PLHIV (1, 2).

