



**Commonwealth of Australia**

*Migration Regulations 1994*

**SPECIFICATION OF COUNTRIES**

(Paragraph 2.25A(1)(b))

I, *SCOTT MORRISON*, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, acting under paragraph 2.25A(1)(b) of the *Migration Regulations 1994* ('the Regulations') hereby:

1. REVOKE Instrument IMMI 11/072 signed on 31 October 2011; and
2. SPECIFY the countries listed in Schedule A for the purposes of paragraph 2.25A(1)(b) of the Regulations.

This Instrument, IMMI 13/161, commences on 22 March 2014.

Dated 17 March 2014

SCOTT MORRISON  
Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

## Schedule A

Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	American Samoa
Andorra	Angola	Anguilla	Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina	Armenia	Aruba	Australia
Austria	Azerbaijan Bahamas	Bahrain	Bangladesh
Barbados	Belarus	Belgium	Benin
Bermuda	Bhutan	Bolivia	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana	British Virgin Islands	British West Indies	Brunei Darussalam
Burkina Faso	Burundi	Belize	Brazil
Bulgaria Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada	Cape Verde
Cayman Islands	Central African Republic	Chad	Channel Islands
Chile	China (People's Republic of)	Colombia	Comoros
Congo (Republic of the)	Cook Islands	Costa Rica	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
Croatia	Cuba	Cyprus	Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)	Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire)	Denmark Djibouti	Dominican Republic
Dominica East Timor (Timor Leste)	Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea	Estonia	Ethiopia Falkland Islands
Faroe Islands	Fiji	Finland	France
French Guiana	French Polynesia Gabon	Gambia	Georgia
Germany	Ghana	Gibraltar	Greece
Greenland	Guadeloupe	Grenada	Guam
Guatemala	Guinea	Guinea-Bissau	Guyana Haiti
Hong Kong SAR of the PRC	Honduras	Hungary Iceland	India
Indonesia	Iran	Iraq	Ireland
Isle of Man	Israel	Italy	Jamaica
Jan Mayen	Japan	Jordan	Kazakhstan
Kenya	Kiribati	Kosovo	Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Latvia	Lebanon
Lesotho	Liberia	Libya	Liechtenstein
Lithuania	Luxembourg	Macau SAR of the PRC	Macedonia (the former Yugoslav Republic of)
Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Maldives
Mali	Malta	Marshall Islands	Martinique
Mauritania	Mauritius	Mayotte	Melanesia

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Mexico	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Moldova	Monaco
Mongolia	Montenegro	Montserrat	Morocco
Mozambique	Myanmar (Burma)	Namibia	Nauru
Nepal	Netherlands	Netherlands Antilles	New Zealand
Nicaragua	Niger	Nigeria	Northern Mariana Islands
New Caledonia	Niue	Norway	Oman
Pakistan	Palau (Republic of)	Panama	Papua New Guinea
Paraguay	Peru	Philippines	Pitcairn Islands
Pleasant Island	Poland	Portugal	Puerto Rico
Qatar	Republic of Korea (South Korea)	Reunion Islands	Romania <b>Russian Federation</b>
Rwanda	Saint Helena	Saint Barthélemy	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia	Saint Martin	Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa	San Marino	Sao Tome and Principe	Saudi Arabia
Senegal	Serbia	Seychelles	Sierra Leone
Singapore	Slovakia	Slovenia	Solomon Islands
Somalia	South Africa	South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands	Spain
Sri Lanka	Sudan	Suriname	South Sudan
Svalbard	Swaziland	Sweden	Switzerland
Syria	Tahiti	Taiwan	Tajikistan
Tanzania	Thailand	Tibet	Tokelau
Togo	Tonga	Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia
Turkey	Turkmenistan	Turks and Caico Islands	Tuvalu
United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom and Northern Ireland	United States of America	United States Virgin Islands
Uganda	Ukraine	Uruguay	Uzbekistan
Vatican City	Vanuatu	Venezuela	Vietnam
Wallis and Futuna Islands	West Bank and Gaza Strip	Yemen	Zambia
Zimbabwe			

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

### *Migration Regulations 1994*

#### **SPECIFIED COUNTRIES**

(Paragraph 2.25A(1)(b))

1. This Instrument is made under paragraph 2.25A(1)(b) of the *Migration Regulations 1994* ('the Regulations').
2. Paragraph 2.25A(1)(b) of the Regulations provides that in determining whether an applicant satisfies the criteria for the grant of a visa, the Minister must seek the opinion of a Medical Officer of the Commonwealth as to whether the person meets certain requirements of Schedule 4, **unless the application is for a permanent visa** that is made from a country that is a country specified by Gazette Notice and there is no information known to Immigration (either through application or otherwise) to the effect that the person may not meet any of those requirements
3. The purpose of the Instrument is to **extend Local Clearance** to all countries specified in the schedule to the Instrument.
4. The Instrument operates to specify that for all countries the necessary medical examinations undertaken for the purpose of meeting Australia's health requirements **may be eligible** for local clearance if performed by an approved panel physician. **Visa applicants may benefit from streamlined visa processing where the necessary medical examinations indicate that the applicant does not have a disease or condition that is likely to pose a health risk, or significant cost to Australians,** or affect the access of Australians to health services or procedures that are in short supply.
5. Extensive consultation has been undertaken with relevant internal stakeholders. Pursuant to subsection 18(1) of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003* external consultation was not necessary. The Instrument is of a minor or machinery nature and does not substantially alter existing arrangements. In accordance with policy and operational guidelines, local clearance will remain restricted to specified offshore locations based on varying levels of integrity and panel physician performance in different countries.
6. The Office of Best Practice Regulation was consulted in relation to the new points test and has advised that a Regulatory Impact Statement is not required (OBPR Reference 16516).
7. Under section 44 of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003* the Instrument is exempt from disallowance and therefore a Human Rights Statement of Compatibility is not required.
8. This Instrument, IMMI 13/161, **commences on 22 March 2014.**