

**Immigration Directive No. 11 of 2014:
Children traveling without unabridged Birth Certificate**

01 July 2014

The Department of Home Affairs has provided a grace period to allow children to travel without unabridged birth certificates until 30 September 2014. **The requirement of the unabridged birth certificate will come into effect from 1 October 2014.** The above is an interim measure to allow prospective travelers sufficient time to obtain the necessary unabridged certificate.

Where parents are traveling with a child, such parents must produce an Unabridged Birth Certificate of the child reflecting the particulars of the parents of the child.

In the case of one parent traveling with a child, he or she must produce an Unabridged Birth Certificate and:

- (a) Consent in the form of an affidavit from the other parent registered as a parent on the birth certificate of the child authorizing him or her to enter into or depart from the Republic of South Africa with the child he or she is traveling with;
- (b) A court order granting full parental responsibilities and rights or legal guardianship in respect of the child, if he or she is the parent or legal guardian of the child; or
- (c) Where applicable, a death certificate of the other parent registered as a parent of the child on the birth certificate,

Provided that the Director-General may, where the parents of the child are both deceased and the child is traveling with a relative or another person related to him or her or his/her parents, approve such a person to enter or depart the Republic with such a child.

Where a person is travelling with a child who is not his or her biological child, he or she must produce:

- (a) A copy of the Unabridged Birth Certificate of the child;
- (b) An affidavit from the parents or legal guardian of the child confirming that he or she has permission to travel with the child;
- (c) Copies of the identity documents or passports of the parents or legal guardian of the child; and
- (d) The contact details of the parents or legal guardian of the child,

Any unaccompanied minor shall produce to the immigration officer:

- (a) Proof of consent from one or both his or her parents or legal guardian, as the case may be, in the form of a letter or affidavit for the child to travel into or depart from the Republic: Provided that in the case where one parent provides proof of consent, that parent must also provide a copy of a court order issued to him or her in terms of which he or she has been granted full parental responsibilities and rights in respect of the child;
- (b) A letter from the person which is to receive the child in the Republic, containing his or her residential address and contact details where the child will be residing;
- (c) A copy of the identity document or valid passport and visa or permanent residence permit of the person who is to receive the child in the Republic; and
- (d) The contact details of the parents or legal guardian of the child