

ARTICLE 2

General Consular Functions

A consular officer shall be entitled to the performance of the following functions:

- (a) protecting and securing the rights and interests of the sending State and those of its nationals;
- (b) furthering the development of economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and educational relations between the sending State and receiving State and otherwise promoting their friendly relations and cooperation;
- (c) ascertaining by all lawful means conditions of the receiving State in the economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural, educational and other fields, and reporting thereon to the government of the sending State; and
- (d) performing other consular functions authorized by the sending State which are not prohibited by the law of the receiving State or to which the receiving State does not object.

ARTICLE 3

Applications Pertaining to Nationality and Civil Registration

1. A consular officer shall be entitled to:
 - (a) receive applications pertaining to nationality;
 - (b) register nationals of the sending State;
 - (c) register births of nationals of the sending State.
2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not exempt the persons concerned from the obligation to observe the law of the receiving State.

ARTICLE 4

Issuance of Passports and Visas

1. A consular officer shall be entitled to:
 - (a) issue passports or other travel documents to nationals of the sending State and endorse or invalidate the said passports or documents;
 - (b) issue visas to persons who will go to or pass through the sending State and endorse or invalidate the said visas.
2. The passports and other travel documents issued by the authorities of the sending State coming into the possession of the authorities of the receiving State, other than those held for purely temporary purposes, shall be returned to the authorities of the sending State.