CENTRAL AFRICAN FORESTS COMMISSION (COMIFAC)

PROTOCOL AGREEMENT
ON TOURIST MOVEMENTS WITHIN THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL - TNS

AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF:
THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON,
THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,
THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO,

AS PART OF THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL (TNS)
(SIGNED IN YAOUNDE ON 7 DECEMBER 2000)
PROTOCOL AGREEMENT ON TOURIST MOVEMENTS WITHIN THE
SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL - TNS

The Governments of:

- The Republic of Cameroon,
- The Central African Republic,
- The Republic of Congo,

Jointly referred to as State-Parties, and separately as State-Party:

CONSIDERING the provisions of the Cooperation Agreement to establish the Sangha Tri-National (TNS) signed in Yaounde on 7 December 2000 and ratified by the State-Parties;

CONSIDERING the provisions of the Agreement on the movement of staff of the Sangha Tri-National (TNS) signed in Brazzaville on 2 February 2005 by the State-Parties;

CONSIDÉRING the inclusion of the Sangha Tri-National (TNS) in the UNESCO World Heritage list on 1 July 2012 in Saint Petersburg by virtue of its Exceptional Universal Values;

CONSIDERING their common interest to work in conserving the forest ecosystem of the Congo Basin, which is not just a rich universal heritage but also a major economic development pole and an irreplaceable living environment for local communities;

DESIROUS of making the TNS a unique eco-tourism destination on one hand, and harnessing natural resources for economic development and improving livelihoods in communities of the TNS on the other;

Hereby covenant as follows:

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. The State-Parties undertake to enact regulations to facilitate the movement of tourists in the TNS.

Article 2. For the purposes of this agreement, “tourist within the TNS” shall be any physical person who visits TNS sites to observe or appreciate its natural resources and/or traditional cultures.
CHAPTER II: PROCEDURES FOR MOVEMENT OF TOURISTS WITHIN THE TNS AREA

Article 3. Movement of Tourists within the TNS shall be subject to a Visa issued by the relevant authorities of the State-Party of entry.

Article 4. It shall be a multiple-entry Visa when the Tourist enters through one State-Party, visits the TNS, and exits through the same State-Party.

Article 5. Tourists visiting the TNS must have at least two visas in case they enter through one State-Party, visit the TNS, and exit through another State-Party.

Article 6. To enjoy the advantages of the provisions of articles 3, 4 and 5, Tourists within the TNS must obtain a badge and a data sheet from the Conservation Services of the National Park of the State-Party of entry.

Article 7. 1- The TNS Tourist badge shall be signed beforehand by the Senior Divisional Officers (SDOs) of the three Divisions of the State-Parties of the TNS.

2- The front side of the badge shall bear a reference number with the signatures of the three SDOs, and the backside a map of the TNS, together with an indication of the Geographic Area for which the badge is valid.

Article 8. The TNS Tourist badge shall be used with a Data Sheet signed by the official in charge of the National Park of the State-Party of entry.

Article 9. The Data Sheet associated with the TNS Tourist Badge shall indicate the following:

- Reference Number;
- Name in full;
- Date and place of birth;
- Nationality;
- Passport number;
- Visa number;
- Date of issue of visa;
- Visa expiry date;
- Date of arrival in the TNS;
- Date of departure from the TNS;
- Where the tourist comes from;
- National Park of entry into the TNS;
- Itinerary within the TNS;
- National Park of exit from TNS;
- Visa of Official in charge of National Park of entry;
- Visa of Official in charge of National Park of exit;
- An indication that the badge and the data sheet are valid only within the TNS.
Article 10.
1- The Badge and the data sheet shall be handed to the tourist following verification and registration by the conservation service of the National Park of entry;

2- The Badge and the data sheet shall be presented to immigration services at border posts, and upon request by any other authorities responsible for checks;

3- The Badge and the data sheet shall be refunded to the conservation service of the National Park of exit at the end of the visit to the TNS.

Article 11. The TNS Tourist badge and the data sheet shall not exempt their holder from payment of park entry fees as provided for by regulations in force in each State-Party.

Article 12. Statistics of tourist movements shall be compiled, reported at every session of the Tri-National Planning and Execution Committee (CTPE), and forwarded to the Tri-National Monitoring Committee (CTS), and later to the Tri-National Supervision and Arbitration Committee (CTSA).

CHAPTER III: FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 13. The Tri-National Monitoring Committee (CTS) shall oversee the implementation hereof.

Article 14. There must be no inconsistency between any provision herein and the Cooperation Agreement to establish the TNS.

Article 15. Disputes arising from the implementation or interpretation hereof shall be settled by the CTSA.

Article 16. Any amendment hereof must be approved by the CTSA.

Article 17. This protocol agreement shall cease to be valid in the event of termination of the Cooperation Agreement to establish the Sangha Tri-National signed by the three countries.

Article 18. This Protocol Agreement shall take effect as from the date of signature for an indefinite period.
In three (3) original copies in French, all three being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Republic of Cameroon,

H.E. Jules Doret NDONGO
Minister of Forestry and Wildlife

For the Government of the Republic of Congo,

H.E. Rosalie MATONDO
Minister of the Forest Economy

For the Government of the Central African Republic,

H.E. Amif IDRISS
Minister of Waters, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing
Annexes:

A) Sample TNS tourist badge and data sheet

- Recto

![Image of a badge and gorilla](image1.png)

**BADGE TOURISTE DANS L'ESPACE TNS**

Ref: To-001

- Préfet Boumba et Ngoko  
  *(Cameroon)*

- Préfet Sangha-Mbaéré  
  *(RCA)*

- Préfet Sangha  
  *(Congo)*

- Verso

![Image of a geographical map](image2.png)

**AIRE GEOGRAPHIQUE DE VALIDITE DU BADGE TOURISTE TNS**

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Agreement on Tourist movements within the TNS World Heritage Site
TNS tourist data sheet

Reference N° ..........................................................................................................................
Name...........................................................................................................................................
Date of birth: .......................................................... Place of birth:..................................................
Nationality: .......................................................... Profession....................................................... Passport N°. .................................. Issued on: ................................ Expiry date:..........................................................
Visa N°........................................... Issued on: ................................ Emipry date:..........................................
Coming from..................................................................................................................................
Date of arrival in the TNS:................................. Date of departure from the TNS:....................
National Park of entry into the TNS:.......................... .................................................................
Itinerary within the TNS:..................................................................................................................
............................................................................................................................................................
National Park of exit from TNS:............................
Visa Official in charge of National Park of entry

Signature and thumbprint of tourist

Visa of official of National Park of exit
B) Map of tourist movements within the TNS

Case No. 1
Just one Visa (country of entry)

Case 2:
Case No. 2
Two Visas (country of entry and country of exit)