

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Holders of Macao SAR Passport can have Visa-free Access to the Republic of Albania and Russian Federation**

The negotiation process for the mutual visa exemption arrangement between the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) and the Government of the Republic of Albania has been completed. This arrangement starts to be effective from 24 September 2012. According to the arrangement, holders of Macao SAR Passport will be exempted from visa requirements when entering the Republic of Albania, with a maximum stay of 90 days. Meanwhile, nationals of the Republic of Albania will also be exempted from visa requirements when entering the Macao SAR, with a maximum stay of 90 days.

Up to date, the total number of countries or territories that have agreed to grant Macao SAR Passport holders visa-free or visa-on-arrival access has increased to 103, while 9 countries have agreed to grant Macao SAR Travel Permit holders visa-free access to their region.

On the other hand, the Agreement between the Government of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) and the Government of the Russian Federation on mutual exemption of visa requirements starts to be effective from 30 September 2012. According to the Agreement, holders of Macao SAR Passport will be exempted from visa requirements when entering the Russian Federation, with a maximum stay of 30 days.