

## RUSSIA

### Change in Invitation/VSL processing times effective 01Sep11

25 July 2011

As you all know, nothing is ever easy and straightforward when it comes to Russian visa processing. Rules and regulations change often and it never fails to cause inconvenience.

The latest news is that the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will stop providing visa supports/invitations for all nongovernmental organizations starting with September 1st, 2011.

Therefore, we are suspending the 10, 15 and 30 day prior to the departure date ordering deadline for processing.

As long as your entry date into Russia is 45 days or less away, you can apply for an expedited processing or telex invitation NOW and it will be processed RIGHT AWAY. We urge you to use this opportunity to apply for any invitations you may urgently need from now until the middle of September 2011 .

Starting from September 1st, when processing through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will no longer be available, all invitations will be processed through the Federal Migration Service only. **Please count on five-six working day minimum processing for all paper invitations.**

Of course, we are constantly looking for opportunities to offer you expedited processing and we have no doubt that as soon as the dust settles, additional options will become available. We will keep you posted and update our website with new options and prices as they become available.

For the time being we are NOT removing this service option from our website as we hope to provide alternative options in the near future.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask us.

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