

Issue Date: 16th December 1999

Ref: BOD79/14/12/99

Re: Code of Business Practice on Outbound Package Tours – Visa Fee Resolution No. 79

To avoid disputes between member agents and their clients on refund of visa fees in cases of cancellation of package tours, the TIC Board has resolved that with immediate effect if a member shall cancel a package tour, he shall refund visa fees to his clients within 3 working days for group visas which are invalid for use by his clients individually.

For your easy understanding, the codes relating to visa charges are stipulated as follows:

- 1. If a member shall cancel a package tour, he shall refund service / handling charge for processing the visa to his clients within 3 working days. Any visa fees already incurred by the member for the clients in application for a group visa which is invalid for use by his clients individually shall also be refunded to his clients within 3 working days.
- 2. If a member shall cancel a package tour, he shall be entitled to deduct any visa fees already incurred by the member for the clients in application for a travel visa other than a group visa stated in paragraph 1.
- 3. If a client cancels a booking or if the tour is cancelled due to reasons beyond the control of a member, the member shall be entitled to deduct the service / handling charge and visa fees already incurred by the member for the clients in any application for a travel visa from the tour fare to be refunded.

Your co-operation is highly appreciated. All violations to the above will be subject to penalties in accordance with TIC M&A Article 11 (3) (a) and (b).

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HONG KONG

Joseph Tung Executive Director