



The Hon Peter Dutton MP

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

The Hon Andrew Robb AO MP

Minister for Trade and Investment

Senator The Hon Richard Colbeck

Minister for Tourism and International Education

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**AUSTRALIA TO ENHANCE VISA ARRANGEMENTS FOR
INDONESIAN VISITORS**

New visa measures will enhance tourism and business links between Australia and Indonesia.

The Australian Government will introduce an option of a three-year, multiple-entry visa for Indonesian visitors to Australia next year – an extension of the current one-year visa.

The Government will also expand online visa lodgement to all Indonesian citizens by 2017, making the process of applying for an Australian visa simpler for Indonesian tourists and business people.

The Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Peter Dutton, along with Minister's Robb and Colbeck announced these initiatives while attending Indonesia-Australia Business Week in Jakarta.

"These initiatives will benefit Indonesia and Australia as we look to promote stronger business and tourism links between our two countries," Mr Dutton said.

"This change reflects Australia's close relationship with Indonesia and is part of the Government's agenda to boost our tourism sector and reduce red tape."

"Indonesia is already an important source country for Australia with visitors growing over the last 10 years," Mr Colbeck said.

"The Government will continue improving visa procedures to make it easier for international tourists to come to Australia."

The measures will enhance opportunities for Indonesian citizens to visit Australia and will contribute to the growth of our people-to-people and economic links.

There were 150,200 visitors from Indonesia to Australia in 2014, up six per cent compared with 2013. These visitors generated \$600 million for Australia's economy.

Online lodgement offers benefits such as 24/7 accessibility, electronic payment of the visa application charge and the ability to check the status of applications lodged online.

On-line visa lodgement is currently under trial through approved agents in Indonesia.

The Government is committed to expanding client access to online lodgement for visitor visas (Business and Tourist Streams) globally and supporting Australia's position as an attractive business and tourism destination.

Further information: Minister Dutton's Office – 02 6277 7860

Minister's Colbeck's Office – Rachelle Miller 0475 804 886