ZNCC FILE

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Sure Chimbga

THE South African government has decided
˜ to introduce a multi-entry visa for one year
˜ for businessmen with effect from June 1, the
South African Trade Commissioner to Zim-
â\200\230babwe, Mr Nic Nel, said at the ZNCC con-
* gress here. a
Mr Nel said this would replace the single
entry visa valid for three months, and would
reduce the waiting period for Zimbabwean
businessmen intending to visit South Africa.
His announcement was immediately wel-
comed by delegates here and the Deputy
Minister of Home Affairs, Cde Dumiso Dabe-
ngwa, who said he looked forward to the day
when there would be no need for visas be-
tween South Africa and Zimbabwe.
I â\200\230Cde Dabengwa, meanwhile, said visa fees
. introduced in March this year were meant to

SA cuts visa redtape

cover telex, administrative and other costs
incurred by Government in processing visa
applications.

VICTORIA FALLS

â\200\234I do not believe that genuine tourists will
be deterred from visiting our country be-
cause they are now required to pay a nominal
fee for visas. The levying of visa fees is a
common practice even in the so-called devel-
oped countries,â\200\235 Cde Dabengwa said.

The National Registration Bureau had ac-
cumulated a data capture backlog of 1,3 mil-
lion applications for â\200\230national registration

. cards. This was a frightful situation, he said.

â\200\234Although the national registration sys-
tem is designed to operate on computer, the

department had no computer of its own. All i

the computing requirements of the bureau
are handled by the Central Computing Ser-
vices, on an agency basis,â\200\235 Cde Dabengwa
said.

â\200\234It has now become apparent that the
Central Computing Services does not have
the capacity to handle the work. It is there-

fore intended to sub-contract the data cap-
ture operations to a private computer agency
as no significant production operations can
at present be undertaken due to â\200\230the slow
pace of data capture.â\200\235 :

Cde Dabengwa said it was hoped that this
arrangement would greatly improve the op-
erations of the National Registration Bureau,
as it was sufficiently staffed and had a capac-
ity 2 handy up to 300 000 metal cards per
month,