

Flash Alert

Monthly Summary (September 2015)

SUBSCRIBER NOTE: We wish to point out that you will be seeing a new [GMS Flash Alert homepage](#) and a new look and feel to your *Flash Alert* e-newsletters. We are very excited about the new look and functionality of *Flash Alert*. It's more interactive, dynamic, user-friendly, and robust.

We are interested in what you think – so, feel free to contact us with your comments and observations at go-fmiesflash@kpmg.com.

Flash Alerts		IN THIS ISSUE
Australia	<p><u>Work and Holiday Visa Extended to China</u> The People's Republic of China is to be included as part of Australia's Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa program, with effect from September 21, 2015.</p>	<p>Flash Alerts (September)</p>
Belgium	<p><u>New Exemption for Additional Contribution, Plans for Single Permit</u> The Belgian federal government recently decided to exempt foreign scholarship students and researchers from the additional contribution required for visa type D and a Belgian residence permit applications. Also, following on a reasoned opinion from the European Commission, the Belgian government is looking into implementing a single residence permit system.</p>	<p>ALL GMS PUBLICATIONS</p> <p>Flash Alert Global Assignment Policies and Practices Survey Payroll Insights Tax Rates Online Taxation of International Executives (TIES) Online The Expatriate Administrator Thinking Beyond Borders: Management of Extended Business Travelers U.S. Taxation of Americans Abroad</p>
Belgium	<p><u>New Restrictions on Certain Labor Access to Brussels-Capital Region</u> The Brussels-Capital Region recently implemented a work permit obligation for persons with the status of long-term residents in another European Union (EU) member state for the first 12 months of employment in the Brussels-Capital Region. Third-country nationals with the status of long-term residents in an EU member state will see their rights to work restricted by virtue of these new rules.</p>	<p>U.S. Taxation of Foreign Citizens Your Assignment Abroad: The 50 Most Common Concerns</p>
Canada	<p><u>Two Provincial Nominee Programs on Pause for Rest of 2015</u> Provincial Nominee Programs are quickly reaching capacity. The Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program and British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program were recently in abeyance. It is possible that similar temporary pauses may be on the way in other provinces. Applicants may want to consider filing quickly to avoid significant delays.</p>	

Canada	<p><u>September 16 Webinar on Fines, Penalties in New Immigration Regs</u> KPMG LLP Law Canada hosted a Webinar entitled “Thinking Three Steps Ahead: Minimizing Employer Liabilities, Administrative Monetary Penalties, and Temporary Worker Sanctions,” on Wednesday, September 16, 2015.</p>
Colombia	<p><u>New Procedures for Disclosing Overseas Assets</u> The Colombian government is stepping up efforts to inhibit tax avoidance by requiring tax residents of Colombia to file an overseas assets declaration. Affected individuals who fail to comply with the new reporting requirement could be subject to significant penalties.</p>
Indonesia	<p><u>New Regulations Create Challenges for Foreign Workers, Directors</u> Some of the significant changes introduced by Indonesia’s Manpower Regulation No 16 Year 2015 are: a ratio increase of national employees to foreign employees; a requirement for nonresident Directors and Commissioners to obtain work permits (known as “IMTA”); and a requirement for short-term business visitors to obtain temporary work permits.</p>
Ireland	<p><u>Changes under Employment Permits (Amendment) Regulations 2015</u> Under provisions in Ireland’s Employment Permits (Amendment) Regulations 2015, standard employment permit application forms have been created, and are intended for use on or after September 1, 2015. There have been other changes, including to the Highly Skilled Eligible Occupations List and the validity period for applicants’ passports when going for a renewal permit.</p>
Ireland	<p><u>Introduction of Passport Cards for Travel within EU, EEA</u> A new passport card for Irish nationals is to be made available at the end of the month. The new passport card will allow Irish nationals to travel within the European Union and the European Economic Area in the event that passports are made unavailable (such as during visa applications).</p>
Malta	<p><u>Changes to Remittance Basis, Highly Qualified Persons Rules</u> Malta has amended its rules on the remittance basis of taxation that will impact persons who, though not ordinarily resident or not domiciled in Malta, have a spouse who is both ordinarily resident and domiciled in Malta. Furthermore, a new measure will affect the ability of certain highly qualified individuals to benefit from a flat tax rate of 15 percent.</p>

New Zealand	<p><u>New Tax Bill, Immigration Proposals</u> This newsletter covers New Zealand's Taxation (Transformation: First Phase Simplification and Other Measures) Bill. The government also announced that the new double taxation agreement between Canada and New Zealand, signed in 2012, finally came into force. In a separate development, the government announced in July it intends to introduce a package of immigration measures that would include a proposal to enhance the appeal to new immigrants of settling outside of Auckland, with effect from 1 November.</p>
Nigeria	<p><u>New Rules on Extension of Stay and Visa Extension Fees</u> According to new guidelines and procedures announced by Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Interior, any holder of an entry visa will only be allowed to stay for an aggregate period of 56 days in a year, where an extension request has not been made. The implication of these new rules is that organizations are now required to make appropriate provisions for the statutory visa extension fees as and when required for their non-ECOWAS visitors.</p>
People's Republic of China	<p><u>Updates to Tax-Advantaged Health Insurance Products</u> The China Insurance Regulatory Commission issued Circular 82 which introduced pilot administrative measures for health insurance products qualifying for preferential individual income tax treatment ("IIT-preferential health insurance policies"). Circular 82 elaborates on the types of insurance policies qualifying for preferential IIT treatment, and introduces detailed administrative measures for these policies.</p>
South Korea	<p><u>Proposed Legislation Affects High-Income Foreign Workers, Stockholders</u> South Korea's 2015 tax revision bills contain proposals that require Korean companies to withhold tax on the income which is paid or borne by a foreign entity of foreign workers dispatched from the foreign company who provide labor for domestic companies in South Korea and earn high income as a result. Another proposal would expand the definition of majority stockholders and impose tax on the capital gain of listed stocks.</p>
United Kingdom	<p><u>Proposed Changes to Function of Tier 2 Limit</u> The U.K.'s Home Office has proposed changes concerning the salary bandings for the purposes of deciding how to allocate Restricted Certificates of Sponsorship (RCoS) to employers and in-bound migrant workers. The changes have been implemented by the Home Office through a revision of the points system table to increase the number of salary bands thereby ensuring that a greater number of RCoS can be allocated each month – the wide bands are going to be</p>

	divided into smaller salary bands with £1,000 increments. This should help mitigate the current problem of over-subscription as there will be more applications approved each month.
United Kingdom	<p><u>Final Version of New Payroll Procedures for Business Visitors</u></p> <p>The U.K. tax authority has published the final terms of an agreement (and accompanying guidance) concerning employers with employees who come to the U.K. to work for a short period of time; such employees are known as 'short-term business visitors'. The new agreement will allow employers to operate a modified form of payroll withholding for such short-term business visitors, provided that they have 30 or fewer U.K. work-days in the tax year.</p>

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