

> Newsflash – 5 June 2007

Employment, Social Security and Immigration Law

Luncheon vouchers for self-employed company managers exempted as from 1 January 2007

According to an announcement from the Finance Federal Public Service¹, from 1 January 2007 luncheon vouchers for self-employed company managers will be considered to be exempted social benefits provided the following conditions are complied with simultaneously:

- A collective bargaining agreement or, in the absence of it, an individual agreement, also grants luncheon vouchers to the company's employees.
- The luncheon vouchers for self-employed managers are granted on the basis of a written individual agreement and the value of the luncheon voucher does not exceed the value already applicable within the company.
- The company's contribution must be limited to 4.91 EUR per voucher and the manager's contribution must be at least 1.09 EUR.
- One luncheon voucher must be granted per day of activity at most.
- The luncheon vouchers must be granted each month in the manager's name and mention that their validity is limited to three months and that they may only be accepted as payment for a meal or for the purchase of food.

Finally, the announcement from the Finance FPS mentions that luncheon vouchers that are granted in substitution for remuneration, premiums, allowances, etc. always have to be considered as a taxable benefit in kind for the beneficiary.

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¹ Belgian State Gazette 11 May 2007, p. 25926.