

## Newsflash

11 October 2007

### Employment, Social Security and Immigration Law

#### Retrieval of professional cards entrusted to business desks

As of 1 July 2007, issuing professional cards for self-employed foreigners is entrusted to the approved business desks and no longer to the communal authorities or the diplomatic or consular representatives abroad.

This modification falls under the government's policy of administrative simplification, with the aim of improving Belgium's image abroad, thereby making the country more attractive for foreign investors.

However, the decision to issue a professional card remains the prerogative of the Ministry of the Middle Classes.

Issuing an obtained/renewed/modified professional card is subjected to a fee of 90 Euro. In cases where the validity of the professional card exceeds one year, this fee is multiplied by a number equal to the years for which the card is issued. Any additional part of the year will be considered to be a complete year.

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