

## Newsflash

15 October 2007

### Employment, Social Security and Immigration Law

#### LIMOSA – New exemptions for business trips

The Royal Decree introducing new exemptions from the obligation to apply for a Limosa-declaration for certain categories of workers coming over to Belgium for short periods was published in the Belgian State Gazette on 13 September and entered into force with retro-active effect as of 1 April 2007.

As you will remember, LIMOSA was introduced on 1 April 2007 and consists in:

- A mandatory declaration for each foreign seconded employee and all foreign self-employed persons working temporarily and/or partially in Belgium (comparable with the DIMONA declaration for employees who are subject to the Belgian social security system)
- An information exchange system between the different Regions (competent for the application for work permits), the Ministry for Middle Classes (for professional cards) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (for residence permits). The information will become available and exchangeable between the different authorities

When Limosa was introduced earlier this year, exemptions were created for, amongst others, people attending meetings and scientific congresses (both for up to 5 activity days per calendar month) and certain categories of trainees. It was however obvious that these exemptions did not take into account the needs of the foreign business community in Belgium and even had a negative effect on the number of international congresses held in Belgium.

The content of a new Royal Decree was approved by the Belgian Council of Ministers in July and signed on 30 August. The text exempts the hereafter mentioned categories of persons from the Limosa obligation:

- Persons attending scientific congresses (without limitation in time);
- Persons attending meetings in closed circles, for up to 60 activity days per calendar year (limited up to 20 consecutive (calendar) days per meeting).

Matthias Lommers, Advocaat/Avocat, tel.: +32 2 800 70 69, Email: [mloppers@laga.be](mailto:mloppers@laga.be)



© 2007 Laga — [www.laga.be](http://www.laga.be) — The content and lay out of this newsflash are the copyright of the law firm Laga or its contributors, and are protected under copyright and other relevant intellectual property rights laws and regulations. No reproduction in any form or through any medium is allowed without the explicit consent of Laga or its contributors.

For further information, do not hesitate to contact your usual Laga correspondent or Fabienne Fonder ([ffonder@laga.be](mailto:ffonder@laga.be)). Although Laga verifies the reliability of the information given, such information is general and Laga may not be held responsible in any way for any possible error that might occur or for any use or interpretation that could be made of this information without the assistance of Laga.