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flash Alert

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Italy – New Decree Sets Quota and Permit Rules for Seasonal Workers

by KPMG Fides Servizi di Amministrazione S.p.A., Italy (a KPMG International member firm)

On 7 May 2015, Italy enacted a new decree, the *Decreto Flussi*,¹ setting forth quotas that apply for "seasonal" categories of foreign workers in Italy.

The categories of seasonal workers concerned are employed for a limited time in the agriculture and tourism sectors.

Why This Matters

In order to be employed in Italy, foreign citizens have to apply for a work permit. For 2015, the Italian labor authorities have established a limited number of work permits available for seasonal workers. Working visas are issued under this quota system and are therefore released in a pre-determined number, set out in the decree.

It is important that global mobility professionals and immigration advisers dealing with seasonal workers bound for Italy are aware of the terms of the decree, which sets out the framework, practices, and rules for the issuance of work permits to foreigners entering Italy for seasonal work.

Background

The quota system was introduced under Italy's immigration regime in 1998. Relying on academic and other research, the Italian labor authorities issue a study on the labor market every three years. The labor authorities advise the government annually on foreign employment (non-Italians working in Italy) with a view to determining the numerical limit, or quota, for the following year. The *Decreto Flussi* is updated and issued annually in order to help match demand and supply in the labor market. (For related coverage, see GMS [Flash Alert 2015-014](#), 30 January 2015.)

Applications for work permits must be submitted in Italian to the local immigration authorities (*Sportello Unico per l'Immigrazione*) via a dedicated Web site² – applications are being accepted from 9 May 2015, and over the next eight months.

If any quotas remain unutilized, they may be distributed at the discretion of the Labour Minister according to market requirements.

Categories and Quota Numbers for Workers Covered by *Decreto Flussi* 2015

Seasonal Workers

For this year, the government established a quota of 13,000 for seasonal workers to be employed in Italy's agriculture and tourism sectors.

In light of this figure, a partial quota of about 1,500 is reserved to people who have worked in Italy as seasonal employed workers in the last two years. Under certain conditions, employers of these workers can apply for multiple entries.

Quotas for seasonal work are available for citizens of the following countries:

Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Korea (South Korea), Egypt, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Gambia, Ghana, India, Japan, Kosovo, Morocco, Mauritius, Moldova, Montenegro, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, and Tunisia.

Footnotes:

1 The new *Decreto Flussi* was published in *Gazzetta Ufficiale* (the Italian government's official gazette) on 7 May 2015 (*Gazzetta Ufficiale* n. 104 del 7 maggio 2015). For the *Decreto Flussi*, see (in Italian):

http://www.lavoro.gov.it/AreaSociale/Immigrazione/Documents/0DPCM_%202_04_%202015_stagionale_%202015_registrato_Corte_dei_Conti.pdf .

2 See: <https://nullaostalavoro.dlci.interno.it> . See, the form "modulo di domanda C –stag."

For further information or assistance, please contact your local GMS or People Services practice professional or one of the following immigration network professionals with the KPMG International member firm in Italy:*

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* Please note that KPMG LLP (U.S.) does not provide immigration services.

The information contained in this newsletter was submitted by the KPMG International member firm in Italy. The information contained herein is of a general nature and based on authorities that are subject to change. Applicability of the information to specific situations should be determined through consultation with your tax adviser.

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