

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE BELGIAN OFFICE, TAIPEI

AND

THE TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE EU AND BELGIUM

ON

A WORKING HOLIDAY PROGRAM

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THE BELGIAN OFFICE, TAIPEI

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THE TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE EU AND BELGIUM,

hereinafter referred to as “the Signatories”,

ANXIOUS to promote close co-operation between the Signatories,

WISHING to promote opportunities for their youth to appreciate each other’s culture and way of life by taking a holiday during which they have the possibility of holding casual paid employment in order to supplement the financial resources available to them,

CONVINCED of the value of facilitating these youth exchanges,

HAVE COME TO THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT:

PARAGRAPH 1

1. The Signatories decide to create a Working Holiday Program designed to allow their youth, as individuals, to stay in the other jurisdiction for the purpose of holidaying with the possibility of holding casual paid employment in order to supplement the financial resources available to them.
2. The young persons who meet the conditions of this Agreement will submit their application to the respective offices responsible for immigration matters, that is, the Belgian Office, Taipei or the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium.
3. Applicants will meet the following requirements:
 - a) satisfy the eligibility and other criteria set out in the immigration legislation and policies of both jurisdictions with regard to any criteria not set out in subparagraphs b) to k);
 - b) have reached the full age of 18 years, and not be more than 30 years of age, on the date the application is submitted;
 - c) have no accompanying dependant or dependants;
 - d) not have previously benefited from this Program;
 - e) possess a Belgian passport or a passport issued by the competent authority in Taiwan which includes an identity number. The passports must be valid for at least fifteen months on the day the visa is issued;
 - f) have a valid return ticket or sufficient resources to purchase one;
 - g) have sufficient financial resources to provide for their needs at the beginning of their stay, as determined by each Signatory;
 - h) have taken out all-risk insurance for the period for which they are authorized to stay, covering them for accidents at work and for healthcare, including medical cost, hospitalization and repatriation, for the full duration of their stay;
 - i) submit a medical certificate proving that they are not suffering from any disease or infirmity that may endanger public health, order or security;
 - j) produce a certificate of good conduct;
 - k) prove to the visa officer that their primary objective is to holiday and that work is only a secondary objective and not the main reason for the visit;
 - l) have a sufficient knowledge of English or of one of the national languages of the Signatories' jurisdiction;
 - m) pay the required fees; and
 - n) be domiciled in one of the Signatories' jurisdiction at the time of the application.

PARAGRAPH 2

1. Each Signatory, in accordance with this Agreement, will allow the participants who meet the requirements set out in paragraph 1, to enter its jurisdiction under cover of a multiple entry visa. The visa delivered for entry into Belgium is valid for a period of maximum twelve months. Belgian participants will initially receive a six month visa which will be extended with an additional six months.
2. Participants may only benefit from this Agreement once. The duration of their stay will not exceed the authorized period of twelve months and the purpose of their stay will not be subject to any change during this period.

PARAGRAPH 3

1. Upon arrival in Belgium, participants must register with the municipal authority (*commune/gemeente*) where they take up residence within eight days of their arrival. The residence permit granted by Belgium will allow the holder, following the completion of registration requirements at the relevant municipal administration, to reside temporarily in Belgium for a period not exceeding twelve months. The permit will also allow multiple entries into Belgium during this period. The residence permit will allow the holder of a valid travel document to circulate within the territories of the Schengen Member States in accordance with the Schengen regulations.
2. Participants will be exempt from the obligation to hold a work permit to exercise an activity as a salaried worker. They will only be permitted to engage in temporary employment during their visit and may not work for more than six months.
3. Participants will not be permitted to engage in any study or training for more than six months.

PARAGRAPH 4

1. Holders of a Belgian passport to whom a working holiday visa has been issued will automatically be allowed to work and reside temporarily in the host jurisdiction for the duration of their authorized stay.
2. Participants will be exempt from the obligation to hold a work permit to exercise an activity as a salaried worker. They will only be permitted to engage in temporary employment during their visit and may not work for more than six months.
3. Participants will not be permitted to engage in any study or training for more than six months.

PARAGRAPH 5

Participants of the Working Holiday Program will comply with the legislation in force in the host jurisdiction, particularly concerning the practice of regulated professions.

PARAGRAPH 6

1. Participants will be treated in the same way as individuals from the host jurisdiction as far as the enforcement of laws and regulations is concerned.
2. When participants are employed, the laws and regulations of the host jurisdiction concerning terms and conditions of work, remuneration, safety and hygiene in employment will apply.
3. Participants and their employers will comply with the regulations of the host jurisdiction in matters relating to social security.

4. Participants will not engage in employment that is contrary to the purposes of this Agreement.
5. The Signatories will encourage the appropriate organizations in the respective host jurisdictions to lend their support to the implementation of this Agreement and particularly to give relevant information to participants.

PARAGRAPH 7

1. Either Signatory may refuse to approve any particular application it receives.
2. Either Signatory may, consistent with its own legislation, refuse the entry into its jurisdiction of any participant whom it may consider undesirable, or remove from its jurisdiction any participant who has obtained entry under this Agreement.

PARAGRAPH 8

1. The minimum amount of resources required under Paragraph 1, section 2. g), will be set by mutual agreement and via written exchanges between the Signatories.
2. The number of participants under this Agreement will be counted from the date this Agreement comes into effect until the end of the current year, and then annually from 1 January until 31 December.
3. When this Agreement comes into effect, up to 200 participants per annum from each jurisdiction will be allowed to benefit from it.
4. The Signatories may determine annually and on the basis of reciprocity, via written exchanges, the number of individuals that will be allowed to benefit from the application of this Agreement.

PARAGRAPH 9

1. This Agreement will come into effect on the date of the latter Signatory informing the other Signatory to that extent.
2. This Agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either Signatory giving three months' written notice to the other Signatory.
3. Each Signatory may temporarily suspend the application of this Agreement giving three months' written notice to the other Signatory.
4. Termination or temporary suspension of this Agreement will not affect the right to stay of persons already accepted into the Working Holiday Program.
5. This Agreement may be amended at any time by written Agreement between the Signatories.

The foregoing record represents the agreement reached between the Belgian Office, Taipei and the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium on matters referred to therein.

SIGNED at Taipei, on, and at Brussels, on, in duplicate, in the English language.

**FOR THE BELGIAN OFFICE,
TAIPEI:**

**FOR THE TAIPEI
REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE
IN THE EU AND BELGIUM:**

**Caroline VERMEULEN,
Director**

**Kuoyu Tung,
Representative**