

No. 32551

**GERMANY
and
LATVIA**

Agreement concerning the employment of workers to improve their vocational and linguistic skills (Foreign Workers Agreement). Signed at Bonn on 2 June 1992

Authentic texts: German and Latvian.

Registered by Germany on 8 February 1996.

**ALLEMAGNE
et
LETTONIE**

Convention relative à l'emploi de travailleurs en vue d'approfondir leurs connaissances professionnelles et linguistiques (Convention relative aux travailleurs migrants). Signée à Bonn le 2 juin 1992

Textes authentiques : allemand et letton.

Enregistré par l'Allemagne le 8 février 1996.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA CONCERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS TO IMPROVE THEIR VOCATIONAL AND LINGUISTIC SKILLS (FOREIGN WORKERS AGREEMENT)

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Republic of Latvia

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

1. This Agreement shall apply to Germans and Latvians residing in the area covered by this Agreement and seeking employment as foreign workers.
2. For the purposes of this Agreement, the competent authorities shall be:
 - (a) On the German side: the Federal Labour Department, Central Office Employment Office in Frankfurt am Main (Bundesanstalt für Arbeit, Zentralstelle für Arbeitsvermittlung in Frankfurt/Main);
 - (b) On the Latvian side: Ministry of Welfare, Labour and Health of the Republic of Latvia, Labour Department (Latvijas Republikas Labklājības, darba un veselības aizsardzības ministrija, Darba departaments).

Article 2

1. Foreign workers are workers who:
 - (a) Have completed vocational training;
 - (b) Take up temporary employment in order to improve their vocational and linguistic skills; and
 - (c) Are not under 18 or over 40 years of age on the date on which they take up the employment.
2. The period of employment as a foreign worker shall normally be one year, but may be extended to a total of 18 months.
3. If employment is terminated prematurely, the competent authority of the host Contracting Party shall endeavour to place the foreign worker in other, equivalent employment.

Article 3

1. The requisite permits shall be issued to foreign workers, in accordance with national regulations on the entry and stay of foreigners, enabling them to live and work in the host country for the duration of their employment.

¹ Came into force on 2 June 1992 by signature, in accordance with article 9 (1).

2. Prior to entry into the host country, foreign workers shall apply to that country's competent mission abroad for an entry visa.

3. The requisite permit for employment shall be issued regardless of the situation and trends in the labour market.

Article 4

Remuneration and other terms of employment shall be determined in accordance with the collective wage agreements and the labour law and social insurance provisions of the host country.

Article 5

1. The number of foreign workers who can be admitted by each side shall be 1,000 per year.

2. This maximum number may be changed by agreement between the Contracting Parties through an exchange of notes.

3. If the maximum number is not reached, unfilled places shall not be carried over to the following year. An extension of the period of employment, as provided for in article 2, shall not constitute a new admission.

Article 6

1. Foreign workers wishing to be admitted under this Agreement may submit an application for placement to their competent national authority responsible for implementing this Agreement. The said authority shall transmit the application to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

2. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange programme and shall endeavour to find suitable employment for the foreign workers; each authority shall notify the competent authority of the other Contracting Party of the results of its endeavours.

Article 7

No charges or fees shall be levied for job placement. In all other respects, the legislation of the Contracting Party concerned shall apply with regard to charges and the payment of fees.

Article 8

The Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Minister of Welfare, Labour and Health of the Republic of Latvia shall work closely together under this Agreement. On the Latvian side, the Agreement shall be carried out by the Labour Department of the Ministry of Welfare, Labour and Health of the Republic of Latvia. If necessary, a joint German-Latvian working group shall be formed, at the request of either Contracting Party, to discuss questions relating to the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 9

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature.

2. This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of three years. It shall be extended for further successive periods of one year, unless it is denounced in

writing by either of the Contracting Parties not less than six months before the end of a calendar year.

3. The permits already issued under this Agreement shall, for the period granted, not be affected by such denunciation.

DONE at Bonn on 2 June 1992, in two originals, each in the German and Latvian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Federal Republic of Germany:

NORBERT BLÜM
HARTMUT HILLGENBERG

For the Government
of the Republic of Latvia:

T. ENINS
