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PwC Azerbaijan Times

Issue №4

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New Migration Code

The President of Azerbaijan approved the Migration Code of the Azerbaijan Republic ("Migration Code") which comes into effect on 1 August 2013.

The biggest advantages of the Migration Code is that it systemizes and combines statutory legal acts in the field of migration and governs various aspects of migration in Azerbaijan (except local migration within the territory of Azerbaijan).

We would like to point out for you several innovations made into the migration law in Azerbaijan which is set out in the new Migration Code:

- **Restriction to leave the country:** A new addition has been made to the bases for temporarily restricting foreigners and stateless persons from leaving the territory of Azerbaijan. Committing an administrative offence has become

of one of the grounds for restricting the foreigners and stateless persons to leave the country, as long as the sanctions for these offences have not been executed yet.

- **Visa types:** The Migration Code stipulates different type of visas depending on the purpose of visit and validity term. E.g., business trip visas (given maximum for 180 days), visas given for employment purposes or work visas (given maximum for 90 days), personal trip visas (given maximum for 90 days), visas for academic purposes, and so on.

- **Duration for reviewing visa application:** If previously the relevant Azerbaijani authorities had to respond to any applicant's request on obtaining visa within 1 month, now respective authorities shall address such requests within 15 days upon the date of submission of the application to them.

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- **Bases for obtaining residence permit:**

A number of amendments and additions have been made to the list of bases allowing for obtaining temporary residence permits in Azerbaijan. Some of the bases in the new list have been set out below:

- i. The minimum amount of available funds in the banks accounts of the applicant in Azerbaijan has been increased to AZN 100,000.00 (which is approximately USD 128,000.00);
- ii. One of the new grounds for obtaining temporary residence permit in Azerbaijan is the applicant's ownership over immovable property in the value of AZN 100,000.00 (approximately USD 128,000.00);
- iii. Carrying out business activity is also a new ground for obtaining temporary residence permit in Azerbaijan which is also subject to some mandatory requirements (e.g. a maximum of foreign individuals employed by the entrepreneur, etc.)

- **Procedural terms:** The migration Code also stipulates terms for obtaining work permit which is nearly the same with the requirements of previous legislative acts although with some important clarifications and revisions (e.g. employers applying for work permits for foreigners and stateless persons shall provide these individuals with employment only at the places of the applicant employers).

- **Electronic and paper applications:**

Application for visas, work and residence permits may be filed either in a written or an electronic form which eases the procedural issues.

The following laws will be revoked once the Migration Code comes into effect:

- i. Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons" – dated March 13 1996 No 41-IQ
- ii. Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Immigration" – dated December 22 1998 No 592 –IQ

- iii. Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Labor Migration" – dated October 28 1999 No 724-IQ

- iv. Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Approval of the Resolutions on Transit Rules of Foreigners and Stateless persons in the Territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan" – dated December 27 2002 No 414-IQ

You can find the full text of the Migration Code in the Azerbaijani language at: www.president.az

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have further queries with regard to our newsletter.

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PwC Azerbaijan launches the second intake of the program!

We invite you to express yourself and become a part of talented, motivated and skillful students of PwC Talents Club

PwC Talents Club is a free of charge student outreach program that brings most talented university students together under PwC's umbrella and equips them with the "business toolkit" knowledge to be applied in the real business situations in private and public sector. This program aims at identifying the best talents eager to develop, improve, build on capacity and become more competitive from the very beginning of their professional careers at the local and international markets.

What is the Club?

PwC Talents Club provides a valuable opportunity to build your business and social interaction skills in series of interactive lessons from the PwC professionals and social events organized for the Club members. The lessons cover different topics, including consulting, auditing, taxation, business/report writing, soft and other essential skills to grow as a successful professional.

What does the Club give you?

A successful member of PwC Talents Club will get a guaranteed internship opportunity with one of the leading

reputable local or international companies operating in Azerbaijan, where he/she will be able to apply theoretical knowledge in real situations and collect a wealth of interesting material for your graduation paper and potentially future employment. The list of approved employers for internship will be announced soon.

How does the Club work?

PwC experts will be teaching weekly 2-hrs lessons on the above-mentioned business topics during six month period of time. In the end of the semester, the PwC team will identify the most talented students, award them with certificates of completion and assign to internship roles in the companies.

How to become a Club Member?

How to become a Club Member?
Follow this link for future information:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/PwC-Talents-Club/397440490327772?fref=ts>

