



Date: 23rd December 2021

2022 RECRUITING LICENSING DIRECTIVE

The Department of Labour and Employment Services wishes to advise that few changes will be added as conditions for the application for License for the year 2022 under the Labour Mobility programs to reflect the necessity of strengthening compliance with Labour Laws including but not limited to Seasonal Employment Act and Labour mobility national policies.

The following reflects the new conditions that will be added in your 2022 license:

- 1) **Work ready pool:** For the purpose of recruitment of candidates for labour mobility programs namely the Recognised Seasonal Employment (RSE) in New Zealand, the Pacific Labour Scheme program (PLS) in Australia and the Seasonal Workers Program (SWP) in Australia, all Licensees shall choose/select their suitable new candidates ONLY from the work ready pool. No Licensees shall recruit any individual who is not registered in the work ready pool. Failure to comply with this condition shall constitute a breach warranting sanctions. This condition is imposed to ensure the fair selection and participation of workers across the 6 provinces of Vanuatu.
- 2) **In country recruitment database (IRD):** All Licensees shall register their workers participating in the Labour Mobility Programs in the IRD system. The IRD is managed by the Department of Labour and Employment Services and all Licensees MUST liaise with the Employment Services (ESU) to register their workers on the IRD system. The use of the IRD system will be mandatory after the two Australian program will merge into 1 program ONLY effective from April 2022 and it is likely that the Australian farmers will not allow any worker who is not recruited under the IRD. Thus, you are all encouraged to start register your workers in the IRD system.



- 3) The prescribed application fee for a License is 10, 000 VT pursuant to Seasonal Employment Regulation Order of 17 December 2021.
- 4) The prescribed approval fee for a License is 40, 000 VT pursuant to Seasonal Employment Regulation Order of 17 December 2021.

Please find enclosed the new application for 2022 which encapsulated the few changes refer to above. Also we advise that the dateline for the ESU to receive all your application is 14th January 2022. Our office will not accept any application without the prescribed fees mentioned above. All prescribed fees have to be paid at the Vanuatu Government Cashier with the Ministry of Finance and brought back with Government receipt to the Employment Services Unit of the Department of Labour for our consideration. Please note that late submission will not be accepted.

We thank you for your understanding in this matter and we are looking forward to build strong collaboration and partnership with you all in 2022 to boost labour mobility programs to another level which we firmly believe it will be a symbol of our teamwork commitments, togetherness and investment for the benefit of this country and its people.

Should you wish any further clarifications or queries on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Yours truly,

COMMISSIONER OF LABOUR
 Department of labour and Employment Services

Cc: Chrono- DOL