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CLIENT UPDATE



COVID-19 pandemic- Entry of foreign nationals into Israel under (B/1) work visa

June 16, 2020

In accordance with the decision of Israel's Interior Minister and with the recommendation of the Ministry of Health, and for the purpose of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Israeli Population, Immigration and Border Control Authority (hereinafter: "PIBA") reiterated, in a statement issued yesterday, June 14, that entry of foreign nationals into Israel is restricted to certain exceptional cases only and subject to prior approval of the authorities. In this context, PIBA publishes from time to time updated and revised guidelines, in accordance with the decisions of the Interior Minister and the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, which are based on the current pandemic situation in Israel.

With respect to Foreign Experts, PIBA clarified the updated procedure and conditions for filing an exceptional application for approval of entry of a foreign expert into Israel. PIBA made it clear that only a limited number of experts, who are defined as necessary for National Infrastructure or the continued functioning of the economy, will be allowed to enter the country. The entry of these experts requires prior approval, subject to the recommendation of the relevant government office and the approval of the PIBA's Foreign Workers Administration. The application for this permission to enter the country should be submitted by the inviting entity wishing to bring the foreign expert to Israel, to the government office responsible for the relevant field of activity. After obtaining an approval regarding the necessity of the foreign expert, the expert must also receive a work permit. For the avoidance of doubt, we note that a valid work permit and work visa (B/1) will be required in each case.

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