

29.4.2002

Memorandum of Understanding between the government of Finland and the government of Australia relating to working holiday makers

THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA,

IN A SPIRIT of promoting closer co-operation between Finland and Australia;

DESIROUS of providing wider opportunities for citizens, particularly the youth of Finland and Australia, to appreciate the culture and general way of life of the other for the purpose of promoting mutual understanding between the respective countries;

WISHING to provide reciprocal arrangements which are intended to make it possible for citizens of Finland to enter Australia, and for citizens of Australia to enter Finland, primarily for a holiday for an extended period and also to engage in employment as an incidental aspect of that holiday in order to supplement their travel funds, hereinafter referred to as working holidays;

HAVE REACHED the following understandings:

## 1. GENERAL

This memorandum expresses the understandings and intentions of the Government of Finland and the Government of Australia (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants") in relation to granting working holiday permissions from 1 May 2002.

The term "permission" is understood to refer to a visa or temporary residence permit issued according to this Memorandum of Understanding.

## 2. TERMS OF ISSUE OF PERMISSIONS

a) From 1 May 2002, the date upon which this Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect, the Participants may issue permissions valid for multiple entry for a working holiday for a period not exceeding one (1) year to citizens of Finland or Australia respectively who satisfy each of the following requirements:

i) intend primarily to holiday in Finland or Australia;

ii) are aged between eighteen (18) and thirty (30) years inclusive at the time of application for the permission;

iii) are persons who are not accompanied by dependent spouses or children;

iv) have not previously been granted a working holiday permission to Finland or Australia;

v) possess a valid passport and a return travel ticket or sufficient funds with which to purchase such a ticket;

vi) possess reasonable funds for their maintenance during the period of initial stay in Finland or Australia;

vii) have good health and a sound background; and

viii) may not be deemed to jeopardise public order, safety or public health and may not have been prohibited entry into the Schengen States or Australia.

b) Persons who have entered Finland or Australia on working holiday permissions will be required to comply with the respective laws and regulations of Finland and Australia and not engage in employment that is contrary to the purpose of this Memorandum.

c) In Finland, Australian working holiday makers will be permitted to work for up to nine (9) months during a twelve (12) month visit, but will not be permitted to work for the same employer for more than three (3) months.

d) In Australia, Finnish working holiday makers may not be employed by any one employer for more than three (3) months without the permission of the Secretary of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. Additionally, working holiday makers may not work for the full twelve (12) months of the visit.

e) The Government of Finland will encourage youth, cultural and community organisations in Finland, and the Government of Australia will encourage youth, cultural and community organisations in Australia, to provide appropriate counselling facilities for Finnish citizens and Australian citizens respectively who have entered Finland or Australia on working holiday permissions.

### 3. SUSPENSION

Subject to paragraph 5.b) either Participant may suspend the foregoing provisions in whole or in part for reasons of public policy. Any such suspension will be notified immediately to the other Participant through the diplomatic channel.

### 4. AMENDMENT

Amendments to this Memorandum may be made at any time by a written arrangement between the Participants.

### 5. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION

a) This Memorandum will come into effect on 1 May 2002 and will continue in effect until terminated by either Participant by three months written notice to the other Participant.

b) Notwithstanding any termination or any suspension of this Memorandum or any provisions of this Memorandum, unless otherwise mutually consented to by the Participants, any person who at the date of such termination or suspension already holds a valid working holiday permission and has entered into Finland or Australia will be permitted to work in accordance with such a permission until it expires.

SIGNED in duplicate at Helsinki on the 29th day of April 2002 in the Finnish and English languages, both texts being equally valid.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
FINLAND:

Mr Erkki Tuomioja  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
AUSTRALIA:

The Hon Philip Ruddock MP  
Minister for Immigration and  
Multicultural and Indigenous  
Affairs