



## The Finnish Aliens Decree (142/1994)

(As amended by 222/1995, 1/1996, 607/1997, 1270/1997, 538/1999, 115/2000)

Passed in Helsinki on 18 February 1994 repealing the Aliens Decree (499/1991)

Passed in Helsinki on 1 March 1991 and its subsequent amendments, the Decree on Amending the Aliens Decree (222/1995)

Passed in Helsinki on 17 February 1995, the Decree on the Amendment of Section 23 of the Aliens Decree (1/1996)

Passed in Helsinki on 5 January 1996, the Decree on the Amendment of Section 24 of the Aliens Decree (607/1997)

Passed in Naantali on 19 June 1997, and the Decree on Amending the Aliens Decree (538/1999)

Passed in Helsinki on 4 February 2000, the Decree on the Amending the Aliens Decree (115/2000)

At the presentation of the Minister of the Interior and by virtue of the Aliens Act of 22 February 1991 (378/1991), it is hereby enacted that:

### Section 1 Passport

The passport that an alien is required to hold must state his name, other data necessary for personal identification and also indicate the period for which the passport is valid, as well as the issuing authority and the place of issuance. It is furthermore to bear a photograph in which the holder is recognizable without difficulty.

An alien's spouse and his children under the age of sixteen years travelling together with the passport holder may use his passport if their names and a photograph of the spouse are included therein.

Unless otherwise indicated in the passport, it shall be deemed valid for Finland.

An alien must upon entry into and departure from Finland present his passport to a passport control officer if so requested.

### Section 2 Documents Replacing Passports

Identification certificates may be accepted in lieu of passports if they in essence meet the requirements set for a passport. Following consultation with the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will decide whether such documents may be accepted in lieu of passports.

If there is special reason for doing so in an individual case, an identification certificate or corresponding document that does not meet the requirements set for a passport may be accepted as a temporary passport. Guidelines on acceptance are issued by the Ministry of the Interior.

### **Section 3** **Group passport**

A group passport for a party of aliens travelling together will be accepted if it states the names and dates of birth of the group's members. A group passport may only bear the names of citizens of its issuing country.

The leader of a group must have a passport of his own. Each member of a group travelling under a group passport must possess an identification certificate issued by the authorities of his country of origin, except for the cases when the group passport bears photographs, certified with an authoritative stamp, of the group's members.

A list of the persons travelling under a group passport must upon entry into and departure from Finland be presented to a passport control officer if so requested. The list must indicate the names and dates of birth of the group's members.

### **Section 4** **Alien's passports and Entries Therein**

Alien's passports may be issued for a maximum period of ten years. Applications for alien's passports must be made on a specific form.

A valid alien's passport entitles the holder to stay in Finland only if it includes a valid residence permit.

The Directorate of Immigration may make entries in alien's passports restricting their use. (222/1995)

### **Section 5** **Refugee Travel Documents**

A refugee is to be provided with the document specified in Section 28 of the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (Finnish Treaty Series 77/1968). Refugee travel documents may be issued for a maximum period of ten years. Applications for refugee travel documents must be made on a specific form.

### **Section 6** **Temporary Seizure of Passports**

In addition to the cases specified in Section 45 paragraph 2 of the Aliens Act (378/1991), the passport of an alien may be temporarily seized by the Directorate of Immigration, a passport control officer or the police or by a Finnish mission for the purpose of:

1) dealing with a matter related to a visa, work permit, residence permit, alien's passport or travel document;

2) processing an application for asylum;  
3) supervising departure from the country;  
4) preparing and enforcing an order of deportation from or refusal of entry into the country, or  
5) when there are other especially weighty grounds thereto. (538/1999)

An alien whose passport is temporarily seized is to be given a certificate to that effect.

### **Section 7** **Procedures for Applying for Permits and Entry Thereof**

Applications for visas, residence permits and work permits must be made on specific forms. Necessary documents have to be enclosed. Applications for first-time residence permits and work permits are to be made in the country where the applicant habitually resides. Nevertheless, if, in view of the applicant's personal circumstances or the nature of the employment involved, it would be unreasonable to demand that an alien make such an application in the country where he habitually resides, the application may also be made in a country where he is legally staying.

Outside Finland, applications are to be forwarded to a Finnish mission. Aliens resident in Finland should present residence or work permit applications to the local police authority for the area they reside in.

A statement concerning the earlier residence permit is requested for the application for residence permit, if necessary.

A visa, residence permit and work permit is to be entered in the passport of the alien or in a separate document. A joint visa, residence permit and work permit issued to aliens travelling together is to be entered in a separate list.

In order to maintain his rights, an alien who is issued a new passport must ensure that any permits entered in his old passport are entered in his new passport without delay.

### **Section 8** **(538/1999)** **Application for a Residence Permit on the Basis of a Family Tie**

An application for a residence permit to be made abroad under Section 18 c of the Aliens Act shall be submitted to a Finnish mission. The mission shall forward the application documents together with its statement to the Directorate of Immigration for decision. If a family member referred to in Section 18 b or 18 c of the Aliens Act legally residing in Finland shall be heard in person, the Directorate of Immigration shall forward the documents to the local police, who shall hear him and thereafter return the documents together with its statement to the Directorate of Immigration. In other cases the Directorate of Immigration shall hear the party residing in Finland in writing.

If a family member residing legally in Finland wants to initiate the matter in accordance with Section 18 d, paragraph 1 of the Aliens Act, he shall submit an application for a residence permit relating to his family member to the local police, who shall forward the documents together with their statement to the Directorate of Immigration. The Directorate of Immigration may request a mission to hear the applicant abroad.

For notifying of the decision, the Directorate of Immigration shall notify the local police of the decision as well as for notifying of the decision abroad, the Finnish mission. If the applicant has been issued a residence permit as a refugee or on the basis of need of protection, the Directorate of Immigration shall notify also the social welfare authority of the relevant municipality of the decision.

### **Section 8 a (538/1999)**

#### **Statements on an Application for a Residence Permit on the Basis of a Family Tie**

The Directorate of Immigration or the local police may acquire a statement on an application for a residence permit made on the basis of a family tie from the social welfare authority of the relevant municipality of residence of the family member legally residing in Finland. A statement may be requested on the social or health condition of the family member residing in Finland if the family member legally residing in Finland is a minor who has arrived without a custodian or if the applicant is a family member outside the nuclear family or if there are other weighty grounds for requesting the statement.

### **Section 8 b (538/1999)**

#### **An Account of the Means of Support of a Family Member**

A person applying for a residence permit on the basis of a family tie under Section 18 c, paragraph 2 or 4 of the Aliens Act shall present an account to the effect that his means of support in Finland are guaranteed by himself or by the family member residing in Finland. The Directorate of Immigration may request from the applicant a documentary account, such as an employer's certificate on the employment relationship or salary of the family member residing in Finland or a tax certificate on his taxable income and property if it has been stated that the family member residing in Finland will provide the means of support for the applicant.

### **Section 8 c (115/2000)**

#### **Forms to be used when carrying out DNA analyses and establishing the identity of the person to be tested**

Before a DNA analysis is carried out, the person to be tested shall be given a brochure with information on DNA analyses. The person to be tested shall give a written con-

sent on a consent form. The form shall specify the person giving his consent, the testing method and the persons whose family relations shall be established by means of the test to which the consent was given.

For the purpose of taking a sample which is needed for the DNA test, a form accompanying the application shall be filled in for each person who will be tested. The form shall specify the party requesting the analysis, the person who will be tested, the formulation of the question concerning family relations and the names of all the persons who will be tested for the DNA analysis concerned.

The accompanying form and the statement given on the DNA analysis shall specify where, when and by whom the sample was taken, and how the identity of the person tested was established.

### **Section 9 (538/1999)**

#### **Visas**

The authority issuing a visa shall make an entry in the visa in accordance with the table in Annex 1 to this Decree describing the purpose of the stay. Unless there is a specific entry to the contrary, a visa entered in a joint family passport shall not apply to the spouse or children.

### **Section 10**

#### **Joint and Group Visas**

A single-entry visa may be issued as a joint visa to persons who intend to jointly participate in an artistic, scientific or sporting event as well as to sailors who jointly go aboard a vessel in Finland or jointly disembark from a vessel in Finland.

If specifically empowered to do so by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, a Finnish mission may issue a single-entry visa as a joint visa to persons intending to jointly arrive in Finland as tourists and jointly depart from the country.

A visa referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above may be issued to a minimum of five and a maximum of fifty persons on the condition that they have a group leader appointed in advance.

### **Section 11**

#### **Abolition of Visas**

A citizen of a country that has concluded an agreement with Finland on the abolition of visas is not required to have a visa for tourism or a comparable short stay in Finland if this stay does not exceed the period specified in the said agreement.

A holder of a valid alien's passport issued by the authorities of Denmark, Iceland, Norway or Sweden is not required to hold a visa if his stay in Finland does not exceed three months and if the passport entitles him to return to the country of its issue.

The provisions on the abolition of visas for holders of refugee travel documents are laid down in the European Agreement on the Abolition of Visas for Refugees (Finnish Treaty Series 36/1990).

A single-entry visa, while valid, entitles its holder to return to Finland after travelling to another Nordic country without obtaining a new visa.

## **Section 12**

### **Passport Control Officer's Right to Issue Visas**

A passport control officer may issue a transit visa, a single-entry visa or a joint visa in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry of the Interior. In such circumstances any letter of recommendation issued by an Honorary Consul of Finland shall be taken into consideration, provided that the said consul has been authorized to issue such letters by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

A passport control officer is entitled to issue visas if:

- 1) the case involves a business or a conference journey or permitting entry would be significant from Finland's point of view;
- 2) refusing entry would be unreasonable in view of the alien's state of health or the health of a related or closely associated person; or
- 3) refusing entry would be unreasonable for another corresponding reason.

## **Section 13**

### **Counting the Alien's stay in the country**

The alien's stay in Finland is considered to start on the date of arrival entered in the passport. If the passport has no entry of the date of arrival and no other reliable information on the date of arrival is available, the alien's stay in the country is considered to start on the date when the authorities as specified in Section 73 of the Aliens Act have ascertained that the alien in question is in the country.

When counting the period, when the alien is not required to have a visa, the time spent in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden during the last six months shall be deducted.

## **Section 14**

### **Fixed-Term Residence Permits**

Finnish missions are authorized to issue fixed-term residence permits only.

A fixed-term residence permit may be jointly issued to persons intending to jointly arrive in and depart from Finland and who are issued a work permit as specified in Section 16, paragraph 1 of this Decree.

The authority issuing a fixed-term residence permit shall make an entry in the permit in accordance with the table in

Annex 1 to this Decree describing the purpose of the stay. (538/1999)

A paragraph was repealed by the Decree on Amending the Aliens Decree (538/1999).

A Finnish mission or the local police may transfer the fixed-term residence permit into a new passport if the validity of the permit has not expired.

## **Section 15**

### **Permanent Residence Permits**

A permanent residence permit shall not be issued if the purpose of the stay of the alien is to:

- 1) study, receive instruction or practical training;
- 2) work on a fixed-term project or be employed in a post for which only fixed-term work permits are issued according to a Ministry of Labour decision;
- 3) work as an employee sent by a foreign employer;
- 4) work for an international organization in a post involving the furthering of the organization's aims;
- 5) work for a religious or cause-oriented organization in a post related to the organization's religious or cause-oriented aspirations;
- 6) work for a sports club or a related body as a player or coach;
- 7) work in a post or occupation for which no work permit is required under Section 18, paragraph 2, subparagraphs 3 - 5 or Section 18, paragraph 3; or to (538/1999)
- 8) visit Finland for a short term for any other reason.

Should the grounds for an alien's stay in Finland alter in such a manner that issuing a permanent residence permit becomes feasible, he may be issued a permanent residence permit two years after he first receives permission to remain permanently in Finland on those new grounds.

A Finnish mission or the local police may transfer the permanent residence permit into a new passport, if the validity of the permit has not expired.

## **Section 16**

### **Work Permits and Exceptions to their Validity**

Persons who work jointly to perform a given task may be issued a joint work permit. Applications for such work permits must supply the identity of the group's members. A work permit may, on application, be granted for a period of less than one year or if the circumstances involve:

- 1) a company-specific temporary need for extra labour or a fixed-term project;
- 2) seasonal work; or
- 3) work for which a work permit is granted only for a fixed period in accordance with a Decision of the Ministry of Labour. (538/1999)

A paragraph was repealed by the Decree on Amending the Aliens Decree (538/1999).

## **Section 17**

### **Work Permit Restrictions**

The occupational field for which a work permit is issued is defined according to the Ministry of Labour's current classification of occupations. A work permit may also be issued for more than one field. The Ministry of Labour shall issue more specific instructions on this matter.

Work permits may be restricted to a specific post or a specific employer if the circumstances involve:

- 1) an employee sent to Finland by a foreign employer;
- 2) a company's temporary need for extra labour or a fixed-term project; or
- 3) another employment for which a Ministry of Labour decision prevents the issuing of a field-specific work permit because of the nature of work or for another specific reason.

If the nature of the work involved so necessitates, field-specific work permits may be subjected to more specific restrictions as decided by the Ministry of Labour.

Guidelines on entries to be made in work permits shall be issued by the competent ministry. (538/1999)

## **Section 18**

### **Permit-Free Employment**

If an alien is exempt from the requirement to hold a work permit by virtue of Section 25, paragraph 1 of the Aliens Act, his residence permit must include an entry to that effect.

In addition to persons referred to in Section 25 of the Aliens Act, a work permit shall not be required of an alien who:

- 1) is self-employed;
- 2) is engaged in agriculture on a farm that he has acquired the right to own or possess as stipulated elsewhere;
- 3) is engaged in employment that has constituted grounds for the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to issue him a residence permit;
- 4) is a seaman, recruited outside Finland to work on a Finnish vessel where the vessel he works on mainly sails between ports outside Finland;
- 5) performs duties relating to bilateral or multilateral cooperation between countries. (538/1999)

The Ministry of Labour shall issue more specific provisions on the cases in which a work permit shall not be required from an alien who

- 1) works in Finland for a foreign employer;
- 2) is temporarily engaged as a visiting lecturer or instructor or to give or compile a written or oral presentation or as a performing artist or a professional athlete;
- 3) participates in an official or organization-specific international scholarship, student or youth exchange program. (538/1999)

## **Section 19**

### **Statements Regarding Work Permits**

A statement from an employment office regarding the intended use of foreign workers is to be procured by any employer, contractor, subcontractor or provider of employment, who intends to employ a foreign worker, or engage him in contracting or subcontracting or hired out to a foreign company. The request for a statement has to be made on a form of authorized format and it has to give an account of the commission, its duration, terms of remuneration and other terms of employment, together with an account of why an alien is to be employed.

The statement issued by the employment office is the employment authority's point of view, as defined in Section 26, paragraph 1 of the Act on Amending the Aliens Act, for the Finnish mission issuing the work permit. The statement is to be presented at the Finnish mission when applying for a work permit.

Following consultation with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Labour will issue more specific guidelines on the procedure of procuring the statement and the circumstances under which no statement is required.

## **Section 20**

### **Granting a Work Permit in Finland**

The Employment Office shall submit a statement on a work permit application to the Directorate of Immigration or the local police if the alien is also simultaneously applying for a residence permit. A statement on the work permit application shall not be requested if the applicant is not granted a residence permit. (538/1999)

The Ministry of Labour shall issue further provisions on the circumstances in which a work permit may be granted without requesting a statement from the Employment Office to a person who has been issued a residence permit on other grounds than work-permit consideration. (538/1999)

A work permit applicant is to provide information on the job concerned by way of a certificate of authorized format issued by the employer, contractor, subcontractor or provider of employment. The certificate must give an account of the commission, its duration, terms of remuneration and other terms of employment, together with an account of why an alien is to be employed.

## **Section 21**

### **Information Required for Work Permits**

A work permit application must include the information specified in Section 28 of the Aliens Act to the extent the employment office in each case demands except for the circumstances under which the said information according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Labour is not needed.

## **Section 22**

### **Employers' Obligations**

The assurance specified in Section 29, paragraph 2 of the Aliens Act is to be included in the request for a statement regarding the use of alien employees specified in Section 19 and in the employer's certificate specified in Section 20.

## **Section 23**

### **(538/1999)**

#### **Establishment of Facts and Investigation in Certain Cases**

When establishing the preconditions for the entry into the country and residence in the country of an alien or when preparing refusal of entry or deportation, the police shall conduct the necessary investigations. The police may conduct investigations also in a Finnish mission as separately agreed upon by the competent ministries.

The investigation conducted by the Frontier Guard under the Aliens Act shall be governed by the provisions of Section 47 of the Act on the Frontier Guard (320/1999).

The Directorate of Immigration may establish the preconditions for granting a residence permit under Section 18 a or 18 c of the Aliens Act in a Finnish mission as separately agreed upon by the competent ministries.

## **Section 24**

### **Passengers in Transit**

An alien who is a national of a State referred to in Annex 2 to this Decree shall have an airport transit visa for transit passage via the international area of the airport unless otherwise provided for by the competent ministry. Other aliens shall not be required to have visas for such transit passage. (538/1999)

Aliens are not required to have visas for a transit passage via international areas of harbours. (607/1997)

For special reasons the Directorate of Immigration, or when acting under the guidelines of the Ministry of the Interior, the police or passport control officers at the point of entry may also endorse other waiting areas for transit passengers. (222/1995)

## **Section 25**

### **The Carriers' Obligation to Notify and Control**

The officer in charge of a vessel or aircraft, or the traffic contractor or his representative in some other form of transport, entering Finland is to provide the police or passport control officer at the point of entry with information on the staff members, passengers and any other persons aboard. At the request of the police or passport control officer they are also to be provided with crew and passenger lists. The officer in charge of a vessel or aircraft, or the traffic contractor's representative in some other form of tran-

sport, is obliged to ensure that no one lacking the requisite authorization enters Finland without official permission.

## **Section 26**

### **Regulations for Cruise Passengers**

Cruise passengers aboard a vessel duly registered to carry passengers may disembark from the vessel without passports or visas while the vessel is in Finland. A passport control officer must be provided with a passenger list endorsed by the vessel's master before disembarkation occurs.

Cruise passengers shall return to the vessel before it proceeds to another destination.

For the purposes of this Decree the term "cruise" refers to a voyage in which the vessel that does not provide regular line service visits, in addition to the harbour in Finland, at least two foreign harbours. The cruise vessel is not allowed to take or leave passengers in Finland.

## **Section 27**

### **Crews of Vessels and Aircraft**

A seaman holding a national seafarer's identity document as referred to in the Convention Concerning Seafarers' National Identity Documents (Finnish Treaty Series 64/1970) is entitled to disembark from a vessel without a passport or visa when the vessel that he is employed by pays a normal port call in Finland, unless the police or passport control officer gives a special reason for not doing so. The seaman shall return to the vessel before it proceeds to another destination.

A member of an aircrew is not subject to the rules and regulations concerning passports and visas when entering or leaving Finland on a flight that is part of his regular duties. He must nevertheless have an identification document bearing a photograph and issued by the aviation authorities of his country of origin.

## **Section 28**

### **Regulations Concerning Seamen**

If the master of a vessel intends to engage or discharge an alien seaman in Finland, he must give the local police in the district where the engagement or discharge will take place advance notice of his actions.

An alien seaman who intends to disembark from a ship in Finland shall be regarded as an alien entering Finland. An alien seaman engaged in Finland shall be regarded as an alien leaving Finland.

The master of a vessel must immediately inform the National Board of Navigation and the passport control authority of the commencement or termination of an alien seaman's employment.

### **Section 29** Notification

Any authority after receiving an application for asylum shall immediately notify the Directorate of Immigration and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the application received. (222/1995)

Finnish missions, passport control officers and police authorities are to notify the Directorate of Immigration of any visas or residence permits they issue according to separate provisions. Passport control officers and the police shall also give notification of any refusal of entry into Finland at a frontier and of any other information that has come to their knowledge which might affect an alien's entry into, departure from, stay in and employment in Finland or his acquisition of Finnish citizenship. (222/1995)

Finnish missions and the police shall notify the employment authorities of any work permits they issue and also supply information on other matters which might affect aliens' employment.

The Population Register Centre shall notify the police of any change in its records regarding aliens residing in Finland.

The prison authorities shall notify the Directorate of Immigration of the imprisonment of an alien. Moreover, notice must be given to the Directorate of Immigration well in advance whenever an alien is released from prison or transferred to serve his sentence in another country or transferred from another country to serve his sentence in Finland. (222/1995)

### **Section 30** Seals and Forms

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs shall endorse the format of the seals and forms to be used by Finnish missions in matters falling under the Aliens Act and this Decree.

The Ministry of the Interior is to endorse the format of other seals and forms to be used in matters falling under the Aliens Act and this Decree after first consulting the ministries concerned, and issue instructions to the police and passport control officers regarding entries to be made in passports.

### **Section 31** Use of Foreign Languages

The interpretation of a decision into the native language of the person that the decision affects or into any language that he reasonably can be assumed to understand shall be deemed to constitute notification of a decision as set out in Section 68 of the Aliens Act.

### **Section 32** Notification and Enforcement

Notice and enforcement of a decision made under the Aliens Act shall be served by the local police authority for the area in which the alien resides or the passport control officer of the area of departure.

Notification of a decision made under the Aliens Act and relating to an application for a residence permit based on a family tie may be carried out abroad by a Finnish mission. If the decision is affirmative, the mission shall enter the residence permit in the applicant's travel document. (538/1999)

### **Section 33** Register of Aliens

was repealed by the Act (1270/1997).

### **Section 34** Further Provisions and Guidelines (538/1999)

Specific provisions and guidelines on the application of this Decree within the scope of the authority of the Ministry of the Interior shall be issued by the Ministry of the Interior after consulting with the competent ministries.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs shall issue Finnish missions with provisions and guidelines for the application of this Decree.

Further provisions and guidelines on the enforcement of this Decree with regard to the submission of a statement on a work permit application falling within the scope of authority of an employment authority shall be issued by the Ministry of Labour. The Ministry of Labour shall issue further provisions on the employment authority supervising the provisions of the Aliens Act on work. (538/1999)

### **Section 35** Entry into Force

This Decree enters into force on 1 March 1994.

This Decree repeals the Aliens Decree of 1 March 1991 (499/1991) and its subsequent amendments.

## Entry into Force and Application of Amendments

(222/1995) This Decree enters into force on 1 March 1995.

Measures required to enforce this Decree may be implemented before it takes effect.

(1/1996) This Decree enters into force on 5 January 1996.

Measures required to enforce this Decree may be implemented before it takes effect.

(607/1997) This Decree enters into force on 1 August 1997.

Measures required to enforce this Decree may be implemented before it takes effect.

(1270/1997) This Act enters into force on 1 January 1998.

(538/1999) This Decree enters into force on 1 May 1999.

(115/2000) This Decree enters into force on 1 March 2000.

**THE STATES WHOSE NATIONALS SHALL HAVE VISAS FOR  
A TRANSIT PASSAGE VIA THE INTERNATIONAL AREA OF AN AIRPORT**

Afghanistan  
Bangladesh  
Eritrea  
Ethiopia  
Ghana  
Iraq  
Iran  
Nigeria  
Pakistan  
Somalia  
Sri Lanka  
Zaire

## THE LETTER-NUMBER COMBINATION DENOTING THE NATURE OF THE STAY (STATUS) APPEARING IN A RESIDENCE PERMIT AND VISA

### CATEGORY A

The category contains persons issued permits for permanent-nature stay in the country. After a continuous two-year stay in the country with status A, the person may be issued a permanent residence permit.

- A.1 Residence permit issued on the basis of Finnish origin or another tie to Finland.
- A.2 Residence permit issued on the basis of a need of skilled labour estimated to be of a long duration.
- A.3 The person has been granted asylum (Aliens Act, Section 30), issued a residence permit due to his need of protection (Aliens Act, Section 31) or a residence permit within the refugee quota or on other serious humanitarian grounds (Aliens Act, Section 18, paragraph 1, subparagraph 4).
- A.4 Persons other than those referred to above whose stay in the country is of a permanent nature.
- A.5 A family member of a person belonging to category A or of a Finnish citizen when the residence permit is issued based only on the stay in Finland of the family member.

### CATEGORY B

The category contains persons issued fixed-term residence permits. Due to the purpose of the stay, the persons are not issued permanent residence permits after a continuous two-year stay in the country with permit B.

- B.1 Residence permit has been issued for employment, self-employment or vocational practice.

Employees as well as self-employed persons and persons carrying on a vocational practice who have stayed in the country continuously and with a permit for two years with status B.1 shall be transferred to category A.2 in case the self-employment or vocational practice or employment continues further.

- B.2 Residence permit issued for studies.
- B.3 The person resides or works in the country temporarily.
- B.4 A family member of a person belonging to category B when the residence permit is issued based only on the stay in Finland of the family member.

### CATEGORY D

The category contains persons who cannot temporarily be returned to their home countries. Due to the purpose of the stay in the country, the person shall not be issued a permanent residence permit after a continuous two-year stay in the country with permit D.

- D.1 Residence permit issued for a fixed-term stay in the country because the person cannot be refused entry or deported due to the situation in his home country or his country of habitual residence or due to the negative attitude of the authorities of the said country to the reception of the person.

If the grounds for the issuing of a residence permit still exist after a continuous two-year stay in the country, the new residence permit may be issued with status A.4.

- D.2 A family member of a person belonging to this category when the residence permit is issued based only on the stay in Finland of the family member. This status shall be applied only to family members already residing in the country.

### CATEGORY F

The category contains persons who have arrived in the country for a short-term (a maximum of three months) visit and who have been issued visas.

- F.1 A tourist.
- F.2 A representative in the field of business, culture, science or art.
- F.3 A participant in an international conference.
- F.4 A person attending an entrance examination of an educational institution.
- F.5 A person entitled to permit-free employment under Section 18 of the Aliens' Decree or under Regulation M 1/1996 of the Ministry of Labour.
- F.6 Other persons entering the country for a maximum period of three months.