

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

S/C/N/467  
18 August 2008

(08-3883)

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Council for Trade in Services

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III:3 OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES

The following notification, dated 11 August 2008, from the delegation of Switzerland, is being circulated to the Members of the Council for Trade in Services.

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**1. Member notifying:**

Switzerland

**2. Notification under:**

Article III, paragraph 3, of the General Agreement on Trade in Services

**3. Date of entry into force:**

1 January 2008

**Duration:**

Indefinite

**4. Agency responsible for enforcement of the measure:**

Federal Office for Migration (FOM)

**5. Description of the measure:**

Measure:

Federal Law on Foreign Nationals dated 16 December 2005 (SR 142.20)

Description:

The notified Federal Law on Foreign Nationals and the applicable provisions under international law form the legal basis for the control of entry and departure of foreign nationals, for the establishment of the conditions of their presence as well as for displacement measures. It contains, in particular, measures on admission; entry and leave; authorisation and notification obligation; admission requirements; provisions on stay (short-term stay,

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residence permit, long-term residence permit); integration; required documents; return and reintegration assistance.

The new Law on Foreign Nationals restrains the entrance of people to the labour market to highly qualified specialists. Any divergent provision in respect of nationals from EC and EFTA Member States contained in the agreement between Switzerland and the EC about the free movement of natural persons or in the EFTA agreement prevails the Federal Law on Foreign Nationals.

**6. Members specifically affected, if any:**

Members other than EC and EFTA Member States

**7. Text available from:**

Office fédéral des constructions et de la logistique (OFCL)  
Diffusion des publications  
3003 Berne

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