



The Hon Alan Tudge MP
Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs

Ref No: MS18-001116

Mr Rob Fitzpatrick
Chief Executive
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Dear Mr Fitzpatrick *Rob*

On 19 March, I announced a new visa scheme to attract highly skilled individuals to Australia called the Global Talent Scheme. This arrangement has two streams. First, established businesses with an annual turnover of more than \$4 million will be able to sponsor highly skilled and experienced individuals for positions with earnings over \$180,000 into Australia. Second, technology-based and STEM-related startups will be able to sponsor experienced people with specialised technology skills. In both streams the employer will need to demonstrate that there will be skills transfer to Australians as a result of granting the visa.

To support the scheme, I intend to establish an advisory group with representatives from key industry bodies, including the startup and university sectors, and would like to invite a senior representative from your organisation to participate. I understand that the Department of Home Affairs has previously had discussions with Ms Kim Hicks about the scheme.

The advisory group would provide advice and expertise from an industry perspective on the development of the scheme. Initial proof of concept exercises with a small number of organisations will commence soon, with a 12-month pilot commencing 1 July 2018.

I would appreciate your involvement to ensure this scheme delivers a credible outcome that benefits Australian workers, meets the needs of business and maintains Australia's global competitiveness for talent. To indicate your interest in participating in the advisory group, please contact Michael Willard, Assistant Secretary, Economic Policy Branch at michael.willard@homeaffairs.gov.au or telephone 02 6223 9544.

Yours sincerely


ALAN TUDGE
31 March 2018