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Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 416

Adopted 10 September 2002

## **Procedures by which Refugees may Choose a Place of Residence in the Republic of Latvia**

Issued pursuant to Section 27 of  
Asylum Law

1. The Regulations determine the procedures by which refugees may choose a place of residence in the Republic of Latvia.
2. A refugee may choose his or her place of residence in the Republic of Latvia in conformity with the list (hereinafter – list) drawn up by the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (hereinafter – Office).  
The list shall include information regarding vacant living quarters belonging to the local governments and the State, as well as the living space offered by public and religious organisations which may be offered to a refugee.
3. Every year in January and July the Local Government and State Immovable Property Agency shall submit information in writing to the Minister for the Interior information in writing regarding vacant living quarters belonging to them, specifying the location, the area, the level of amenities, the amount of rental and public utility service payments per month, as well as regarding vacancies in boarding schools and rest-homes.
4. Vacant living quarters belonging to the local governments within the meaning of these Regulations shall be such premises as are not necessary for the implementation of assistance in accordance with the Law on Local Government Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues.
5. Public and religious organisations may offer vacant living space to a refugee by submitting to the Office the information referred to in Paragraph 3 of these Regulations.
6. Within three working days following the granting the status of a refugee, the Office shall acquaint the refugee with the list.
7. Within ten days after having been acquainted with the list, the refugee shall choose a place of residence and certify with his or her signature that he or she agrees to live in the relevant place of residence, or, by stating a substantiated reason, in writing certifies that he or she does not wish to use the living space referred to in the list.
8. If a refugee chooses a place of residence not indicated in the list, he or she shall need written consent from the Office.

9. Rental payments or payments for staying in boarding schools or pensions shall be covered by the Office from the allowance granted to a refugee on the basis of the receipt of an invoice for the provision of the relevant services.

10. The Office may allow a refugee to reside temporarily in the Accommodation Centre for Asylum Seekers, but for not longer than three months following the granting of the status of a refugee. The Office shall enter into an agreement with a refugee regarding his or her residence in the Accommodation Centre for Asylum Seekers.

Prime Minister

A. Bērziņš

Acting for the Minister for the Interior,  
Minister for Defence

G. V. Kristovskis