

THOMSON REUTERS:

# Skilled Migration and Workforce Planning Conference

Unlock the Power of Skilled Migration

**Tuesday 28th March 2023**

**SYDNEY, IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL**

ENDORSED BY



FRAGOMEN

**Attend this conference and learn how to:**

- ✓ Map the future of skilled migration this decade
- ✓ Tackle the critical shortage of priority workers
- ✓ Clarify the future policy and funding priorities
- ✓ Integrate IR reforms with working conditions
- ✓ Deliver the benefits of skilled visa migration programs

To register call +61 2 9171 9768 or email [manas.sharma2@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:manas.sharma2@thomsonreuters.com)

## Event Overview

This conference galvanises government, employers, industry bodies, and unions that will discuss, debate, and design the next step to unlocking the power of skilled migration for Australia's economic recovery. The administration has allocated more than \$36 million to process a crippling backlog of active non-humanitarian visa applications.

The information-packed agenda offers practical lessons to tackle Australia's widespread shortage of workers across key sectors. The focus is on attracting talent in a globally competitive marketplace, slash the red tape, and deliver benefits to employers from a simplified visa processing program.

Join us to ensure your business benefits from Australia's revamped skilled migration effort. You will hear first-hand from employers, the legal profession, government, and industry bodies about the key milestones and opportunities.

## Who should attend

### GOVERNMENT

- Secretary/ Deputy secretary: Immigration and Settlement/ Immigration
- Director, Permanent Migration Planning and Policy Section
- Legal counsel

### EMPLOYERS

- CEO/MD
- HR Manager
- Chief People Officer
- Recruitment/talent management
- Legal counsel

### LAW FIRMS

- Managing Partner
- Managing Director
- Partner/Migration Lawyer
- Associate/Senior associate
- Special Counsel/ Counsel
- Solicitor

### UNIONS/INDUSTRY BODIES

- Secretary
- CEO
- President

### RECRUITMENT AGENCIES

- Managing director
- Principal
- Registered migration agent

## Chair Person



**Julie Williams**

National President & Director  
Migration Institute of Australia

## Key Speakers



**Dr Anne Webster**

MP, Deputy Chair, Joint Standing  
Committee on Migration



**Alex Robson**

Commissioner & Deputy Chair  
Productivity Commission



**Teresa Liu**

Managing Partner,  
Australia & New Zealand  
Fragomen



**Rebecca Baggiano**

Special Counsel  
Fragomen



**Maria Jockel**

Global and National  
Immigration Leader  
BDO



**Anne O'Donoghue**

Member, Working Group  
on Modern Slavery  
International Bar Association (UK)



**Rebecca Thomson**

Principal Lawyer  
BDO Migration Services



**Tom McMahon**

Deputy CEO  
Technology Council of Australia



**Ndi Ruppert**

Principal Solicitor  
Ruppert Legal



**Ron Kessels**

Senior Partner  
Ajuria Lawyers



**Neil Arora**

Consulting Principal  
Keypoint Law



**Laurie Berg**

A/Professor  
Law Faculty, University of Technology



**Mark Morey**

Secretary  
Unions NSW



**Chris Johnston**

Principal Lawyer  
Work Visa Lawyers



**Kristopher Kunasingam**

Partner & Head of Migration  
Hall & Wilcox

## AGENDA – Tuesday 28th March 2023, Sydney, In-person & Virtual

8:30 **Registration opens**

8:50 **Opening remarks by the Chair Julie Williams**

### FUTURE OF SKILLED MIGRATION – WHERE TO NEXT?

9:00 **Laying the foundations for skilled migration**

- Strengthening labour market participation for skilled migrants
- Managing settlement services and vocational training
- Utilising the skills and knowledge of highly-skilled workers



**Dr Anne Webster, MP**

Deputy Chair

Joint Standing Committee on Migration

The Minister for Home Affairs, The Hon. Clare O'Neil MP, has asked the Joint Standing Committee on Migration to inquire into the role of permanent migration in nation-building. The committee adopted the inquiry on 23 November 2022, with submissions being finalised 13 February 2023.

9:30 **Tracking the future skills set and jobs in demand**

- Projecting employment trends this decade
- Forecasting the labour market demand
- Delivering productivity and growth in a dynamic market



**Alex Robson**

Commissioner & Deputy Chair  
Productivity Commission

10:00 **The need to reform in the skilled migration program**

- International trends
- How the future processing of visas will evolve
- What is needed to streamline the complexity of migration policies



**Teresa Liu**

Managing Partner,  
Australia & New Zealand  
Fragomen



**Rebecca Baggiano**

Special Counsel  
Fragomen

10:30 **MORNING TEA**

11:00 **What changes need to be made if the skilled migration system is to meet Australia's current and future economic needs**

- Delivering a demand-driven immigration program that benefits business
- Reducing the visa processing wait times
- Abolishing the cumbersome skills list to speed the intakes
- Identifying workforce shortages in an accurate and consistent way



**Maria Jockel**

Global and National Immigration Leader & Accredited, Specialist  
BDO

11:30 **Skilled migration, remote work, and modern slavery – an international perspective**

- Addressing concerns about the exploitation of overseas workers
- Tackling vulnerabilities to modern slavery
- Supporting remote work arrangements in the global gig economy



**Anne O'Donoghue**

Member, Working Group on Modern Slavery  
International Bar Association

### TACKLING THE CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF SKILLS – HOW BUSINESS IS COPING

12:00 **Global Mobility and Managing Risk and Compliance in a digital age and whole of government approach**

- Data Sharing Protocols including between the Department of Home Affairs, the ATO and other agencies including Fair Work Australia
- Employer Obligations and the Australian Border Force as to operational enforcement arm of the Department of Home Affairs



**Rebecca Thomson**

Principal Lawyer  
BDO Migration Services

12:30 **Supporting the high-demand technology sector with skilled workers**

- Identifying shortfalls in the technology sector
- Making Australia an attractive destination for highly skilled labour
- Ensuring the technology sector reaches its full potential



**Tom McMahon**

Deputy CEO  
Technology Council of Australia

## AGENDA – Tuesday 28th March 2023, Sydney, In-person & Virtual

### 1:00 NETWORKING LUNCHEON

#### 2:00 Clarifying the visa processing priorities for skilled migration

- Ensuring an intake of suitably qualified workers
- Aligning migration policy with the skills shortage
- Integrating policy with business needs



**Julie Williams**  
National President & Director  
Migration Institute of Australia

#### 2:30 Panel discussion: Why the immigration system needs a shake-up

- How do we tackle a historic shortage of qualified workers?
- What is needed to overhaul a byzantine system of rules and processes?
- Which strategies work best in a legal context?



**Ndi Ruppert**  
Principal Solicitor  
Ruppert Legal



**Ron Kessels**  
Senior Partner  
Arujia Lawyers



**Neil Arora**  
Consulting Principal  
Keypoint Law

### 3:00 AFTERNOON TEA

#### WHY 'SAME WORK, SAME PAY' MATTER FOR OVERSEAS-BORN WORKERS

#### 3:30 Streamlining wages and conditions for skilled migrants

- Clarifying the visa protection, wages, and terms of employment
- Ensuring that migrant workers' rights are fully protected
- Mapping minimum wages and conditions across industries and sectors



**Mark Morey**  
Secretary  
Unions NSW

#### 4:00 Visa protections for migrants who address exploitation

- Data on why migrants do not take action against exploitative employers.
- Why current migration settings will not curb exploitation.
- A new multi-stakeholder proposal for whistleblower reforms



**Laurie Berg**  
A/Professor  
Law Faculty, University of Technology

### SLASHING THE TIME TO PROCESS SKILLED VISAS – WHERE TO NEXT?

#### 4:30 Direction of the Australian Government Migration Policy in 2023 - practical implications of Skills Summit, "Review" and visa allocations

- Mapping the processing priorities for skilled visa applications
- Identifying occupations in high demand including healthcare or teaching
- Offering skilled visas for professionals, including doctors, nurses, and trades
- Fast tracking the Accredited Employer-sponsored and health occupations



**Chris Johnston**  
Principal Lawyer  
Work Visa Lawyers

#### 5:00 How the pathways for permanent residency will evolve

- New legislation creates a permanent residency (PR) pathway for visa holders employed under the two-year Short-term occupation list. This cohort would ordinarily not qualify for PR under the Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) visa.
- New measures respond to the strong labour market demand, and declining number of temporary visa holders. This presentation outlines:
  - Future visa arrangements and longer term trends
  - Short and long-term requirements
  - Pathways to permanency
  - Global talent visa future



**Kristopher Kunasingam**  
Partner & Head of Migration  
Hall & Wilcox

#### 5:30 Closing remarks from the chair and close of the conference

### 5:30 - 6:00 NETWORKING DRINKS

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Tuesday 28th March 2023

SYDNEY, IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

## Location & Time

Marble Room, Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Sydney

**Conference:** 8:30am - 5:30pm

**Networking Drinks:** 5:30pm - 6:00pm

**Online:** 8:50am - 5:30pm

## Your Investment

### IN-PERSON

#### Early Bird\*

\$750 + GST (Save \$100)

#### Full price

\$850 + GST

### ONLINE

#### Early Bird\*

\$595 + GST (Save \$100)

#### Full price

\$695 + GST

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Phone **+61 2 9171 9768**

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\* Early bird closes 28th February 2023

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