



**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

January 19, 2017

HC-06-17

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Observer Offices to the United Nations and has the honor to refer to its circular diplomatic note HC-59-14 dated June 6, 2014 (available at: http://usun.state.gov/about/host_aff/129277.htm) regarding the employment of domestic workers who are in the United States in nonimmigrant G-5 visa status. The Permanent Missions and Observer Offices will note that for all hours worked, such domestic workers must be paid the greater of the minimum wage under U.S. federal or state law or the prevailing wage in the specific location (City and State) of the residence where the domestic worker is employed.

The United States Mission wishes to inform the Permanent Missions and Observer Offices that according to Article 19 of the New York State Labor Law, all employees in New York State, including domestic workers, must be paid at least the applicable hourly wage rate. The City of New York has updated its minimum wage requirement to \$10.50 per hour for the period beginning December 31, 2016 and ending December 30, 2017. The current minimum wage rate for employers with less than ten employees in the New York City area may be found online at the New York State Department of Labor website:

<https://www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/laborstandards/workprot/minwage.shtm>.

Therefore, domestic workers employed in residences in the New York City metropolitan area must be paid in accordance with the local minimum wage rate noted above. In addition, all new contracts between domestic workers and their employers must reflect the updated wage amounts and all existing contracts already in effect must be amended to reflect the updated wage amounts, with the changes initialed by both the domestic worker and the employer.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions and Observer Offices to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.