



## **CORPORATE**

### Stricter Rules on Branch Renewals

Order No. 025/MCPMEI/MER, of 30 October 2020, requires a technical committee to rule on the renewal of branches of foreign companies, and has increased the fees as well as the number of documents needed to complete this process. Renewal requests still need to be filed two months in advance of the authorized duration of the relevant branch.

## **GOVERNANCE**

### New Rules on Regularity Visa

Decree No. 000356/PR/MRICAAL, of 16 September 2020, amends and completes Decree No. 0408/PR, of 20 August 2015, on the regularity visa, which must appear on all agreements (and amendments thereto) binding the State, and shall be issued by the Prime Minister upon consultation with the Minister of Economy, the Minister of Budget, and the Minister overseeing the relevant sector of activity.

## Disbandment of Several Institutions

Laws No. 007/2020, 008/2020, 013/2020, 014/2020 and 015/2020, all of 14 August 2020, have respectively disbanded the National Agency for Artistic and Cultural Promotion, the National Agency for the Management and Exploitation of Sport Infrastructure for the State, the National Anti-Pollution Center, the National Forestry Fund, and the National Sports Development Fund. In turn, Decree No. 000251/PR/MEF, of 17 July 2020, has dissolved the Privatization Committee.

## New rules on State expenditure

New rules on the implementation of the State Budget have been adopted through Organic Law No. 017/2020, of 17 July 2020.

## **GAMING**

### New Law on Games of Chance, Entertainment and Gambling

Ordinance No. 0012/PR/2020, of 14 August 2020, has established extensive regulations on the gambling sector. It requires gaming parlors, hotels and casinos to obtain a license, and sets forth strict rules of conduct, subject to sanctions and penalties.

## Novo Regime Jurídico da Autofacturação

O Decreto Presidencial n.º 194/20, de 24 de Julho, aprovou o novo Regime Jurídico da Autofacturação, tendo revogado o regime de autofacturação anteriormente previsto no artigo 10º do Regime Jurídico das Facturas e Documentos Equivalentes (Decreto Presidencial n.º 292/18, de 3 de Dezembro). O novo regime da autofacturação entrou em vigor no dia 22 de Agosto de 2020.

## TAX

### Double Taxation Treaty Between Gabon and Saudi Arabia ratified

On 14 August 2020, Gabon ratified the Convention between Gabon and Saudi Arabia on the avoidance of double taxation and income tax evasion.

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