

MOZAMBIQUE

August through October 2015

MINING

JUDICIARY ORGANISATION

ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION ORGANISATION LAW AMENDED

By way of Law No. 7/2015, of 6 October 2015, the Assembly of the Republic has amended and re-published the Administrative Jurisdiction Organisation Law – which had been enacted through Law No. 24/2013, of 1 November 2013.

CHANGES TO THE ORGANISATION, OPERATION AND PROCEDURE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT'S PUBLIC ACCOUNTS SECTION

Also on 6 October 2015 and via Law No. 8/2015, the Parliament introduced changes to and re-published Law No. 14/2014, of 14 August 2014, which sets forth the organisation, operation and procedure of the Administrative Court's Public Accounts Section. Among other matters, this Law applies to the prior review process – through the so-called visto - in the provincial administrative courts and the Maputo City Administrative Court.

BANKING AND FINANCE

PRIVATELY MANAGED CREDIT INFORMATION SYSTEM CREATED

Through Law No. 6/2015, of 6 October 2015, the Assembly of the Republic approved the creation of the Privately Managed Credit Information System and also set forth the rules applicable to its operations. It is worth highlighting the need of prior licensing from the Bank of Mozambique for the incorporation of credit information agencies. The statute further provides for a set of obligations and rules of conduct that the aforesaid agencies have to observe at the time of their incorporation and during the course of their business. The new Law will come into force on 5 January 2016 and shall be regulated by the Council of Ministers by 4 April 2016.

TREASURY BONDS AND BILLS

By means of Ministerial Statutes No. 86/2015, of 18 September 2015, and No. 89/2015, of 28 September 2015, the Minister of Economy and Finance respectively approved the timetable for the issuance of Treasury Bonds in 2015 and the maximum amount applicable to the use of Treasury Bills during the 2015 financial year. Through Ministerial Statute No. 87/2015, of 18 September 2015, it was further approved a change to the technical aspects relating to the placement, subscription for, issuance and trading of Treasury Bonds, which had been previously determined by Ministerial Statute No. 90/2013, of 10 July 2013.

SETTING OF FEE APPLICABLE TO TRANSACTIONS OF SALE AND PURCHASE OF PUBLIC DEBT INSTRUMENTS

By way of Ministerial Statute No. 90/2015, of 2 October 2015, the Minister of Economy and Finance has set in 0.2/1000 the Fee for Carrying Out Transactions of Sale and Purchase of Public Debt Instruments in the Securities Exchange.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

REGULATIONS ON REGISTRATION AND ACTIVATION OF SIM CARDS APPROVED

The Council of Ministers has approved, via Decree No. 18/2015, of 28 August 2015, the Regulations on Registration and Activation of Mobile Telephones Subscriber Identification Modules (SIM Cards). Telecommunications operators are required to make existing registrations compliant with the Regulations until 26 November, a deadline that is equally applicable to non-registered subscribers and subscribers in a pre-registration status. The failure to register by the foregoing date shall have as a consequence the blocking of the non-registered SIM card.

SOCIAL SECURITY

CONTRIBUTION RATE FOR SELF-EMPLOYED WORKERS SET

Decree No. 14/2015, of 16 July 2015, whereby the rate of the mandatory Social Security contribution of self-employed workers was set in 7%, was recently published in the Official Gazette. The aforesaid rate is levied on the remuneration amount chosen by the worker, provided however that such amount shall not be lower than the minimum wage for the corresponding business sector.

ENVIRONMENT

MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF PLASTIC BAGS REGULATED

By means of Decree No. 16/2015, of 5 August 2015, the Council of Ministers approved the Regulations on the Management and Control of Plastic Bags. Although the Regulations have come into effect on the date of their publication, some of the more restrictive measures introduced will only come into force on 2 February 2016, notably (i) the prohibition of imports of plastic bags which are ongoing, (ii) the prohibition of producing plastic bags with certain features described in the Regulations and (iii) the prohibition of reselling plastic bags.

COMMERCIAL

NEW RULES ON COLLECTION AND ALLOCATION OF COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND SIMPLIFIED LICENSING FEES

Through Orders dated 13 July 2015 and 12 August 2015, the Ministers of Economy and Finance and of Industry and Commerce have revoked Ministerial Statute No. 330/2012, of 19 December 2012, which set forth the terms and conditions for the allocation of proceeds from the collection of fees for the issuance of simplified licenses, and approved new procedures to be observed in the collection and

allocation of the amount of the fees to be paid for acts relating to the licensing of commercial and industrial activities, as well as the simplified licensing of economic activities.

ENERGY

AMENDMENT TO ENERGY FUND (FUNAE) INTERNAL REGULATIONS AND ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

Through Ministerial Statute No. 96/2015, of 16 October 2015, the new Internal Regulations and Organisation Structure of FUNAE were published, with Ministerial Statute No. 163/2006, of 1 November 2006, having been revoked.

INFRASTRUCTURE

NACALA PORT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT (UIPRPN) CREATED

By means of Ministerial Statute No. 95/2015, of 16 October 2015, of the Minister of Transports and Communications, the creation of the UIPRPN was approved so as to satisfy the requirements of the Nacala Port Rehabilitation Project financing agreements signed between the Government of Mozambique and the Government of Japan.

STATE ADMINISTRATION

NEW RULES AND CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFICATION OF DISTRICTS AND URBAN ZONES

The Council of Ministers approved, via Decree No. 20/2015, of 4 September 2015, the new rules and criteria applicable to the classification of districts and urban zones. Districts now have three classification levels (A, B and C) and urban zones are classified as cities (of A, B, C and D level) and as towns (of level A and B). The main criterion to classify districts is the degree of economic, social and cultural development. In classifying urban zones, other than the foregoing criterion one shall also take into account the population.

REGISTRATION OF BANKING DOMICILES IN e-SISTAFE WITH NEW RULES

By way of Ministerial Statute No. 91/2015, of 18 September 2015, the Minister of Economy and Finance has established new registration rules for banking domiciles in the Information System of the State's Financial Administration System (known as e-SISTAFE). The rules aim to control the registration of Banking Identification Numbers (known as NIBs) for the purposes of payment or receipt of funds through the e-SISTAFE, thus endowing it with greater security.

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