

STATE BUDGET

General State Budget for 2023 approved

The General State Budget for 2023 was enacted by means of Law No. 2/23, of 13 March 2023 (State Budget Law), which entered into force on the same day. In general terms, the State Budget Law maintains the tax provisions introduced by the 2022 State Budget. Nonetheless, introduces important new features, notably in what concerns Personal Income Tax and Customs Duties (find further information on Miranda Alliance's Legal Alert of 16 March 2023).

PRIVATIZATIONS

New 2023-2026 Privatization Program

Aiming to include new State companies and assets in the Privatization Program (PROPRIV), and taking into account that there are still several privatization processes underway, an extension of the PROPRIV implementation period was recently approved. Presidential Decree No. 78/23, of 28 March 2023, establishes a new schedule and roadmap for the privatizations that will take place in the period

2023-2026, detailing the modalities and procedures to be followed for each of the 73 State companies and industrial units.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

New Rules for Foreign Exchange Operations by Individuals

National Bank of Angola's (BNA) Order No. 3/23, of 9 March 2023, has established that foreign exchange operations carried out by individuals are liberalized and are accordingly exempt from licensing by the BNA. This Order, which came into force on 8 April 2023, revokes BNA's Order No. 5/21, of 14 April 2021, as well as any provisions contrary to the new Order (find further information on Miranda Alliance's Legal Alert of 14 March 2023).

BANKING

New Regulation on Microfinance Institutions and Operators approved

Considering that the activity of granting Microcredit to micro and small entrepreneurs has shown a remarkable development and significant social importance, a new Regulation for Microfinance Institutions and Operators Regulation was recently approved. Presidential Decree No. 89/23, of 31 March 2023, came into force on the date of its publication and revokes Presidential Decree No. 28/11, of 2 February 2011.

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Anti-money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Plan approved

Presidential Decree No. 73/23, of 15 March 2023, approved the National Strategy and the General Guidelines for the Plan to Prevent and Combat Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. This Action Plan, to be developed in 2023-2027, aims to safeguard the stability and integrity of the Financial System, ensure domestic security, and promote a sustainable economic development.

RESTAURANTS

Regulations on the Licensing of Restaurants and Similar Establishments approved

Following the implementation of measures to simplify and cut red tape on Public Administration Procedures, new Regulations on the Licensing of Restaurants and Similar Establishments were enacted. Presidential Decree No. 63/23, of 17 February 2023, is applicable to establishments located in tourist resorts or otherwise, as well as, with the proper adjustments, to canteens or cafeterias of public and private institutions, companies, and educational establishments, whenever the activities have a commercial purpose. This statute came into effect on the date of its publication and revokes Presidential Decree No. 1/16, of 4 January 2016.

PHARMACEUTICAL

Registration Procedure for Medicines approved

Through Order No. 280/23, of 1 February 2023, the Regulatory Agency for Medicine and Health Technology (*Agência Reguladora de Medicamentos e Tecnologias de Saúde*) opened the procedure for the registration of medicines, in accordance with the General Framework for the National Pharmaceutical Policy. This statute came into effect on the date of its publication and applies retroactively from 6 December 2022.

SEA

Maritime Spatial Plan enacted

With the aim of developing the economic value of the maritime space and its natural resources in an integrated and sustainable manner, the Maritime Spatial Plan (*Plano de Ordenamento do Espaço Marinho* (POEM)) was recently enacted. The Plan establishes the materialization of concrete actions in order to achieve the strategic objectives identified in the general framework of the National Strategy for the Angolan Sea 2030 (*Estratégia Nacional para o Mar de Angola 2030*). Presidential Decree No. 88/23, of 30 March 2023, came into effect on the date of its publication and determines that the POEM has a time frame of 8 years.

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Procedure for Collection of Fines resulting from Administrative Offenses approved

Presidential Decree No. 77/23, of 20 March 2023 (PD 77/23), was recently published to determine the procedure for the collection and allocation of fines resulting from administrative offenses committed in the context of public procurement. According to this statute, the responsibility regarding the investigation, prosecution, grading, enforcement, and collection of fines established in the Public Procurement Law, lies with the body in charge of the regulation and supervision of public procurement in collaboration with the contracting public entities. PD 77/23 came into force on the date of its publication.

STATE

Economic and Social Council created

Presidential Decree No. 33/23, of 6 February 2023, created the Economic and Social Council (*Conselho Económico e Social* (CES)), an advisory body for the Executive on macroeconomics, business and social matters. The CES is composed of 45 individuals, appointed by the President of the Republic, which are economic and social sciences specialists of recognized merit, as well as businessmen and business managers with recognized experience at national and international level. This statute entered into force the day following its publication and revokes Presidential Decree No. 238/20, of 24 September 2023, and Executive Decree No. 61/21, of 16 March 2021.

New Organizational Frameworks

To adapt the organizational structure and operating methods of the National Institute for Employment and Vocational Training (*Instituto Nacional de Emprego e Formação Profissional* (INEFOP)) to the National Qualifications System, the President of the Republic has approved its new organizational framework. INEFOP oversees implementing public policies in the fields of employment, entrepreneurship and professional training, in cooperation with business organizations, trade unions and other economic and social partners. Presidential Decree No. 65/23, of 3 March 2023, revokes Presidential Decree No. 233/21, of 22 September 2021.

Similarly, with the objective of adjusting the organizational structure and the operating methods of the Ministry of the Public Administration, Labor and Social Security (*Ministério da Administração Pública, Trabalho e Segurança Social*) to the country's new social, political and economic dynamics, the President of the Republic approved the Ministry's new organizational framework. Presidential Decree No. 66/23, of 3 March 2023, came into effect on the date of its publication and revokes Presidential Decree No. 220/20, of 27 August 2020.

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