

# Legal news

April 2017

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## Highlighted

### 1. Officially decreasing rate of social insurance premium payable by employers as of 1 June 2017

*On 14 April 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 44/2017/ND-CP, on the rate of compulsory social insurance premium contributed to Occupational accident and diseases insurance fund (“Decree 44”).*

Accordingly, from 1 June 2017, the rate of compulsory social insurance premium contributed to Occupational Accident and Diseases Insurance Fund by employers shall be 0.5% of the salary fund taken as the basis to calculate social insurance premiums for the employees, as specified in Points a, b, c, d, dd and h of Clause 1 of Article 2 of Law on Social Insurance, except for domestic caretakers.

Employers that are enterprises, cooperatives, household businesses and cooperative groups in agriculture, forestry, fishery or salt-making paying salaries based on products or piecework shall make a monthly payment of social insurance premiums for their employees in accordance with the regulations mentioned above. The payments of such premiums shall be made monthly, or every 3 or 6 months.

The payments of social insurance premiums to Occupational Accident and Diseases Insurance Fund for employees working under employment contracts with the term of from full 1 month to less than 3 months as stipulated above shall be applied as of 1 January 2018.

As such, in comparison with current regulation (Article 4 of Decree No.37/2016/ND-CP, providing guidelines for Law on Occupational Safety and Hygiene with regard to compulsory insurance for occupational accidents and diseases), this rate of payment has decreased by 0.5% (the current rate is 1%).

Based on the ability to ensure the balance of Occupational Accident and Diseases Insurance Fund, the Government shall adjust the payment rate to this Fund on 1 January 2020.

Decree 44 shall take effect on 1 June 2017. Article 4 and Clause 1 of Article 34 of Decree No. 37/2016/ND-CP shall be no longer valid from 1 June 2017.

### 2. New regulations on labelling of goods

*On 14 April 2017, the Government promulgated Decree No. 43/2017/ND-CP on labelling of goods (“Decree 43”), providing for that organizations and individuals that are producer or traders of goods in Vietnam or import goods into Vietnam must label the goods, except for: Real estate; Luggage of passengers leaving from or entering Vietnam, personal belongings; Fresh,*

*raw foods, processed foods without packaging and directly sold to consumers; Second-hand goods; Exported goods not for domestic use; Fuel, materials, construction materials, wasted materials without packaging and directly sold to consumers, etc.*

Apart from the provisions on: Positions of labels of goods, Size of labels, Size of words and numbers on labels, Colour of words, symbols and images on labels, Languages representing the labels, labels of goods must contain the following compulsory information: Name of goods; Name and address of organizations or individuals responsible for the goods; Origin of goods and other contents based on the characteristics of goods. Specifically, for goods being foods, labels must show quantity, date of manufacture, date of expiry, warnings (if any); for liquors, labels must show quantity, ethanol content, date of expiry (if any), instruction for preservation (for wines), warnings (if any), lot identification code (if any); for cigarettes, compulsory information on labels shall be quantity, date of manufacture, warnings, date of expiry and codes, bar codes, etc.

For labels of goods imported into Vietnam without showing or showing insufficiently compulsory information in Vietnamese, there must be supplementary labels containing compulsory information in Vietnamese and original labels shall remain unchanged. Supplementary labels may also be used for goods, which have been ineligible for importing or returned, and are concurrently circulated in the domestic market, a bold phrase of “Được sản xuất tại Việt Nam” (“Manufactured in Vietnam”) shall be required.

Labels of goods and commercial packages to which labels are attached, which are manufactured and printed prior to 1 June 2017, will be allowed to be used until the end of 1 June 2019.

This Decree shall take effect on 1 June 2017. Decree No. 89/2006/ND-CP dated 30 August 2006, on labelling of goods shall be no longer valid from the effective date of Decree 43.

### **3. Amending regulations on management, use and depreciation of fixed assets**

*On 12 April 2017, the Ministry of Finance promulgated Circular No.28/2017/TT-BTC, amending and supplementing a number of articles of this Ministry’s Circular No. 45/2013/TT-BTC dated 25 April 2013 and Circular No. 147/2016/TT-BTC dated 13 October 2016, providing guidelines for management, use and depreciation of fixed assets (“Circular 28”).*

According to Circular 28, for an asset being a complex building, which is used for both purposes of serving an enterprise’s production and business operations and of sale or lease, the enterprise must determine and conduct the accounting separately the value of the complex building based on each specific use as follows:

- (a) For the part of the value of asset (surface area) of the complex building used for the bot purposes of serving production and business operations of the enterprise and of lease (except for financial leasing): the enterprise shall recognize the part of the asset value (surface area) which is fixed asset, and shall manage, use and depreciate such fixed asset in accordance with the regulations.
- (b) The part of the value of asset (surface area) in the complex building, which is used for sale, may not be accounted as fixed asset and depreciated, and shall be monitored as an asset for sale.
- (c) The criteria for determining the value of each type of asset and allocating the depreciation of an asset for each use purpose are in accordance with the ratio of the value of each part of the surface area used for each use purpose on the finalized value of construction work; or pursuant to the surface area actually used for each use purpose for accounting.
- (d) For enterprises that have complex buildings of which the part of the value of asset (surface area) used for serving production and business operations of the enterprises and concurrently for sale or lease cannot be separately determined, the enterprise shall not account the total part of the value of asset (surface area) as fixed asset and may not depreciate in accordance with regulations.
- (e) For the commonly-used assets relating to the complex building such as playground, road and parking lot, the determination of the value of each type of asset and depreciation value of commonly-used assets are also allocated in accordance with the criteria for determining the value of each type of asset and allocating complex building depreciation.

This Circular shall take effect on 26 May 2017 and shall be applied from the financial year 2016.

#### **4. Amending and supplementing the regulations on the management of construction investment projects**

*On 5 April 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 42/2017/ND-CP (“Decree 42”), amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decree No. 59/2015/ND-CP dated 18 June 2015, on the management of construction investment projects (“Decree 59”).*

Accordingly:

##### **The power to appraise and approve Economic-technical report on construction investment**

In Decree 42, the power to appraise or approve Economic-technical report on construction investment is classified more clearly and specifically than in

Decree 59, pertaining to the capital source of the project, including: (i) project funded by State budget, (ii) project financed by State fund other than the State budget; and (iii) project funded by other capital sources.

**Investors are entitled to directly manage construction projects of which total investment capital is less than VND 15 billion**

Decree 42 permits an investor to use its legal status and qualified affiliated professional apparatus qualified to directly manage project(s) on investment in building construction work of which the total investment capital is less than VND 15 billion; whereas the condition to directly manage projects in accordance with the previous regulations is that the total investment capital must be less than VND 5 billion for projects involved by the community or less than VND 2 billion for projects whose investor is the People's Committee of commune. Furthermore, Decree 42 permits an unqualified investor to hire an organization or individual meeting prescribed conditions to conduct the management.

**Project management board is a particular non-business professional unit**

A field-based project management board or area-based project management board established by the Minister, Head of central government authority, the President of People's Committee of province or district is a particular non-business professional unit, instead of public non-business professional unit in accordance with previous regulation, exercising the financial autonomy mechanism for recurrent expenditures as stipulated in Decree No.16/2015/ND-CP dated 14 February 2015, providing for the mechanism on exercising the autonomy of public non-business professional units.

**Practicing license**

Decree 42 has replaced the provision on Requirements on qualification of project managers with the provision on the conditions for granting License for project management practice. Accordingly, an individual having expertise on construction in conformity with the project requirements shall be granted with License for project management practice when meeting all requirements corresponding to the grades and classes of projects as stipulated.

One of the other notable contents is the provision on supplementing certificate of eligibility for construction technical inspection and verification organization. Accordingly, construction technical inspection and verification organization shall only obtain the class I certificate of eligibility whilst there are at least 10 employees obtaining licenses for class I construction technical inspection and verification practice that conform to the types of construction work registered for granting the certificate of eligibility; at least 15 employees in the quality control system of the construction technical inspection and verification organization who have professional expertise and skills that conform to the types of construction work registered for granting the certificate of eligibility; and such construction technical inspection and verification

organization has carried out construction technical inspection and verification of at least one class I construction work or two class II construction work of the same type.

To obtain a class II certificate of eligibility, a construction technical inspection and verification organization must have at least 10 employees obtaining licenses for class II construction technical inspection and verification practice that conform to the type of construction work registered for granting the certificate of eligibility; at least 10 employees in the quality control system of the construction technical inspection and verification organization who have professional expertise and skills that conform to the type of construction work registered for granting the certificate of eligibility; and such construction technical inspection and verification organization has carried out construction inspection of at least one class II construction work or two class III construction works of the same type.

Accordingly, there are six fields in which Licenses for construction design practice will be issued, including: 1-Construction architecture design; 2-Construction structure design; 3-Construction electricity – mechanics design; 4-Water supply – drainage design; 5-Air ventilation – heat supply and dissipation design; and 6-Fire safety design.

Previously, Decree 59 stipulated eight fields in which Licenses for construction design practice (besides 6 fields as mentioned above, there are also Construction interior – exterior design; Scenery design and Communications network design in construction works).

### **Tighter provision on granting License for construction planning design practice**

Decree 42 also strictly stipulates the issuance of License for construction planning design practice.

Accordingly, any individual issued with a license for construction planning design practice must have at least a bachelor's degree in architecture, planning or other speciality in line with the requirements of planning scheme and satisfy the conditions applicable to the following classes:

1- Class I: Such person has been the in charge of design or professional design appraisal and assessment for at least 5 planning schemes subject to the Prime Minister's authority for approval or 10 planning schemes (in which at least 5 schemes are on regional or overall planning) subject to the provincial-level People's Committee's authority for approval; and these schemes have been approved by the competent authorities;

2- Class II: Such person has been in charge of design or professional design appraisal and assessment for at least 6 planning schemes subject to the provincial-level People's Committee's authority for approval or 12 planning schemes (in which at least 3 schemes are on overall planning for the construction of commune) subject to the district-level People's Committee's

authority for approval; and these schemes have been approved by the competent authorities;

3- Class III: Such person has been in charge of design or professional design appraisal and assessment for at least 1 planning scheme subject to the Prime Minister's authority for approval or 3 planning schemes subject to the provincial-level People's Committee's authority for approval, or 5 planning schemes subject to the district-level People's Committee's authority for approval; and these projects have been approved by the competent authorities.

#### **Supplementing the foreign contractors' rights**

Decree 42 supplements the rights of the foreign contractor in directly conducting the procedures for import/export, temporary import for export, temporary export for import, and liquidation of goods in connection to the awarded tender agreement at the customs authorities.

#### **Transitional regulations**

This Decree shall come into force on 1 June 2017.

Regarding investment projects on construction and design, the projects' estimates of building construction work or construction work' sections already submitted to the competent authorities for appraisal and assessment prior to the effective date of Decree 42 will comply with Decree 59; any adjustments in these projects, or in their designs or construction estimates, which are carried out after the effective date of this Decree, will fully comply with this Decree.

Any certificate of eligibility or license for practicing construction activity, which has been issued by the competent authority prior to the effective date of this Decree, shall remain valid until its expiry date. Any applicant for a certificate of eligibility or license for practicing construction activity but has not obtained such certificate/license shall keep updating and completing the application file (if necessary) in accordance with this Decree for the issuance of the license.

### **5. Severe sanctions against administrative violations in the field of water and mineral resources**

*On 3 April 2017, the Government promulgated Decree No. 33/2017/ND-CP, on the sanctioning of administrative violations in the field of water and mineral resources.*

This Decree defines the administrative violations, forms and levels of penalties and remedial measures against the administrative violations, the authority to impose the penalties and the authority to make minutes of the administrative violations in the field of water and mineral resources.

Administrative violations in the field of water resources defined in this Decree include: violations of regulations on investigation, planning, exploration,



exploitation and use of water resources; violations of regulations on reservoirs and operation of reservoirs; violations of regulations on water resource protection; violations of regulations on prevention of, fighting against and remedying the adverse impacts caused by water; violations of regulations on collecting community opinion; and other violations on water resource management.

Administrative violations against regulations in the field of mineral resources defined in this Decree include: Violations of regulations on mineral exploration and exploitation; violations of regulations on auctioning of the right to mineral exploitation; violations of regulations on use of data on and results of geological surveys related to minerals and mineral exploration; violations of regulations on the rights of local government and people where the minerals are exploited; violations of regulations on protection of minerals which are not exploited; violations of regulations on mine safety technique and other violations in the field of mineral resources.

The new Decree also stipulates that organizationals and individuals committing administrative violations of regulations on water and mineral resources will be subject to any of the following principal penalties: Warning; monetary fine; revocation of license for mineral exploration or mineral exploitation for a period varying from 1 to 12 months.

This Decree provides for the maximum monetary fine for a violation of regulations in the field of water resources being VND 250,000,000 in case of individual violator, and being VND 500,000,000 in case of institutional violator. The maximum monetary fine for a violation of regulations in the field mineral resources is VND 1,000,000,000 in case of individual violator, and VND 2,000,000,000 in case of institutional violator.

Regarding additional penalties, the new Decree states that, subject to the nature and seriousness of the violation, the individual violator may be imposed with one or several additional penalties as follows: Deprivation of the right to use license for exploration, exploitation, and use of water resources or for wastewater discharge; the practice license for underground water drilling; the license for mineral exploration or mineral exploitation for a period varying from 1 to 24 months; suspension of the formulation, performance of proposals, projects on water resources; suspension of the exploration or exploitation of water resources or mineral resources for a period varying from 1 to 12 months; confiscation of the exhibits and samples, which are minerals, and tools used for committing the administrative violations.

Regarding each administrative violation, in addition to the principal and additional penalties, the organization or individual committing such administrative violation may be imposed with one or several remedial measures as follows: being forced to carry out the remedy of environmental pollution, degradation and depletion of water resources; being forced to



resolve and overcome the land subsidence or other abnormal incidents; being forced to carry out the measures for restoration of land and environment, etc.

## **Other sectors**

### **Finance - Banking**

- Decree No. 52/2017/ND-CP dated 28 April 2017 of the Government, on the on-lending from the Government's foreign loans to People's Committees of provinces and centrally-run cities.
- Decree No. 48/2017/ND-CP dated 24 April 2017, providing for a number of specific mechanisms and policies on finance and budget of Ho Chi Minh City.
- Decision No. 21/2017/QD-UBND dated 3 April 2017 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City, promulgating the Regulation on concentrated procurement of State properties in the area of Ho Chi Minh City.
- Circular No. 37/2017/TT-BTC dated 27 April 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, on the amendment and supplement to Circular No.39/2014/TT-BTC dated 31 March 2014 and Circular No. 26/2015/TT-BTC dated 27 February 2015 of the Ministry of Finance.
- Circular No. 33/2017/TT-BTC 20 dated April 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, providing for the regime on management of cash, valuable papers, and precious assets in the State Treasury system.

### **Trade**

- Decision No. 1360/QD-TCHQ dated 20 April 2017 of the General Department of Customs, promulgating the Process of handling in-and-out documents, and receiving and returning dossiers submitted to the Ministry of Finance.
- Circular No. 05/2017/TT-BCT dated 21 April 2017 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, on the auction of quotas for imports of sugar in 2017.

### **Labour**

- Decision No. 602/QD-LDTBXH dated 26 April 2017 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, announcing newly-issued, amended, supplemented replaced, or repealed administrative procedures in the field of employment under the State management function of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs.
- Decision No. 583/QD-BHXH dated 10 April 2017 of the Vietnam Social Insurance, amending and supplementing Article 1 and 2 of Decision No.

126/QD-BHXH dated 20 January 2017 of the General Director of Vietnam Social Insurance, on the assignment of duties of General Director and Deputy General Directors of Vietnam Social Insurance.

- Decision No. 505/QD-LDTBXH dated 5 April 2017 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, announcing amended, supplemented, or repealed administrative procedures in the field of vocational education under the State management function of Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs.
- Circular No. 11/2017/TT-BLDTBXH dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, providing guidelines for the implementation of a number of articles of Decree No. 61/2015/ND-CP dated 09 July 2015, on the policies supporting to job creation and the National employment fund with respect to the policies on public jobs.
- Circular No. 12/2017/TT-BLDTBXH dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, providing for the minimum level of knowledge and requirements on capacity achieved upon graduation of intermediate level and junior college level.

## **Health**

- Decision No. 1273/QD-BYT dated 4 April 2017 of the Ministry of Health, announcing amended or supplemented administrative procedures as stipulated in Decree No. 103/2016/ND-CP dated 1 July 2016, on ensuring the bio safety in laboratories and Decree No. 104/2016/ND-CP dated 1 July 2016, providing for the vaccination activities.
- Circular No. 05/2017/TT-BYT dated 14 April 2017 of the Ministry of Health, on maximum prices and costs of valuating a completed blood count and qualified blood finished products.

## **Education**

- Decree No. 46/2017/ND-CP dated 21 April 2017, on conditions for investing and operating in the field of education.
- Decision No. 1349/QD-BGDĐT dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Education and Training, announcing newly-issued administrative procedures, and cancelled or repealed administrative procedures under the management function of the Ministry of Education and Training.
- Decision No. 2173/QD-UBND dated 10 April 2017 of the People's Committee of

Hanoi, announcing amended or supplemented administrative procedures under the State management function of the Department of Education and Training of Hanoi.

- Decision No. 1224/QD-BGDDT dated 7 April 2017 of the Ministry of Education and Training, promulgating the Ministry of Education and Training's Process of management of documents in the network environment.
- Circular No. 10/2017/TT-BGDDT dated 28 April 2017 of the Ministry of Education and Training, promulgating the Regulation on remote trainings at college level.
- Circular No. 09/2017/TT-BGDDT dated 4 April 2017 of the Ministry of Education and Training, on the conditions for, process of, and procedures for opening of academic disciplines or majors, suspension or cancellation of enrolments, and revocation of decisions on opening of the disciplines or majors at master's and doctoral levels.
- Circular No. 08/2017/TT-BGDDT dated 4 April 2017 of the Ministry of Education and Training, promulgating the Regulation on the enrolments and trainings at doctoral level.

### **Transport**

- Decree No. 37/2017/ND-CP dated 4 April 2017 of the Government, on the conditions for conducting business of seaports.
- Circular No. 13/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 28 April 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, on the professional certificate of shipping agency.
- Circular No. 12/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 15 April 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, on the training, examination, and issuance of motor vehicle driving licenses.

### **Construction - Land**

- Decree No. 35/2017/ND-CP dated 3 April 2017, on the collection of land use fees, land rentals, and water surface rentals in Economic Zones and Hi-tech Parks.
- Decision No. 2311/QD-UBND dated 17 April 2017 of the People's Committee of Hanoi, announcing administrative procedures under the settlement authority of the Department of Construction in the area of Hanoi.
- Decision No. 452/QD-TTg dated 12 April 2017 of the Prime Minister, approving the Proposal on enhancing the treatment and use of ash, slag and gypsum of thermal power plants, and chemical and fertilizer plants for production of

construction materials and use in construction projects.

- Decision No. 299/QD-BXD dated 12 April 2017 of the Ministry of Construction, approving the Proposal on “Increasing productivity and quality of products and goods of construction materials production sector until 2020”.
- Circular No. 05/2017/TT-BXD dated 5 April 2017 of the Ministry of Construction, providing guidelines for the determination and management of costs of construction planning and urban planning.

### **Natural Resources - Environment**

- Decree No. 36/2017/ND-CP dated 4 April 2017, on the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Decision No. 553/QD-TTg dated 21 April 2017 of the Prime Minister, approving the Overall plan of biotechnology development in Vietnam until 2030.
- Circular No. 34/2017/TT-BTC dated 21 April 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, providing for the collection rates and the regime on collection, payment, management and use of the assessment and appraisal fees for the issuance of licenses for topographic and cartographic activities.
- Circular No. 04/2017/TT-BTNMT dated 3 April 2017 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, providing for the formulation of economic-technical norms in the field of natural resources and environment.

### **Science - Technology**

- Decision No. 13/2017/QD-TTg dated 28 April 2017 of the Prime Minister, on the amendment and supplement to the List of high technologies prioritized for development investment and List of hi-tech products encouraged to be developed accompanying Decision No. 66/2014/QD-TTg dated 25 November 2014 of the Prime Minister.
- Decision No. 925/QD-BKHCH dated 26 April 2017 of the Ministry of Science and Technology, promulgating the Ministry of Science and Technology’s Regulation on speeches and provisions of information to the press.
- Decision No. 11/2017/QD-TTg dated 11 April 2017 of the Prime Minister, on the mechanism encouraging the development of solar power projects in Vietnam.
- Decision No. 2093/QD-UBND dated 4 April 2017 of the People’s Committee of Hanoi, on the establishment of a Council assessing and appraising the planning for

development of industrial clusters of Hanoi until 2020, with consideration to 2025.

- Decision No. 10/2017/QĐ-TTg dated 3 April 2017 of the Prime Minister, promulgating the Regulation on management and implementation of the Program on development of supporting industry.

### **Information - Communications**

- Circular No. 03/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 24 April 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, detailing and providing guidelines for the implementation of a number of articles of Decree No. 85/2016/ND-CP dated 1 July 2016, on ensuring the security of information systems by level.
- Circular No. 04/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 24 April 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, providing for the implementation of IMT mobile information system on frequency bands of 824-835 MHz, 869-915 MHz, 925-960 MHz, 1710-1785 MHz, 1805-1880 MHz, 1920-1980 MHz, and 2110-2170 MHz.
- Circular No. 02/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 4 April 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, promulgating “National technical regulations on the structure of citizens’ messages interacting with the national database on residents”.

### **Administration - Judiciary**

- Decree No. 34/2017/ND-CP dated 3 April 2017, on the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Decision No. 574/QĐ-TTg dated 25 April 2017 of the Prime Minister, promulgating the Regulation on receiving, handling and responding to the feedbacks and recommendations of citizens and enterprises on the Government’s portal.
- Decision No. 15/2017/QĐ-UBND dated 13 April 2017 of the People’s Committee of Hanoi, promulgating the Regulation on decentralization in the management of organizational apparatus, cadres, public officials, and contractual employees in administrative agencies of Hanoi City.
- Decision No. 663/QĐ-TANDTC dated 12 April 2017 of the Supreme People’s Court, on the number of leaders and vice leaders of the People’s Courts of provinces and centrally-run cities and the People’s Courts of rural or urban districts, towns, provincial cities and the equivalent.

- Circular No. 04/2017/TT-BTP dated 12 April 2017 of the Ministry of Justice, repealing a number of legislative documents promulgated or jointly promulgated by the Ministry of Justice.
- Notice No. 17/2017/TB-LPQT dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the validity of Treaty on extradition between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Kingdom of Spain.
- Notice No. 20/2017/TB-LPQT dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the validity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's participation in the Treaty on establishment of International Development Law Organization and becoming an official member of International Development Law Organization (IDLO).
- Notice No. 15/2017/TB-LPQT dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the validity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's acceptance of the Regulation on organization and operation of Asian - African Legal Consultative Organization, and the Provisions guiding the Regulations and rules of the Organization; and becoming an official member of Asian - African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO).
- Notice No. 14/2017/TB-LPQT dated 20 April 2017 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the validity of the Protocol amending the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement).

### **Agriculture - Forestry - Fishery**

- Decree No. 41/2017/ND-CP dated 5 April 2017 of the Government, amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Decrees on the sanctioning of administrative violations in aquaculture activities; in the fields of veterinary, animal breeds, and animal feed; management of forests; development and protection of forests, and management of forestry products.
- Decree No. 40/2017/ND-CP dated 5 April 2017, on the management of production of and trade in salt.
- Decree No. 39/2017/ND-CP dated 4 April 2017, on the management of animal feeds and aquaculture.
- Decision No. 1398/QD-BNN-TCCB dated 13 April 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, on the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Department of Livestock Production.



- Circular No. 09/2017/TT-BNNPTNT dated 17 April 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, providing guidelines for the classification and evaluation of cooperatives operating in agricultural sector.

### Investment

- Circular No. 03/2017/TT-BKHDT dated 25 April 2017 of the Ministry of Planning and Investment, providing for the reporting regime in elaborating, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of public investment plans.
- Circular No. 02/2017/TT-BKHDT dated 18 April 2017 of the Ministry of Planning and Investment, providing guidelines for the cooperation mechanism in resolving investment registration procedures and enterprise registration procedures with regard to foreign investors.

### Miscellaneous

- Decision No. 1690/QD-BVHTTDL dated 25 April 2017 of the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, promulgating the Regulation on the management of online public services of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism.
- Circular No. 31/2017/TT-BTC dated 18 April 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No. 99/2016/TT-BTC dated 29 June 2016 of the Ministry of Finance, providing guidelines for the management of value-added tax refund.
- Circular No. 29/2017/TT-BTC dated 12 April 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No. 202/2015/TT-BTC dated 18 December 2015, providing guidelines for the listing of securities on Stock Exchange.

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