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Legal news

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Highlighted

1. Addition to the list of countries whose citizens can be granted with e-visa by Vietnam

On 29 November 2017, the Government has issued Resolution No. 124/NQ-CP on addition to the list of countries whose citizens are pilot-granted with e-visa.

Pursuant to this Resolution, there will be 06 additional countries whose citizens are pilot-granted with e-visa as stipulated in Article 9.1 of Decree No. 07/2017/ND-CP, including: Australia, United Arab Emirates, Canada, India, Netherlands, and New Zealand.

Thus, such 06 country addition to the list of 40 existing countries like Korea South, Germany, etc., as stipulated in Decree No. 07/2017/ND-CP will make a total of 46 countries for pilot e-granting.

This Resolution has entered into force on the signing date.

2. New ordinary import tariff

On 16 November 2017, the Prime Minister signed Decision No.45/2017/QD-TTg, amending and supplementing Decision No.36/2016/QD-TTg, providing for application of ordinary tax rates to imported goods. In particular:

From 1 January 2018, the ordinary import tax rates specified in the Appendix accompanying Decision No. 45/2017/QD-TTg, replacing the corresponding Appendix in Decision No. 36/2016/QD-TTg dated 1 September 2016 will be applied.

List of commodities to which the new Ordinary Import Tariff will be applied, is based on Decree No. 125/2017/ND-CP, amending and supplementing Decree No.122/2016/ND-CP.

In the case where the import goods are not included in the new Tariff and are not eligible for the preferential or special preferential tax rates as prescribed in Points a and b, Clause 3, Article 5 of Law on Export Tax and Import Tax, the ordinary tax rate shall be 150% of the preferential import tax rate specified in Appendix II to Decree No. 125/2017/ND-CP.

This Decision shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

3. Subjects entitled to buy shares at preferential prices when equitizing SOEs

On 16 November 2017, the Government issued Decree No.126/2017/ND-CP, on transforming State-owned enterprises (SOEs) and limited liability companies with 100% charter capital invested by SOEs into SOEs.

Accordingly, the subjects being employees entitled to buy shares at preferential prices include:

- (a) Employees under labour contracts and managers of equitized enterprises at the time of valuation of equitized enterprises;
- (b) Employees of equitized enterprises at the time of valuation of equitized enterprises have been assigned to represent the portion of capital in other enterprises, who are not yet entitled to preferential share purchase policies in other enterprises;
- (c) Employees under labour contracts and managers of grade-II enterprises (not yet entitled to preferential share purchase policies in other enterprises) at the time of valuation of equitized enterprises for enterprises specified in Point a, Clause 2, Article 2 of this Decree.

This Decree shall take effect on 1 January 2018 and replaces Decrees No.59/2011/ND-CP, No. 189/2013/ND-CP and No. 116/2015/ND-CP.

4. Procedures for registration of foreign exchange transactions in the petroleum industry

On 15 November 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 124/2017/ND-CP, foreign investments in the petroleum industry, Accordingly, procedures for registration of foreign exchange transactions regarding foreign investments in the petroleum industry are detailed as follows:

- (a) How: Investors can submit their applications for registration of foreign exchange transactions, directly or by post, to the State Bank of Vietnam.

In the case where such applications are found inadequate, within 05 days of receipt, the State Bank of Vietnam will request for any dossier supplementation in writing.

- (b) Statutory time for processing: 10 working days of receipt of all required documents, the State Bank of Vietnam will confirm about the registration or refuse to so confirm.

In case of refusal, the State Bank of Vietnam must justify the refusal in writing to investors.

This Decree shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

5. Amendment in administrative procedures for registration of tax procedure-related services

On 15 November 2017, the Ministry of Finance issued Decision No.2362/QD-BTC, announcing the amended or replaced administrative procedures for tax administration under the authority of the Ministry of Finance.

Accordingly, the procedures for registration of business activities for tax procedure-related services with respect to tax agents are amended and replaced as follows:

- (a) Using Form 01A - Request for certification of eligibility for business of tax procedure services in Circular No. 51/2017/TT-BTC in lieu of Form No. 01 of Circular No. 117/2012/TT-BTC.
- (b) Abolishing the requirement on submission of a tax registration certificate and specimen signature of the tax agent's authorized person on the dossiers for tax registration, tax declaration, and tax payment, etc.
- (c) Reducing the time-limit for processing a dossier from 10 working days to 5 working days as from the date of receiving the complete dossier.
- (d) Sending a written reply to enterprises if failed to meet conditions for conducting business of tax procedure-related services, instead of merely issuing an official letter when the conditions are satisfied as before.

This Decision takes effect on 15 July 2017, amending and replacing 2 administrative procedures under Decision No. 1500/QD-BTC.

6. Conditions for vehicles transporting tourists on land

On 15 November 2017, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No.42/2017/TT-BGTVT requiring that the land transport of tourists must satisfy the following requirements:

- (a) Satisfying conditions on quality, technical safety and environmental protection.
- (b) Vehicle tracking system is equipped as prescribed.
- (c) All information must be posted as prescribed, beside beds there must be instructions board for passengers on traffic safety and emergency exit when an incident occurs as prescribed.
- (d) Under 9 seater car transporting tourists must be equipped with air conditioners, beverage containers, first aid kits, medical bags, emergency hammer/tools, names and telephone numbers of the owners of vehicles.

Vehicles having from 9 seaters to less than 24 seaters must also be equipped with sun blinds, safety instruction boards, and dustbins.

In addition to the above-mentioned equipment, vehicles with 24 seaters or more must have microphones, luggage storage for tourists, and seats for the elderly or disabled people.

This Circular shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

7. New instruction for making revisions to online invitations to bid (E-ITB)

Circular No. 04/2017/TT-BKHDT issued by the Ministry of Planning and Investment on 15 November 2017, which details specific provisions for selection of bidders through the National Electronic Procurement System. Accordingly, whenever need to revise e-ITB, the procuring entity must sign in their account and make any revision online upon the investor's consent.

This Circular will be implemented as follows:

- (a) The procuring entity must post the decision on approval of revision to e-ITB (including amendment contents) and an updated version of e-ITB which has already been revised accordingly.
- (b) Revision must be completed within at least 03 working days prior to the closing time provided that bidders have enough time to complete e-bid dossier (E-BD);

Otherwise, the closing time must be extended.

After all revisions have already been made, the system must send a notification to the bidder who has clicked "follow" on the e-bid notification (E-BN) interface of the system.

It is noted that bidders must frequently update any revision made on the system in order to prepare e-BDs which are consistent and meet e-ITB requirements.

This Circular shall come into force on 1 March 2018.

8. Additional cases eligible for land use levy exemption or reduction

This is a notable content in Decree No. 123/2017/ND-CP issued by the Government on 14 November 2017, amending Decrees on collection of land use fees, land rents and water surface rents.

Accordingly, a transferee of an investment project associated with the transfer of land use rights from 1 July 2014 onward, and who continues to implement the project will be entitled to exemption or reduction of the land use fee for the remaining period of the project if:

- (a) The transferor is an economic organization to which is non-agricultural production and business land is allocated with the collection of land use fees.

The transferor has fulfilled its financial obligations for land use fees and has been decided with a land use levy exemption or reduction by

competent State authorities in accordance with the laws prior to 1 July 2014.

- (b) The exempted or reduced land use money amount is not included in the transfer's price.

The land use levy exemption or reduction shall be determined in accordance with the laws on investment.

This Decree shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

9. Treatment process for wastes discharged from vessels at seaports

On 14 November 2017, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No.41/2017/TT-BGTVT on management of collection and treatment of wastes discharged from vessels in seaport water areas.

Accordingly, the process of collecting and treating domestic wastes, industrial solid waste and dirty water discharged from vessels in seaport water areas is as follows:

- (a) Seaport enterprises/ service providers being organizations or individuals are responsible to arrange facilities to collect wastes discharged from vessels; to transport, temporarily store, and treat those wastes according to Decree No. 38/2015/ND-CP and relevant regulations.
- (b) After having collected wastes, a certificate of collection of wastes discharged from the vessel must be made according to Form No. 3 at Appendix II to this Circular, and sent to the concerned parties for record.
- (c) Facilities for receiving dirty water discharged from vessels must have standard flanges to be connected to the flanges of vessels;
- (d) Domestic wastes, industrial solid wastes, and dirty water collected from vessels must be classified, temporarily stored and transported by vehicles and facilities in accordance with the laws on management of wastes.

This Circular shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

10. Increase of base salary

On 13 November 2017, at the 4th session of the Legislature XIV, the National Assembly passed the resolution on the State budget estimates in 2018.

Accordingly, the base salary shall be increased from VND1,300,000/month to VND1,390,000/month (increased by VND90,000/month).

At the same time, pensions, social insurance allowances and monthly allowances as prescribed (for subjects under the State budget) and preferential allowances for people with meritorious services shall be adjusted to be in line with the increase of base salary.

This new level of base salary shall be applied on 1 July 2018.

11. Energy labeling for cars having from more than 7 seaters to 9 seaters from 1 January 2018

On 9 November 2017, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No.40/2017/TT-BGTVT, providing guidelines for energy labeling for cars having from more than 7 seaters to 9 seaters ("Circular 40").

Accordingly, apart from the subjects defined in Article 2.2 of this Circular, establishments engaged in the manufacture, assembly, import, sale and distribution of vehicles to the market must strictly comply with the following roadmap as prescribed:

- (a) From 1 January 2018, cars having from more than 7 seaters to 9 seats, which are manufactured and assembled from spare parts, completely new; and unused imported vehicles must be affixed with energy labels before being put on the market.
- (b) Cases of self-declaration of fuel consumption and energy labeling specified in Article 5.1 of this Circular shall be carried out till the end of 31 December 2018.

The energy label of a vehicle is understood as a label that provides information on the type of fuel to be used, and fuel consumption of the vehicle to help consumers identify and select vehicles according to their needs.

Circular 40 shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

12. Tightened management of the database on detention and custody

On 6 November 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 121/2017 / ND-CP, regulating the development and use of database on execution of custody and detention.

Accordingly, management of construction and use of such database must ensure the following principles:

- (a) Compliance with the provisions of the Law on Execution of Custody and Detention, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Law on the Enforcement of Criminal Judgments, etc.
- (b) All information relating to the execution of custody or detention of a person kept in custody or detention must be collected and updated fully and exactly, and used only for the purposes as prescribed by law.

- (c) Exploitation and use of personal information of people held in custody or detention must be kept confidential in accordance with the law.
- (d) Formulation and use of information relating to people detained or detained must satisfy the requirements of investigation, prosecution and adjudication in service of the State management of security and order of society.
- (e) Strict management of the database on execution of custody and detention, ensuring safety, security and confidentiality in accordance with the provisions of the law, etc.

This Decree shall take effect on 1 January 2018.

13. Contents for controlling the use of reservoirs for electricity generation

On 7 November 2017, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment issued Circular No. 47/2017/TT-BTNMT, providing for control over exploitation and use of water resources.

Accordingly, control over exploitation and use of surface water for hydropower with respect to irrigation reservoirs or irrigation reservoirs combined with hydropower reservoirs of which capacity of installed turbine(s) exceeds 50kW will be carried out as follows:

- (a) For reservoirs with a total capacity of 1 million m³ or more, control shall be conducted automatically and online once for no more than 15 minutes for parameters such as: water level, discharge flow through the plant, etc.
- (b) Discharge operation shall be controlled specifically by camera.
- (c) Implementation of automatic and online control over parameters including (Lake level, discharge flow maintaining minimum discharge stream, discharge flow through the plant) for a reservoir having total volume of below 1 million m³.

In addition, control over overflow discharge and camera control over the discharge operation maintaining minimum flow and overflow discharge must be conducted periodically.

This Circular shall take effect on 22 December 2017.

14. New rules applicable to temporarily detained or detained persons

On 6 November 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 120/2017/ND-CP, detailing a number of articles of Law on implementation of temporary custody and detention.

Accordingly, temporarily-detained or detained foreigners cannot be allowed for consular contact in 6 following cases:

- (a) Refuse to contact consular;
- (b) For urgent reasons, ensuring security, order and safety of the detention facility;
- (c) When an epidemic occurs at the detention facility;
- (d) In case of emergency or in the case where the detained person is suffering from group-A infectious disease;
- (e) The detainee has violated the Internal rules of the detention facility and is being disciplined;
- (f) The consular contact violates the Internal rules of the detention facility.

Children under 36 months of age living with their mothers in custody or detention establishments will be entitled to the following caring and rearing regime:

- (a) Dietary needs are ensured as other temporarily-detained or detained persons, which shall be increased by 30% in terms of meat and fish quantity and changed per their food preferences;
- (b) Granted with health insurance cards;
- (c) Dietary needs shall be doubled on International Children's Day and Mid-Autumn Festival;
- (d) Monthly provided with milk and essential necessities having value equivalent to 20 kg of medium grade rice;
- (e) Basic rights prescribed by the Children's Law 2016;
- (f) Medical care and vaccination; and if the disease exceeds the treatment capacity of the local clinic, will be transferred to the State-owned medical facility for treatment;
- (g) Payment for actual costs of medical examination and treatment;
- (h) If the child dies, the funeral allowance shall be the same as for the death of detained-temporarily or detained person.

This Decree shall take effect on 1 January 2018 and abolishes Decrees No. 89/1998/ND-CP, No. 98/2002/ND-CP and No. 09/2011/ND-CP.

15. New regulations on sanctioning violations of product standards and quality

On 1 November 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 119/2017/ND-CP, on sanctioning administrative violations in the field of standards, measurement, and quality of products and goods.

Accordingly, some new contents on sanctioning violations of standards and national technical regulations, and quality of products and goods, are specified as follows:

- (a) A warning shall be given for abuse of the national quality award to cause prejudice to the prize's prestige.

- (b) A monetary fine of between VND 30 million and VND 70 million shall be imposed for transportation of dangerous goods being oxidizing substances, organic oxide compounds and corrosives without permits.
- (c) A monetary fine varying from VND 30 million to VND 40 million for acts of producing a helmet without a certificate of satisfaction of conditions for production (“certificate”) or use of an expired certificate.
- (d) A monetary fine of between VND 40 million and VND 60 million for acts of producing or mixing gas, gasoline or oils when the certificate has not yet been issued or the certificate has expired.

This Decree shall take effect on 15 December 2017, and shall replace Decree No. 80/2013/ND-CP dated 19 July 2013.

16. Forms of inspection on the implementation of administrative procedure control activities

On 31 October 2017, the Government Office issued Circular No.02/2017/TT-VPCP, providing guidelines on the operation of administrative procedure control.

Accordingly, the inspection of the implementation of administrative procedure control activities is carried out periodically and extraordinarily in two ways, namely direct inspection and indirect inspection.

The authority of agencies in inspecting the implementation of administrative procedure control activities is prescribed as follows:

- (a) The Minister-Director of the Government Office inspects the implementation of the administrative procedure control activities conducted by ministries, branches and localities throughout the country.
- (b) Ministers and heads of agencies inspect the implementation of administrative procedure control activities at divisions, departments, general departments and units directly managed by the ministries and agencies.
- (c) Provincial-level People's Committees inspect the implementation of administrative procedure control activities at provincial-level departments, divisions and branches; People’s Committees of districts, towns and provincial cities; and People's Committees of communes, wards and townships under their management authority.

This Circular takes effect on 15 December 2017.

Other sectors

Finance - Banking

- Decision No. 2327/QD-BTC dated 10 November 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, promulgating the Multimedia electronic technical standard for assisting the direction of the Ministry of Finance.
- Circular No. 17/2017 / TT-NHNN dated 20 November 2017 of the State Bank of Vietnam, on amendments and supplements to a number of articles of Circular No.40/2011/TT-NHNN dated 15 December 2011, providing for issuance of licenses to and organization and operations of commercial banks, branches of foreign banks, representative offices of foreign credit institutions, and other foreign organizations engaged in banking activities at Vietnam.
- Circular No. 16/2017/TT-NHNN dated 10 November 2017 of the State Bank of Vietnam, amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No.27/2016/TT-NHNN dated 28 September 2016 of the Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, providing guidelines on the order of and procedures for the elaboration and promulgation of legal documents of the State Bank of Vietnam.

Audit

- Decision No. 1759/QD-KTNN dated 23 November 2017 of the State Audit, on assignment of duties of the State Auditor General and Deputy General Auditors of the State Audit.
- Decision No. 11/2017/QD-KTNN dated 21 November 2017 of the State Audit of Vietnam, on the promulgation of the Process for auditing financial institutions and banks.
- Decision No. 10/2017/QD-KTNN dated 21 November 2017 of the State Audit of Vietnam, on promulgation of Process for auditing enterprises.
- Decision No. 1669/QD-KTNN dated 7 November 2017 of the State Audit of Vietnam, promulgating the Regulation on organization and operations of the Management Board for Specialized construction investment projects under the State Audit.
- Decision No. 1662/QD-KTNN dated 3 November 2017 of the State Audit of Vietnam, issuing the Regulation on elaboration, evaluation and promulgation of legal documents and management documents of the State Audit.

Taxation

- Decision No. 2413/QD-BTC dated 23 November 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, promulgating the Regulation on exchange of information and working coordination between customs offices and tax offices.
- Decision No. 2378/QD-BTC dated 17 November 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, announcing amended or replaced administrative procedures in the field of Tax administration under the authority of the Ministry of Finance.
- Decision No. 45/2017/QD-TTg dated 16 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, on amendments and supplements to Decision No. 36/2016/QD-TTg dated 1 September 2016 of the Prime Minister, providing for application of ordinary tax rates to imported goods.
- Decision No. 2369/QD-BTC dated 16 November 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, announcing the repealed administrative procedures in the field of tax administration under the authority of the Ministry of Finance.
- Decision No. 2362/QD-BTC dated 15 November 2017 of the Ministry of Finance, announcing amended or replacing administrative procedures in the field of tax administration under the authority of the Ministry of Finance.

Trade

- Decision No. 46/2017/QD-TTg dated 24 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, on promulgation of Regulation on organization and operations of Network of Notification and Inquiry Agencies and the Inter-Branch Committee on commercial technical barriers.
- Decision No. 36/2017/QD-UBND dated 14 November 2017 of the People's Committee of Hanoi, promulgating a number of regulations on State management on prices in Hanoi.
- Decision No. 4267/QD-BCT dated 10 November 2017 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, amending and supplementing a number of contents of the Regulation on colouring commercial petroleum oils and gasoline accompanying Decision No. 1273/2004/QD-BTM dated 7 September 2004 of the Minister of Trade.
- Decision No. 3788/QD-TCHQ dated 8 November 2017 of the General Department of Customs, promulgating the internal regulation on management, exploitation and use of documents in Archives of the General Department of Customs
- Circular No. 25/2017/TT-BCT dated 29 November 2017 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, providing for import of tobacco raw materials under tariff

quotas in 2018.

Health

- Decision No. 5344/QD-BYT dated 28 November 2017 of the Minister of Health, on Pediatric technical procedure manual.
- Decision No. 5125/QD-BYT dated 10 November 2017 of the Ministry of Health, announcing newly-issued administrative procedures within the scope of management functions of the Ministry of Health.
- Decision No. 5106/QD-BYT dated 10 November 2017 of the Ministry of Health, on correction of the Circular providing the basic health service package for grassroots-level healthcare facilities.
- Decision No. 4969/QD-BYT dated 1 November 2017 of the Ministry of Health, promulgating the contents of inspection and evaluation of hospitals' quality and surveys on satisfaction of patients and health workers in 2017.
- Circular No. 42/2017/TT-BYT dated 13 November 2017 of the Ministry of Health, issuing the list of toxic medicinal plants used for manufacture of medicines.

Transport

- Decision No. 3133/QD-BGTVT dated 10 November 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, announcing the amendments and supplements to administrative procedures within the scope of management function of the Ministry of Transport.
- Circular No. 46/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 27 November 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, providing for safety and prevention of environmental pollution when transporting dangerous goods by sea vessels.
- Circular No. 45/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 17 November 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No.01/2016/TT-BGTVT dated 1 February 2016, detailing the Programme on aviation security and quality control of aviation security in Vietnam.
- Circular No. 43/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 16 November 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, providing for aviation security improvement, fostering and training.
- Circular No. 39/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 7 November 2017 of the Ministry of Transport, on amendments and supplements to a number of articles of Circular No. 34/2015/TT-BGTVT dated 24 July 2015 of the Minister of Transport, providing for reports on and investigations of marine accidents.
- Circular No. 38/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 1 November 2017 of the Ministry of

Transport, amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No.31/2014/TT-BGTVT dated 8 May 2014 of the Minister of Transport, providing guidelines on tendering and ordering for the production and supply of public-utility products and services for management and maintenance of land road works financed by the Central Land Road Maintenance Fund.

Natural Resources - Environment

- Resolution No. 120/NQ-CP dated 17 November 2017 of the Government, on the sustainable development of the Mekong River Delta adapting to climate change.
- Decision No. 1862/QD-TTg dated 23 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, on approving the Plan for the implementation of the tasks of monitoring and assessing the risks, and overcoming and rectify the consequences of spills of oils and toxic chemicals on the sea in the period 2018-2020.
- Decision No. 57/2017/QD-UBND dated 10 November 2017 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City, on the promulgation of regulations on conditions and criteria for titles of heads and deputy heads of specialized sections and units under the Department of Natural Resources and Environment; the heads and deputy heads of the Offices of Natural Resources and Environment directly under the People's Committees of districts.

Energy

- Decision No. 4495/QD-BCT dated 30 November 2017 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, on electricity sale prices.
- Circular No. 24/2017/TT-BCT dated 23 November 2017 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, providing for norms of energy consumption in paper production

Construction

- Decision No. 6070/QD-UBND dated 17 November 2017 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City, announcing newly-issued administrative procedures, amended or supplemented administrative procedures, and replacing administrative procedures within the scope of management functions of the Department of Construction.
- Decision No. 1785/QD-TTg dated 13 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, promulgating the Regulation on operations of the National Steering Committee for

e-Procurement.

- Decision No. 1760/QD-TTg dated 10 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, on amendments and supplements to Decision No. 1600/QD-TTg dated 16 August 2016 of the Prime Minister, approving the Programme on the national target for new rural construction for the period 2016-2020.
- Decision No. 1735/QD-TTg dated 8 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, on the establishment of the National Steering Committee for e-Procurement.
- Circular No. 04/2017/TT-BKH dated 15 November 2017 of the Ministry of Planning and Investment, detailing selection of contractors through the National tendering network system.

Information - Communications

- Circular No. 36/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 29 November 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, providing for the advisory section and inspection activities of agencies assigned to carry out the specialized inspection function under the Ministry of Information and Communications.
- Circular No. 35/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 23 November 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, providing for the shift to other terrestrial mobile telecommunication network with unchanged subscription number.
- Circular No. 29/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 7 November 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, promulgating the "National technical regulations on terrestrial mobile station equipment operating in Ku band".
- Circular No. 28/2017/TT-BTTTT dated 7 November 2017 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, promulgating the "National technical regulations on electromagnetic compatibility for fixed wireless transmitters and auxiliary equipment".

Administration - Judiciary

- Decree No. 128/2017/ND-CP dated 16 November 2017, providing for the reporting regime on criminal investigations.
- Resolution No. 125/NQ-CP dated 29 November 2017 of the Government, on the simplification of administrative procedures and citizen papers related to population management within the scope of management function of Vietnam Social Insurance.
- Resolution No. 122/NQ-CP dated 23 November 2017 of the Government, on the

simplification of administrative procedures and citizen papers related to population management within the scope of State management functions of the Ministry of National Defense.

- Decision No. 2383/QD-BTP dated 22 November 2017 of the Ministry of Justice, promulgating the Programme on training and improving knowledge and skills on international laws and international investment dispute settlement for public officials and public servants engaged in legal works.
- Decision No. 642/QD-UBDT dated 2 November 2017 of the National Committee for Ethnic Minorities, on amendments and supplements to functions and tasks related to the control of administrative procedures.

Agriculture - Forestry - Fishery

- Decision No. 1857/QD-TTg dated 23 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, on the establishment of the State Steering Committee for the Target program on Sustainable Forestry Development for the period 2016-2020.
- Decision No. 4653/QD-BNN-KHCN dated 15 November 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, approving the Scheme on development of national product "High quality Vietnamese coffee".
- Decision No. 4633/QD-BNN-VP dated 14 November 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, on promulgation of the Regulation on providing statement and information to press by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- Decision No. 4441/QD-BNN-BVTV dated 31 October 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, promulgating newly-issued administrative procedures and replacing administrative procedures within the scope of management functions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- Circular No. 23/2017/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15 November 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, providing for planting replacing forests when changing forest use purpose.
- Circular No. 20/2017/TT-BNNPTNT dated 10 November 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, providing guidelines for the implementation of Decree No. 39/2017/ND-CP dated 4 April 2017, on the management of animal feeds and aquaculture feeds.
- Circular No. 19/2017/TT-BNNPTNT dated 9 November 2017 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, on amendments and supplements to a number

of articles of Circular No. 19/2016/TT-BNNPTNT dated 27 June 2016, detailing the implementation of Article 4 of Decree No. 35/2015/ND-CP dated 13 April 2015, on the management of use of land for rice cultivation and providing guidelines for the conversion of crop structure on rice land into perennial land in accordance with Decree No. 01/2017/ND-CP dated 6 January 2017, on amending and supplementing a number of Decrees detailing the implementation of Land Law.

Miscellaneous

- Resolution No. 121/NQ-CP dated 22 November 2017 of the Government, on overcoming issues in equitization of State-owned enterprises.
- Decree No. 122/2017/ND-CP dated 13 November 2017, providing for a number of specific contents on the financial management mechanism and operational efficiency assessment for lottery business enterprises; Stock Exchanges and Vietnam Securities Depository
- Decision No. 1861/QĐ-TTg dated 23 November 2017 of the Prime Minister, approving the Program on development of tourism infrastructure for the period 2016-2020.

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