

# Legal news

January 2018

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# **Highlights**

### 1. Provisions on limits for issuing covered warrants

On 18 January 2018, the State Securities Commission issued Decision No.72/QD-UBCK, promulgating the Rules/Guidelines for offering and hedging with covered warrants.

Accordingly, the regulation sets maximum limits for warrants, which have been issued or registered to be issued, excluding those that have been canceled or have expired, according to the available capital of each issuer. In particular:

- (a) 0% for issuers with a liquid capital ratio of 180% to 250%;
- (b) 5% for issuers with a liquid capital ratio of 250% to 300%;
- (c) 10% for an issuer with a liquid capital ratio of 300% to 450%;
- (d) 15% of the Issuing Institution has a liquid capital ratio of 450% to 600%:
- (e) 20% to the issuing organization with a liquid capital ratio of more than 600%.

The liquid capital ratio to be used for determination of limits is the continuous minimum of 6 latest months prior to the date of filing registration dossier for offering warrants.

This Decision takes effect from the date of signing.

# 2. Conditions for application of temporary safeguard measures

This is one of the important contents in the Decree No. 10/2018/ND-CP dated 15 January 2018, detailing a number of articles of the Law on Foreign Trade Administration with respect to trade remedies.

Specifically, a temporary safeguard measure is applied where:

- (a) There is an increase in excessive importation of imported goods under investigation.
- (b) Domestic industry is severely damaged or threatened with serious damages.
- (c) Excessive import increase is the cause of serious damage or threat of serious damage to domestic production.
- (d) Delayed application of safeguard measures causes serious damage or threats to cause serious damage to the domestic production and it is difficult to recover from such damages.

Temporary safeguard measures only apply in the form of additional import tarriffs and the Minister of Industry and Trade may decide to suspend the application of this measure before it becomes effective, when necessary.

This Decree takes effect from the date of its signing.

### 3. Extension of business licensing to foreign investors

This is new content in Decree No. 09/2018/ND-CP dated 15 January 2018, detailing the provisions of Commercial Law and Law on Foreign Trade Administration regarding the activities of purchase and sale of goods by the foreign investors.

Accordingly, a foreign investor, whose country has participated in the international treaties, to which Vietnam is a party, and under which Vietnam has committed to open its market for activities of purchase and sale of goods, shall be granted with Trading licenses upon satisfaction of the following conditions: No overdue tax debt if established in Vietnam for 1 year or more; Developing a financial plan to carry out activities for which a Trading license is applied, etc.

With regard to foreign investors whose country or territory has not participated in any international treaty to which Vietnam is a party, in addition to the above-mentioned conditions, they will also have to meet the following criteria: appropriate for the competitiveness level of domestic enterprises operating in the same field; ability of creating jobs for domestic workers; Level of contribution to the State budget.

In respect of trading in goods of the categories for which Vietnam has not committed to open its market such as rice, sugar, video-recorded items, books, newspapers and magazines, economic organizations with foreign investment capital, which have already operated retail establishments in the form of supermarkets, mini-supermarkets and convenient stores, shall be considered for licensing the right to retail distribution.

This Decree shall take effect on 15 January 2018 and shall replace Decree No.23/2007/ND-CP dated 12 February 2007.

#### 4. Removal of a series of business conditions

On 15 January 2018, the Government issued Decree No. 08/2018/ND-CP, on removing and reducing a series of conditions for trading in the field: petroleum industry, tobacco, electricity, franchising, e-commerce, chemicals, industrial-explosive materials, and foods. For example:

- (a) Removal of many conditions for tobacco trading activities, in particular:
  - (i) To be granted with licenses for purchase and sale of tobacco materials or licenses for processing tobacco materials, an enterprise is no longer required to register business in or processing tobacco raw materials, respectively; but only meets

- the condition that it has been established in compliance with the laws
- (ii) Simultaneously, it is not compulsory for enterprises purchasing and selling tobacco materials to have fixed places of business and clear addresses, and to satisfy other conditions regarding premises, facilities, and human resources as stipulated in the previous regulations. Enterprises processing tobacco materials are not required to have the area of processing premises of at least 5,000m<sup>2</sup>; a separate warehouse for storing tobacco materials which must be appropriate for business scale; Inspection equipments for measuring material quality; Contract with employees having professional qualifications, and mechanical and technological expertise of junior college degree and above.
- (iii) Removal of some conditions to grant license for wholesale of tobacco products, including: requirements on warehouse; commitment to ensure the full compliance with regulations on fire prevention and fighting, environment protection, etc.
- (iv) It is remarkable that, in the principles of tobacco business control, this Decree has abolished the provisions under which the State strictly controls the purchases and sales of tobacco products through the Planning for purchase and sale network system of tobacco products emphasized in the previous Decree No. 67/2013/ND-CP.
- (b) Removal of some conditions for petroleum production and business;
  - (i) Firstly, this Decree has abolished the provisions under which a trader doing the business of oils and gasoline export-import must have an Enterprise Registration Certificate in which petroleum busines is registered as its business line; removal of the provisions on the planning for Development of petroleum business system; Conditions for production of gasoline and diesel fuel. Simultaneously, newly-invested retail stores of oils and gasoline as well as oils and gasoline business establishments are no longer required to have locations in compliance with the planning approved by the competent authorities; the existing oils and gasoline business establishments with locations in non-compliance with the approved planning must implement the roadmap of upgrade or relocation to ensure the planning.
  - (ii) Besides, Decree No. 08/2018/ND-CP removes some conditions applicable to a trader importing and/or exporting oils and gasoline. In particular:

- After 3 years as from the date of being granted with Trading license for oils and gasoline import-export, it is required to own or co-own the capital contribution portion of at least 51% for the warehousing system, and to have capacity to satisfy at least 1/3 of its reserve needs.
- After 2 years as from the date of being granted with Trading license for oils and gasoline import-export, it is required to own or co-own the capital contribution portion of at least 51% for means of domestic oils and gasoline transportation with a total load capacity of at least 3.000 m<sup>3</sup>.
- Every year, since the date of being granted with Trading license for oils and gasoline import-export, it is required to own or co-own at least 4 oils and gasoline retail stores until its distribution system has at least 100 petroleum retail stores.
- (c) In the field of franchising, this Decree stipulates that business entities shall be granted with commercial rights if their business systems intended for franchise has been in operation for at least 1 year. Thus, the previous conditions such as: already registered the activity of franchising with the competent authorities; Goods and/or services subject to commercial rights are not prohibited from business; Conditions for franchisee in the activity of franchising; etc. have been cancelled.
- (d) Regarding e-commerce, this Decree provides that traders, organizations and individuals already granted with personal tax code are not required to have websites with valid domain names to set up e-commerce websites and websites providing e-commerce services; neither are business traders and organizations required to have appropriate functions and tasks as prescribed in the previous regulations.

Decree No. 08/2018/ND-CP shall take effect on 15 January 2018.

# 5. Import of one (01) used automobile needs 7 types of papers for quality inspection

On 10 January 2018, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No.03/2018/TT-BGTVT, providing for the quality control of technical safety and environmental protection of imported cars subject to Decree No.116/2017/ND-CP dated 17 October 2017.

Accordingly, the new Circular prescribes 7 types of papers that need to be included in the dossiers submitted by import enterprises to register for inspection of one used imported automobile as follows:

- (a) Registration sheet for inspection of technical safety and environmental protection in accordance with the standard form in Appendix I;
- (b) A copy of the valid circulation registration certificate, which is valid until exportation and issued by a competent foreign authority, or equivalent paper;
- (c) A copy of commercial invoice;
- (d) A copy of the VIN decoding explanation by the vehicle manufacturer (for the 1<sup>st</sup> certification of type);
- (e) The original of the vehicle information sheet in the standard form of Appendix III;
- (f) A copy of the vehicle's features and technical specifications by manufacturer;
- (g) A copy of import declaration form for paper documents; the date (day/month/year) of the declaration for electronic dossiers.

This Circular takes effect on 1 March 2018.

# 6. Logistics enterprises must compensate up to VND500 million to the customers

On 30 December 2017, the Government issued Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, providing for the business of logistics services, which will replace Decree No. 140/2007/ND-CP issued and applied for the past 10 years.

One of the most remarkable content of this Decree is the provisions on logistics enterprises' compensation liability to their customers. Particularly, if the relevant law set out any limit of the liability of logistics enterprises, it shall be applied. In the case where such limit is not available, the logistics enterprises' compensation liability to their customers shall be agreed upon by the parties.

In the case where there is no agreement between the logistics enterprises and their customers: If the customers have not given any prior notice of goods value, the maximum liability shall be VND500 million for each compensation claim; If the customers have given a prior notice, then the compensation liability shall not exceed the value of the concerned goods.

Also, according to this Decree:

(a) Foreign investors shall be allowed to purchase shares of and capital contribution portions in enterprises in proportion as business of logistics services is related to transport (the current law only permit the establishment of a joint venture company).

- (b) In addition, a foreign investor whose country or territory is a WTO member may provide logistics services only when the condition on capital contribution ratio and the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (i) For sea transport services (except for in-land transport): the total number of foreign crewmen working on the ship shall not exceed 1/3 of the ship's staf; Captain or first deputy captain must be a Vietnamese citizen.
  - (ii) For cargo transport services classified as road transport services, 100% drivers of the enterprise must be Vietnamese citizens.

Especially, traders who conduct a part or the whole of logistic activities by electronic means connected to the Internet, cellular network or other open networks must comply with regulations on e-commerce.

This Decree shall take effect on 20 February 2018 in replacement for Decree No. 140/2007/ND-CP dated 6 September 2007.

# 7. New regulations on prescriptions for medicines

On 29 December 2017, the Ministry of Health issued Circular No.52/2017/TT-BYT, providing for prescription of pharmaceutical – chemical medicine and biology products for outpatient treatment (hereinafter referred to as "medicine prescription") ("Circular 52").

Accordingly, the new Circular stipulates that a medicine prescription is valid for purchase within 5 days as from its date.

For a 72-month-old child, it is required to write in medicine description his/her months of age, full name and identity card number or personal identification number of his/her parent or legal guardian. The medicine prescription's contents must fully, clearly and accurately describe the items printed in the medicine prescription or patient's medical book; Patient's permanent address or temporary address must include: House number, street, residential group, town/ward, district/rural district, province/city.

In principle, medicine prescription is made only after having the result of medical examination and disease diagnosis, and must be in accordance with the diagnosis and the degree of the disease; The quantity of medicines prescribed must be in accordance with instructions for diagnosis and treatment or sufficient for use but not exceed 30 days, except for emergency cases, etc.; The contents stipulated in Clause 15, Article 6 of Law on Pharmacy, such as: functional foods; cosmetics; medicines, substances not being used for prevention or treatment of diseases; medicines that have not been authorised for marketing in Vietnam, etc.; must not be included in medicine prescriptions; Prescriptions of single active substance or generic medicines shall be preferred.

This Circular shall take effect on 1 March 2018.

# 8. Suspension of 50% promotion for prepaid mobile subscribers as from 1 March 2018

This is a new remarkable content of Circular No. 47/2017/TT-BTTTT of the Ministry of Information and Communications dated 29 December 2017, providing for limits of promotion for the terrestrial wireless communications services ("Circular 47").

Accordingly, the Ministry of Information and Communications stipulates that the maximum level of promotions offered by telecommunications services providers shall not exceed 20% for pre-paid mobile subscribers and 50% for post-paid mobile subscribers.

Besides, Circular No. 47 specifies some circumstances in which the above-mentioned promotion limit shall not be applied, for instance:

- (a) Providing samples of mobile communication services, offering specialized telecommunications goods of exemplary mobile communication services to customers for trial without payment.
- (b) Organizing regular customer programs of mobile communication services.

Also according to this Circular, regular customers of mobile communication services comprise: Post-paid mobile subscribers including pre-paid mobile subscribers switching to post-paid subscription during the implementation of the regular customer program; Pre-paid mobile subscribers having used the services for at least 1 year with the total charges paid from the subscription date of VND1 million or more.

Telecommunications services providers offering discount promotion to the above-mentioned regular customers at the same time must still comply with regulations on discount promotion programs.

Circular 47 shall take effect on 1 March 2018.

# 9. Casino enterprise must manage all transactions by software

On 29 December 2017, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No.146/2017/TT-BCT, providing guidelines for the management of and supervision over tax collection for the activities of casino business, which shall take effect on 12 February 2018.

This Circular emphasizes that a casino enterprise must supervise every transaction related to money and its conventional currency by computer software and ensure that data from the software must be forwarded to the consolidated revenue summary sheet; simultaneously, these transactions must be recorded and reported to the relevant State management authorities.

Casino enterprise must create the consolidated revenue summary sheet using computer software and monthly forward its data and information to tax agencies at the same time of submitting special sales tax declaration dossier.

Casino enterprise is only allowed to change its conventional currency for the players before they gamble at the cashier or gaming tables and return the money to the players at the cashier. Simultaneously, it is required to arrange specialized boxes (bags) for storing cash and the conventional currency; such boxes (bags) must be sealed before being taken out from treasury vault and immediately after being taken away from gaming machines (tables) for electronic games with prizes.

Tax management by the casino enterprise shall be implemented in the form of direct management at business place or monitored via electronic equipment and CCTV system.

# 10. Cash withdrawal abroad must not exceed VND30 million/card/day

On 29 December 2017, the State Bank of Vietnam issued Circular No.26/2017/TT-NHNN ("Circular 26"), on the amendments to some articles of Circular No. 19/2016/TT-NHNN dated 30 June 2016, regulating bank card operations.

Accordingly, as from 3 March 2018 onwards, when withdrawing foreign currency in cash in foreign countries, a bank card holder can only withdraw the maximum amount in foreign currency equal to VND30 million within a day (such a limit is not prescribed in the current regulations).

Besides, this Circular simultaneously adds the following provisions on credit card limit for individuals as specified in Clause 1, Article 126 of Law on Credit Institutions 2010, as amended in 2017:

- (a) In case of issuance of a credit card with collateral asset(s), the credit limit granted to the card holder shall be determined by the card issuer in accordance with its internal regulations on providing credits via credit cards; however, shall not exceed VND1 billion.
- (b) In case of issuance of a credit card without collateral asset(s), the maximum credit limit granted to the card holder shall be VND500 million.

Circular 26 also states that:

(a) Persons who are from 15 to under 18 years old and have neither lost their capacity for civil acts nor had their capacity for civil acts restricted are allowed to use debit cards, credit cards, and prepaid cards without requiring his/her own assets as collaterals as prescribed in the current regulations.

(b) Persons who are from 6 to under 15 years old and have neither lost their capacity for civil acts nor had their capacity for civil acts restricted shall be allowed to use supplementary cards in the form of debit cards, if authorised in writing by his/her legal representative.

(Currently, these subjects can only use supplementary cards in the form of debit cards without overdraft facility).

In the case where the subjects permitted to use cards are foreigners, their resident duration in Vietnam must be at least 12 months.

This Circular shall take effect on 3 March 2018.

# 11. Prohibited acts when the credit institutions dissolve, liquidate the assets

On 29 December 2017, the State bank issued Circular No.24/2017/TT-NHNN on the order of and procedures for license revocation and liquidation of assets of the credit institutions and foreign bank's branches.

Accordingly, credit institution or foreign bank's branch is prohibited to perform the following acts as from the date in which the competent authorities approve its dissolution or the Governor of the State Bank issues a written request for liquidation of its assets:

- (a) Hiding or dispersing assets.
- (b) Waiving or reducing the right to claim debts.
- (c) Transforming unsecured debts into secured debts by assets of the credit institution or foreign bank's branch.
- (d) Pledging, mortgaging, donating and leasing properties.
- (e) Signing new agreements and contracts, except for agreements and contracts to terminate its operation.
- (f) Transferring money or assets abroad.

This Circular shall take effect on 26 February 2018.

### 12. Electronic invoices (e-Invoices)

The Ministry of Finance is drafting a Decree on invoices for goods sales and purchases and service provisions in substitution of Decree No.51/2010/ND-CP dated 14 May 2010, amended by Decree No.04/2014/ND-CP dated 17 January 2014 ("Decree 51")

Accordingly, there are some important regulations as follows:

(a) Every sale value under VND200,000 is also required to issue an invoice

This is the difference between e-invoices and paper invoices; in particular: When selling goods or providing services with a total payment of under VND200,000 each time, paper invoices are not required unless otherwise requested by the buyers or except for using e-invoices.

- (b) Many entities are required to use e-invoices; for example:
  - (i) Enterprises and business organizations having applied e-invoices in accordance with Decree 51.
  - (ii) Enterprises having applied e-invoices with verification codes provided by tax authorities following the instructions of the Ministry of Finance.
  - (iii) Organizations that are not enterprises, but have activities of sale and purchase goods and/or provision of services requiring invoices to give to customers, etc.

### Other sectors

#### **Finance - Banking**

- Decision No. 117/QD-TTg dated 22 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on preferential loan interest rates of credit institutions designated by the State in accordance with Decree No. 100/2015/ND-CP, on development and management of social housing.
- Circular No. 01/2018/TT-NHNN dated 26 January 2018 of the Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, providing for special loans with respect to credit institutions under special control.
- Circular No. 02/2018/TT-BTC dated 2 January 2018 of the Minister of Finance, providing guidelines for the mechanism of financial support to the national defense
   economic zones.
- Circular No. 27/2017/TT-NHNN dated 31 December 2017 of the Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, on amendments to Circular No. 03/2013/TT-NHNN, providing for credit information activities of the State Bank of Vietnam.

#### Trade

- Decree No. 12/2018/ND-CP dated 23 January 2018 on amendments to Decree No.01/2015/ND-CP, detailing the scope of customs operation areas; responsibilities to coordinate in the prevention of and fighting against smuggling and illegal cross-border transportation of goods.
- Decree No. 14/2018/ND-CP dated 23 January 2018, detailing border trade activities.
- Decision No. 235/QD-TCHQ dated 29 January 2018, on Regulations on treatments after inspection and examination in the Customs branch issued by the General Department of Customs.
- Decision No. 01/2018/QD-Ttg dated 16 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on abolishment of Decision No. 72/2013/QD-TTg dated 26 November 2013 of the Prime Minister, providing for financial mechanisms and policies applicable to border-gate economic zones.
- Decision No. 55/QD-TTg dated 11 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on approval of Implementation plan of the Agreement on Cooperation and Administrative Mutual Assistance between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Republic of Italy.

- Circular No. 08/2018/TT-BTC dated 25 January 2018 of the Ministry of Finance, providing for the collection rates and regime for collection, submission, management and use of charges in chemical activities.
- Consolidated Document No. 02/VBHN-BCT dated 17 January 2018 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, on consolidation of Circulars providing guidelines for Decree No. 109/2010/ND-CP, on rice export business.
- Consolidated Document No. 01/VBHN-BCT dated 11 January 2018 of Ministry of Industry and Trade, on consolidation of Circulars detailing a number of articles of Decree No. 83/2014/ND-CP dated 3 September 2014, on petroleum business.

#### Labour

- Notice No. 86/TB-BHXH dated 10 January 2018 of the Social Insurance of Vietnam, on the delayed payment interest rate applicable to social insurance, health insurance and unemployment insurance.
- Notice No. 13/TB-BHXH dated 4 January 2018 of the Ho Chi Minh City Social Insurance, on adjustment of interest rates for calculation of delayed payment interest rate and late collection of health insurance premiums.

#### Health

- Decision No. 718/QD-BYT dated 29 January 2018 of the Ministry of Health, approving the National Nutrition Action Plan until 2020.
- Decision No. 01/2018/QD-UBND dated 16 January 2018 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City, promulgating the Regulation on organization and operation of the Health Department.
- Circular No. 01/2018/TT-BYT dated 18 January 2018 of the Minister of Health, providing for labeling of medicines, drug materials and drug package inserts/leaflets.
- Circular No. 52/2017/TT-BYT dated 29 December 2017 of the Ministry of Health, providing for prescription of pharmaceutical-chemical medicines and biological products for outpatient treatment.

### **Transport**

 Decision No. 49/QD-BGTVT dated 9 January 2018 of the Ministry of Transport, announcing abolished administrative procedures in the maritime field under the

- management of the Ministry of Transport.
- Decision No. 48/QD-BGTVT dated 9 January 2018 of the Ministry of Transport, announcing abolished administrative procedures in the maritime field under the management of the Ministry of Transport.
- Decision No. 39/QD-BGTVT dated 8 January 2018 of the Ministry of Transport, providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of Vietnam Inland Waterways Administration.
- Circular No. 04/2018/TT-BGTVT dated 23 January 2018 of the Minister of Transport, providing for the technical assurance of aviation fuels.
- Circular No. 02/2018/TT-BGTVT dated 9 January 2018 of the Minister of Transport, providing for the partial invalidation of Circular No.45/2017/TT-BGTVT amending Circular No. 01/2016/TT-BGTVT, on the Program on aviation security and aviation security quality control in Vietnam.

#### **Construction - Land**

- Decision No. 84/QD-TTg dated 19 January 2018 by the Prime Minister, approving the Plan of development of Vietnam's green growth urban areas until 2030.
- Decision No. 02/2018/QD-TTg dated 17 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the General Department of Land Management directly under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Decision No. 68/QD-TTg dated 15 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on approval of the Adjustment in the construction planning for the Mekong Delta until 2030, with an orientation to 2050.
- Decision No. 20/QD-BXD dated 15 January 2018 of the Ministry of Construction, announcing the list of legal documents, which wholly or partially cease to be effective, in the fields under State management of the Ministry of Construction in 2017.
- Circular No. 01/2018/TT-BXD dated 5 January 2018 of the Ministry of Construction, providing for criteria for construction of green growth urban areas.

#### **Natural Resources - Environment**

- Decision No. 140/QD-TTg dated 26 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, approving the Scheme on building a database on waste sources.
- Decision No. 487/QD-UBND dated 25 January 2018 of the People's Committee of

- Hanoi, approving the list of areas to be registered for underground water exploitation.
- Decision No. 06/2018/QD-TTg dated 23 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of Vietnam Administration of Sea and Islands under the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.
- Decision No. 04/2018/QD-TTg dated 23 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, providing for the method for determination of costs of evaluation of mineral prospecting, reimbursable costs of mineral exploration, reimbursement method, regulations on the regime for collection, management and use of expenses for evaluation of mineral prospecting and mineral exploration funded by the State.
- Decision No. 03/2018/QD-TTg dated 23 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology directly under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Decision No. 94/QD-BCT dated 10 January 2018 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, announcing new administrative procedures in the petroleum field under the authority of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- Consolidated Document No. 05/VBHN-BCT dated 23 January 2018 of the Minister of Industry and Trade, on the consolidation of Circulars on coal export.
- Consolidated Document No. 04/VBHN-BCT dated 23 January 2018 by the Minister of Industry and Trade, on the consolidation of Circulars providing for coal business conditions.
- Document No. 03/VBHN-BCT dated 17 January 2018 of the Minister of Industry and Trade, on the consolidation of Circulars on the export of minerals issued by the Minister of Industry and Trade.

# **Science - Technology**

- Decree No. 04/2018/ND-CP dated 4 January 2018, providing preferential mechanisms and policies for Da Nang Hi-Tech Park.
- Decision No. 496/QD-UBND dated 26 January 2018 of the People's Committee of Hanoi, on approval of the Scheme on development of key industrial products of Hanoi for the period 2020-2025.

#### **Information - Communications**

- Decree No. 13/2018/ND-CP dated 23 January 2018, detailing and providing guidelines for the implementation of Law on Access to Information.
- Decision No. 126/QD-BTTTT dated 31 January 2018 of the Ministry of Information and Communications, on the list of legal documents in the fields under the State management of the Ministry of Information and Communications, which cease to be effective in whole or in part in 2017.
- Decision No. 153/QD-TTg dated 30 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, approving the Target program on information technology for the period 2016-2020.
- Decision No. 03/2018/QD-UBND dated 24 January 2018 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City dated 24 January 2018, on the Regulation on ensuring information safety and security in the field of technology information in activities of State agencies in Ho Chi Minh City.
- Circular No. 03/2018/TT-BTC dated 12 January 2018 of the Minister of Finance, amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No.273/2016/TT-BTC, providing for rates of collection and exemption from the collection, and the regime for collection, remittance, management and use of charges for the right to telecommunications activities and fees for the grant of telecommunication business service licenses and telecommunication professional licenses.

# **Administration - Judiciary**

- Decision No. 37/QD-VKSTC dated 25 January 2018 of the Chairman of the Supreme People's Procuracy, issuing the Regulation on management of external activities in the People's Procuracy branch.
- Decision No. 126/QD-TTg dated 25 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, promulgating the Plan to implement the unified systemization of legal documents throughout the country for the period 2014-2018.
- Decision No. 132/QD-BTP dated 18 January 2018 of the Ministry of Justice, announcing the List of legal documents, which expire or cease to be effective in whole or in part, in the fields under State management of the Ministry of Justice in 2017.
- Decision No. 65/QD-TTg dated 12 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on approval of the Scheme on propagating and disseminating the contents of the

- Convention against torture and Vietnamese laws on prevention and combat of torture to cadres, public officials and servants, and the public.
- Decision No. 64/QD-TTg dated 12 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on promulgation of the Plan of exercising the rights and obligations of the International Development Law Organization's member (IDLO).
- Decision No. 49/QD-TTg dated 11 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on approval of the Preparation plan for assession to La Hay Convention 1980 on civil aspects of the international kidnapping during the period of 2018-2021.
- Decision No. 15/QD-VKSTC dated 9 January 2018 of the Supreme People's Procuracy, on the standard forms of proceedings documents, professional documents in the exercise of the right to prosecution and supervision over criminal proceedings commencement, investigation and prosecution issued by the Supreme People's Procuracy.
- Decision No. 40/QD-BTP dated 8 January 2018 of the Ministry of Justice, announcing replaced or abolished administrative procedures in the field of law dissemination and education under the scope of State management functions of the Ministry of Justice.
- Decision No. 50/2017/QD-TTg dated 31 December 2017 of the Prime Minister, providing for standards and norms for the use of machinery and equipment.

# **Agriculture - Forestry - Fishery**

- Decision No. 79/QD-TTg dated 18 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, on promulgation of the National Action Plan for development of the Vietnam's shrimp industry until 2025.
- Decision No. 78/QD-TTg dated 16 January 2018, approving the National Action Plan to prevent, reduce and eliminate illegal, unreported and unlawful fishing until 2025.
- Circular No. 01/2018/TT-BNNPTNT dated 16 January 2018 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, on promulgation of the List of livestock breeds that can be produced and traded in Vietnam.

#### Miscellaneous

• Decree No. 162/2017/ND-CP dated 1 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, detailing some articles and measures for implementation of the Law on Religion and folk belief.

- Decision No. 322/QD-BGDDT dated 30 January 2018 of the Ministry of Education and Training, issuing the lists of legal documents on the fields under the State management of Ministry of Education and Training, which expired in 2017.
- Decision No. 63/QD-TTg dated 12 January 2018 of the Prime Minister, approving the Scheme on Public investment restructure during the period of 2017-2020 with an orientation to 2025.
- Decision No. 26/QD-BTC dated 8 January 2018 of the Ministry of Finance, promulgating new administrative procedures in the field of tax within the scope of State management functions of the Ministry of Finance.

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