

Legal news

December 2012

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HIGHLIGHTED UPDATES**1. As from 22 December 2012, the average electricity price is increased to VND 1,437 per kWh**

As provided in Circular No. 38/2012/TT-BCT dated 20 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade on electricity sale prices and guidance on its application (“Circular 38”).

Circular 38 provides for:

- (i) the average electricity sale price is VND 1,437 per kWh (excluding VAT) and shall be applicable as from 22 December 2012;
- (ii) the voltage-based electricity sale prices are applicable to the customers who utilize electricity for the purposes of production, service provision, water pumping for irrigation, public administrative services, industrial parks, and for other purposes in high-rise apartment buildings in cities and new urban areas. The electricity sale prices are the prices for the voltages at which the electricity measurement systems are placed.
- (iii) the time-of-day dependent electricity sale price is called as a three price type comprising normal hours, peak hours and off-peak hours.

According to Circular 38, the electricity retailers satisfying the following conditions will be entitled to apply the wholesale prices under Circular 28:

- (i) Having the Electricity Operation Licence in the field of distribution and retail of electricity, which is issued by competent agencies, except for the cases in which the Electricity Operation Licence is exempted as prescribed in Point c, Clause 1, Article 34 of the Law on Electricity;
- (ii) Having accounting books as prescribed, in which the electricity selling activities must be separated in accounting from others;
- (iii) Having the electricity sale and purchase contracts signed with and electricity meters installed at the households that use electricity as prescribed in Article 24 of the Law on Electricity; having VAT invoices for electricity payments issued to all consumers as prescribed by the Ministry of Finance in accordance with each payment term as stipulated in those electricity sale and purchase contracts.

With respect to the electricity retailers who do not satisfy the prescribed conditions above, the wholesale prices of electricity shall be applied in accordance with the decision of the People’s Committee at provincial level.

Circular 38 provides (i) the retail tariff for electricity serving the manufacturing sectors; the water pumping for irrigation; the public administrative services; the businesses; domestic consumption; localities not connected to the national grid; areas concurrently connected to the national grid and having local power generation sources; and (ii) the wholesale prices

for electricity with respect to Vietnam Electricity (EVN) general corporation; rural areas; collective quarters, residential clusters; and industrial parks.

Circular 38 takes effect on 22 December 2012 and supersedes Circular No.17/2012/TT-BCT dated 29 June 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade on electricity sale prices and guidance on its application.

2. The region-based minimum wage level shall be applicable in accordance with the area with the highest region-based minimum wage level

As provided in Circular No. 29/2012/TT-BLDTBXH dated 10 December 2012 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs on guidelines for the application of region-based minimum wage levels to labourers working for enterprises, cooperatives, cooperative groups, farms, households, individuals and other agencies, organizations employing labourers (“Circular 29”).

Accordingly, the laborers working under labor contracts as prescribed by the Labor Code; members of the Management Board, members of the Members Council or the Company Chairman, General Directors, Directors, Deputy General Directors, Deputy Directors, Chief Accountants, Inspectors and other people in the management positions working for enterprises will receive region-based minimum wage at the following levels:

- (i) VND 2,350,000/month applicable to the enterprises operating in the area of region I;
- (ii) VND 2,100,000/month applicable to the enterprises operating in the area of region II;
- (iii) VND 1,800,000/month applicable to the enterprises operating in the area of region III; and
- (iv) VND 1,650,000/month applicable to the enterprises operating in the area of region IV.

The areas applying region-based minimum wage levels are specified in the Appendix to the Government’s Decree No. 103/2012/ND-CP dated 4 December 2012. The areas applying region-based minimum wage levels in some particular cases are defined as follows:

- (i) The area that has a name change or area division shall temporarily apply the region-based minimum wage level for the area before such change or division.

The areas newly established from the areas with different region-based minimum wage levels will apply the region-based minimum wage level for the area with the highest region-based minimum wage level.

The provincially-run cities established from an area or the areas of region IV will apply the region-based minimum wage level for the area of region III.

- (ii) Enterprises operating in the adjacent areas with different region-based minimum wage levels will apply the region-based minimum wage level for the area with the highest region-based minimum wage level.

For the enterprises that have units or branches operating in the areas with the various region-based minimum wage levels, the unit or branch operating in a given area shall apply the region-based minimum wage level for that area.

- (iii) With regard to the industrial zones or export processing zones in the areas with different regional minimum wage levels, the highest region-based minimum wage level will be applied.

For the industrial zones or export processing zones have sub-zones located in the areas with different region-based minimum wage levels, enterprises operating in a sub-zone located in a given area will apply the region-based minimum wage level for that area.

Circular 29 takes effect on 25 January 2013 and replaces Circular No.23/2011/TT-BLDTBXH. The region-based minimum wage levels as provided in Article 3 and regimes as specified in Circular 29 are applicable as from 1 January 2013.

3. Removing the barriers, perfecting the mechanisms and policies to improve the investment efficiency

As provided in Directive No. 32/CT-TTg dated 7 December 2012 of the Prime Minister on the removal of the barriers and perfection of mechanisms and policies for improving the investment efficiency (“Directive 32”).

According to Directive 32, the Prime Minister points out that the efficiency of investment during the past period is not high, and has not created enough motives to boost the economic growth and stabilize the macro-economic. The major reason is due to some barriers from the economic structure, the system organization and economic management, the input elements of production, and organization of the State management apparatus for investment, which have affected the increase of investment efficiency.

With a view to attract and efficiently use investment resources of the Country, the Prime Minister instructed the Ministry of Planning and Investment to lead and cooperate with other Ministries, agencies and local authorities in:

- (i) Summarizing and assessing the implementation status of the 10th Central Committee’s Resolution No. 6 on perfecting the market economy mechanism with the Socialist orientation;
- (ii) Implementing six groups of solutions with respect to investment projects funded by the State budget or Government bonds, and national target programs;
- (iii) Applying two groups of solutions in order to strictly implement the Prime Minister’s Directive No. 1617/CT-TTg dated 19 September

- 2011 on enhancing and controlling the management of foreign investment in the coming time;
- (iv) Studying and completing the relevant law documents;
 - (v) Completing the standards and criteria with respect to a number of products; conditions on machinery, equipment and environment in a number of sectors and industries; rate of investment in used land surface area applicable to land-spending projects as the basis for issuing the Investment certificate;
 - (vi) Quickly formulating and submitting the Decree on the List of industries and localities eligible for investment incentives, applicable to the subjects eligible for investment incentives;
 - (vii) Boosting the pilot deployment of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode; pilot implementation of the mechanism on financialization of land resources; formulation of a roadmap for increasing the fee for use of infrastructures;
 - (viii) Reviewing and assessing the implementation of the investment projects, especially projects falling behind schedule or not initiated at scheduled time;
 - (ix) Taking appropriate measures to improve the construction quality, and ensuring the sanctions for the implementation of planning.

Also, the Prime Minister assigns the Ministry of Finance, the State Bank of Vietnam, the Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the National Committee of International Economic Cooperation, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Ministry of Home Affairs, other relevant ministries and branches, and people's committees of provinces and centrally-run cities to review and remove within their authority, or request the competent authorities to remove the barriers in order to attract investment resources for the socio-economic development goals of the localities and the whole country.

Other Sectors

Finance

- On 22 December 2012, the People's Committee of Hanoi issued Decision No.43/2008/QD-UBND on the collection of charges for auction and for participation in property auction in the area of Hanoi.
- Decision No. 3876/QD-BTP date 17 December 2012 of the Ministry of Justice promulgating the Regulation on "Coordination in the management and settlement of properties of the Ministry of Justice's projects funded by State budget when the projects are finished or with respect to on-going projects with the properties to be settled".
- On 22 December 2012, the People's Committee of Hanoi stipulated Decision No.41/2012/QD-UBND repealing Decision No. 33/2009/QD-UBND dated 9 January 2009 of the People's Committee of Hanoi on the collection of charges for assessment and appraisal of bidding results in the area of Hanoi.
- Decision No. 40/2012/QD-UBND dated 22 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Hanoi repealing Decision No. 28/2009/QD-UBND dated 9 January 2009 of the People's Committee of Hanoi on the collection of charges for participation in examination and recruitment in the area of Hanoi.
- On 21 December 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 56/2012/QD-TTg promulgating the Regulation on management and treatment of risks with respect to the list of public debts.
- Decision No. 2646/QD-NHNN dated 21 December 2012 of the State Bank of Vietnam on refinancing interest rates, rediscount interest rates and interest rates applicable to overnight loans in the inter-bank electronic payments and to loans for making up capital deficits in the clearing payments of State Bank of Vietnam for banks.
- On 14 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Decision No.3169/QD-BTC correcting Circular No. 176/2012/TT-BTC dated 23 October 2012 of the Ministry of Finance.
- Circular No. 231/2012/TT-BTC dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing for the management, payment and finalization of investment capital with respect to projects funded by Government bonds for the period from 2012 to 2015.
- On 24 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No.222/2012/TT-BTC providing for the organization of implementing the State budget estimates in 2013.
- Circular No. 217/2012/TT-BTC dated 17 December 2012 of the Ministry of Finance amending and supplementing the State budget's index.

Banking

- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Decision No.3312/QD-BTC correcting Circular No. 188/2012/TT-BTC dated 7 November 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines on interest rate support for loans and compensation of interest rate difference resulting from the implementation of support policies to reduce post-harvest losses for agricultural and aquacultural products.
- Decision No. 54/2012/QD-TTg dated 4 December 2012 of the Prime Minister promulgating the Policy on loans for development of production with respect to especially difficult ethnic minority households for the period from 2012 to 2015.
- On 28 December 2012, the State Bank of Vietnam issued Circular No.38/2012/TT-NHNN providing for the gold state of credit institutions.
- Circular No. 37/2012/TT-NHNN dated 28 December 2012 of the State Bank of Vietnam providing for lending in foreign currencies by credit institutions and branches of foreign banks with respect to customers being residents.
- On 28 December 2012, the State Bank of Vietnam stipulated Circular No.36/2012/TT_NHNN on the equipping, management, operation and security assurance of automated teller machines.
- Circular No. 35/2012/TT-NHNN of the State Bank of Vietnam providing the service charges of domestic debit cards.
- On 21 December 2012, the State Bank of Vietnam issued Circular No.33/2012/TT-NHNN providing for the rates of interest on short-term loans in Vietnamese Dong to be applied by credit institutions and branches of foreign banks to their borrowing customer in order to satisfy the demand for capital serving a number of economic sectors and areas.
- Circular No. 32/2012/TT-NHNN dated 21 December 2012 of the State Bank of Vietnam on the maximum rates of interest on the deposits in Vietnamese Dong of organizations and individuals in credit institutions and branches of foreign banks.

Securities

- On 6 December 2012, the Prime Minister stipulated Decision No. 1826/QD-TTg approving the Scheme on "Restructure of the securities market and insurance companies".
- Decision No. 1078/QD-UBCK dated 13 December 2012 of the State Securities Commission amending and supplementing its Decision No. 515/QD-UBCK promulgating the process of information publication on the electronic information portal of the State Securities Commission for the participants in the securities market.

- On 6 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 213/2012/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the operation of foreign investors on Vietnamese securities market.
- Circular No. 212/2012/TT-BTC dated 5 December 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the establishment, organization and operation of fund management companies.

Taxation

- On 25 December 2012, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City stipulated Decision No. 63/2012/QD-UBND on the decentralization in management of collection and allocation rates of non-agricultural land use tax and environmental protection tax levies.
- Decision No. 2073/QD-TTg dated 25 December 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the second Protocol amending the Agreement between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Republic of Singapore for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to tax on incomes.
- On 14 December 2012, the Ministry of Industrial and Trade issued Circular No.37/2012/TT-BCT on the import under quotas in 2013 with the import tax rate of 0% for goods having origin in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Trade

- Decision No. 2088/QD-TTg dated 27 December 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the Scheme on preventing and halting the transport and business of poultry and poultry products illegally imported.
- On 27 December 2012, the Vietnam General Department of Customs stipulated Decision No. 3046/QD-TCHQ promulgating the process of electronic customs procedures for goods exported and imported for trade.
- Decision No. 5783/QD-UBND dated 11 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Hanoi promulgating the Regulation on organization and operation of the inter-sectorial mobile inspection delegation inspecting illegally-imported poultry in the area of Hanoi.
- On 11 December 2012, the Vietnam General Department of Customs issued Decision No. 2747/QD-TCHQ promulgating the Regulation on adjustment in the State's statistical data on customs with respect to exported and imported goods.
- Decision No. 7360/QD-BCT dated 04 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade correcting Circular No. 17/2011/TT-BCT dated 14 April 2011 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade implementing the Rules of commodities' origin in the Agreement on promotion of bilateral trade between the Ministry of Industry

and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Ministry of Commerce of the Kingdom of Cambodia to be applicable to commodities having origin in a contracting party and enjoying tariff incentives when being imported directly into the territory of the other contracting party.

- On 4 December 2012, the Vietnam General Department of Customs stipulated Decision No. 2719/QD-TCHQ promulgating the pilot process of guidance on professional skills in the radioactive inspection with respect to goods exported, imported, transited, or transported between gates by containers at Tan Cang Cai Mep port (TCCT), Tan Cang Cai Mep international port (TCIT) and SP-PSA international port in Ba Ria - Vung Tau Province.
- Circular No. 42/2012/TT-BCT dated 27 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade providing for the List of goods produced in bordering countries and imported into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the form of purchase, sale and exchange of goods among border inhabitants.
- On 20 December 2012, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Circular No.39/2012/TT-BCT detailing a number of articles of Decree No. 94/2012/ND-CP dated 12 November 2012 of the Government on production of and business in alcohols.

Labour

- Decree No. 106/2012/ND-CP dated 20 December 2012 providing for the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs.
- On 4 December 2012, the Government stipulated Decree No. 103/2012/ND-CP providing for region-based minimum wage levels for labourers working for companies, enterprises, cooperatives, cooperative groups, farms, households, individuals and agencies, organizations employing labourers.
- Decision No. 1754/QD-BHXH dated 20 December 2012 of the Vietnam Social Insurance amending and supplementing Article 2 of Decision No. 653/QD-BHXH dated 5 June 2009 of the General Director of the Vietnam Social Insurance promulgating the sample of personal health insurance card.
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs jointly issued Inter-ministerial Circular No. 58/2012/TTLT-BGDDT-BLDTBXH providing the conditions and procedures for establishment, operation, operation suspension, and dissolution organization of the Centre of integration education development support.
- Circular No. 34/2012/TT-BLDTBXH dated 24 December 2012 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs promulgating the National technical

regulation on occupational safety with respect to portable engine-driven electric tools.

- On 20 December 2012, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs stipulated Circular No.33/2012/TT-BLDTBXH providing guidelines for the implementation of the policies for employees according to Decree No.59/2011/ND-CP dated 18 July 2011 of the Government on converting the enterprises with 100% State-owned capital into joint stock companies.
- Circular No. 32/2012/TT-BLDTBXH dated 19 December 2012 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs promulgating the National technical regulations on occupational safety for escalators and passenger conveyors.
- On 12 December 2012, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the Ministry of Information and Communications jointly issued Inter-ministerial Circular No.30/2012/TTLT-BLDTBXH-BNV-BNN&PTNT-BCT-BTTTT providing guidelines for the responsibility for organization of implementing Decision No.1956/QD-TTg dated 27 November 2009 of the Prime Minister approving the Scheme on “Vocational training for rural labourers up to 2020”.

Education

- Decision No. 5850/QD-BGDDT dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training approving the content and basic technical requirements of a number of equipment, materials and training data used in preschool education for supporting the legal popularization and education.
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training stipulated Circular No. 62/2012/TT-BGDDT promulgating the Regulations on the process and cycle of testing the education quality of universities, junior colleges and professional intermediate-level schools.
- Circular No. 61/2012/TT-BGDDT dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training promulgating the Regulations on conditions for establishment and dissolution, duties and powers of the organizations testing quality education.
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training issued Circular No. 60/2012/TT-BGDDT promulgating the Regulations on persons testing education quality.
- Circular No. 59/2012/TT-BGDDT dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training promulgating the Regulations on standards for assessment and recognition of the primary schools reaching minimum quality level and those satisfying national standards.

- On 27 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training stipulated Circular No. 57/2012/TT-BGDDT amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Regulation on formal university and junior college training under the credit system accompanying Decision No. 43/2007/QĐ-BGDDT dated 15 August 2007 of the Minister of Education and Training.
- Circular No. 56/2012/TT-BGDDT dated 25 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training promulgating the Regulation on management of bilateral international cooperation tasks in sciences and technology at the level of the Ministry of Education and Training.
- On 25 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training issued Circular No. 55/2012/TT-BGDDT providing for the connection training at university and junior college levels.
- Circular No. 54/2012/TT-BGDDT dated 21 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training on the educational inspection collaborators.
- On 18 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training stipulated Circular No. 51/2012/TT-BGDDT providing for the inspection organization and activities of education establishments being universities and professional intermediate-level schools.
- Circular No. 50/2012/TT-BGDDT dated 18 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training amending and supplementing Article 40; supplementing Article 40a of Circular No. 41/2010/TT-BGDDT dated 30 December 2010 of the Ministry of Education and Training promulgating the Charter of primary schools.
- On 7 December 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training issued Circular No. 47/2012/TT-BGDDT promulgating the Regulation on recognition of the secondary schools, high schools and multi-level general schools satisfying national standards.

Health

- Decide No. 4824/QĐ-BYT dated 3 December 2012 of the Ministry of Health approving the Scheme on "the Vietnamese give priority to use Vietnamese medicine".
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Industry and Trade stipulated Circular No. 45/2012/TT-BCT providing for the quality and food safety inspection activity during the production of foods under the management responsibility of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- Circular No. 32/2012/TT-BYT dated 24 December 2012 of the Ministry of Health on medical declaration for people upon entering into, exiting from and transiting at Vietnamese border gates.

- On 21 December 2012, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Circular No.40/2012/TT-BCT on the issuance of Certificate of food advertising contents under the management responsibility of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- Circular No. 31/2012/TT-BYT dated 20 December 2012 the Ministry of Health providing guidelines for the clinical pharmacy activities in hospitals.
- On 5 December 2012, the Ministry of Health stipulated Circular No. 30/2012/TT-BYT on food safety conditions for establishments providing food services or street food business.
- Circular No. 29/2012/TT-BYT dated 4 December 2012 of the Ministry of Health providing the procedures for new issue or re-issue of the certificates of laboratories satisfying bio-safety standards.
- On 4 December 2012, the Ministry of Health issued Circular No. 28/2012/TT-BYT providing for "the list of diseases with which people shall not have their tissues or body parts transplanted to other patients".

Transport

- Decree No. 107/2012/ND-CP dated 20 December 2012 providing for the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Transport.
- On 24 December 2012, the Ministry of Transport stipulated Decision No.3337/QD-BGTVT announcing the administrative procedures within the scope of the Ministry of Transport's management function.
- Decision No. 3135/QD-BGTVT dated 14 December 2012 of the Ministry of Transport correcting Circular No. 46/2012/TT-BGTVT dated 7 November 2012 of the Minister of Transport providing for the training, testing and issuing landroad motor vehicles' driver licences.
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Circular No.44/2012/TT-BCT on the List of dangerous industrial goods with packaging required during transportation and transportation of dangerous industrial goods by landroad motor vehicle, railways and inland waterways.
- Circular No. 233/2012/TT-BTC dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing for the collection rates and the regime on collection, submission, management and use of charges for use of landroad with respect to BOT toll stations and free of charge transit stations.
- On 27 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Transport jointly stipulated Inter-ministerial Circular No. 230/2012/TTLT-BTC-BGTVT providing guidelines for the regime on management, use, payment and finalization of landroad maintenance fund.

Construction

- Decision No. 1193/QD-BXD dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Construction promulgating the Action plan of the Ministry of Construction to implement the Strategy on export of goods for the period from 2011 to 2020, with orientation to 2030.
- On 28 December 2012, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City issued Decision No. 66/2012/QD-UBND promulgating the standard tariff of investment interest rates with respect to construction of building works located in the area of Ho Chi Minh City.
- Decision No. 65/2012/QD-UBND dated 28 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decision No. 48/2011/QD-UBND dated 12 July 2011 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City on the issuance of planning permits in Ho Chi Minh City.
- On 28 December 2012, the People's Committee of Hanoi City stipulated Decision No. 6168/QD-UBND announcing a number of price units of construction of building works located in the area of Hanoi - for the construction and installation.
- Decision No. 1171/QD-BXD dated 26 December 2012 of the Ministry of Construction on the recognition of the establishments training and fostering the professional knowledge and skills in management of operating condominium buildings.
- On 25 December 2012, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City issued Decision No. 62/2012/QD-UBND amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decision No. 50/2011/QD-UBND dated 12 July 2011 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City on the establishment, assessment and approval of urban planning in the area of Ho Chi Minh City.
- Decision No. 5706/QD-UBND dated 10 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Hanoi on the establishment of Construction Planning Assessment Council in the area of Hanoi.
- On 4 December 2012, the Ministry of Construction stipulated Decision No.1092/QD-BXD approving the Project on system of information about construction and urban development.
- Circular No. 10/2012/TT-BXD dated 20 December 2012 of the Ministry of Construction detailing a number of contents of Decree No. 64/2012/ND-CP dated 4 September 2012 on the issuance of construction permits.
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Construction issued Circular No.12/2012/TT-BXD promulgating the National technical regulation on rules of classifications and grading of civil and industrial buildings and urban infrastructures.

Land

- Decision No. 51/2012/QD-UBND dated 28 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Hanoi promulgating the Regulations on the prices of land in the area of Hanoi for year 2013.
- On 22 December 2012, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City issued Decision No. 61/2012/QD-UBND promulgating the Regulations on the prices of land in the area of Ho Chi Minh City.
- Decision No. 55/2012/QD-TTg dated 19 December 2012 of the Prime Minister amending and supplementing Decision No. 62/2009/QD-TTG dated 20 April 2009 of the Prime Minister on the exemption of the land rental for construction of maintenance and repair stations, and parking lots of the enterprises conducting business of public transportation services.
- On 14 December 2012, the People's Committee of Hanoi stipulated Decision No.38/2008/QD-UBND promulgating the price units for lease of the State-owned houses and land managed by Hanoi house management and development one member limited liability company and leased to organizations and individuals for use as service and business establishments in the area of Hanoi.
- Decision No. 56/2012/QD-UBND dated 10 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City providing for the order and procedures for determining the financial obligations according to the market price when the State conducts land allocation, land lease, conversion of land use purpose, change of land use form from land lease to land allocation in Ho Chi Minh City.
- On 3 December 2012, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City issued Decision No. 54/2012/QD-UBND amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decision No. 19/2009/QD-UBND dated 25 February 2009 of the People's Committee providing for the minimum of land surface area after dividing land plots.
- Circular No. 216/2012/TT-BTC dated 10 December 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the determination of the land rental applicable to land for rubber planting.

Natural Resources - Environment

- On 22 December 2012, the People's Committee of Hanoi stipulated Decision No.44/2012/QD-UBND on the collection of environmental protection fees with respect to mineral mining in the area of Hanoi.
- Circular No. 22/2012/TT-BTNMT dated 26 December 2012 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment providing for the formulation and

implementation of Plan of overall management of natural resources and environmental protection in coastal areas.

- On 25 December 2012, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No.53/2012/TT-BGTVT on environmental protection in civil aviation activities.
- Circular No. 41/2012/TT-BCT dated 24 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade providing for the export of minerals.
- On 19 December 2012, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment stipulated Circular No. 21/2012/TT-BTNMT providing for the quality assurance and quality control in environmental surveying.
- Circular No. 20/2012/TT-BTNMT dated 19 December 2012 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment promulgating the Technical - economic norms of measuring and mapping.
- On 19 December 2012, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No.50/2012/TT-BGTVT on the receipt management and treatment of liquid wastes containing oil from ships in ports of Vietnam.

Science - Technology

- Decision No. 7641/QD-BCT dated 12 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade approving the planning for industrial development of Lao Cai - Hanoi - Hai Phong - Quang Ninh economic corridor line up to 2020, with orientation to 2030.
- On 28 December 2012, the Ministry of Science and Technology stipulated Circular No. 30/2012/TT-BKHCN providing for the requirements of nuclear safety with respect to nuclear power plant design.
- Circulars No. 46/2012/TT-BCT dated 28 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade detailing a number of content of Decree No. 45/2012/ND-CP dated 21 May 2012 of the Government on industrial promotion.
- On 27 December 2012, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs issued Circular No. 35/2012/TT-BLDTBXH on the procedures for appointment of regulations conformity certification organizations and regulations conformity declaration of products and commodities under management responsibility of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs.
- Circular No. 43/2012/TT-BCT dated 27 December 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade providing for the management of planning and construction investment of hydro-electricity projects and exploitation operation of hydro-electricity works.
- On 19 December 2012, the Ministry of Science and Technology stipulated Circular No. 29/2012/TT-BKHCN providing for the contents of preliminary

safety analysis reports in application dossiers for approval of the nuclear power plants' locations.

- Circular No. 26/2012/TT-BKHHCN dated 12 December 2012 of the Ministry of Science and Technology on the State inspection of the quality of goods circulated on the market.
- On 12 December 2012, the Ministry of Science and Technology issued Circular No. 25/2012/TT-BKHHCN providing for the list and control requirements of materials and equipment in the nuclear fuel cycle.

Information - Communications

- Circular No. 53/2012/TT-BGDĐT dated 20 December 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training providing for the operational organization, and use of e-mails and electronic information portal at the education and training establishments, offices of education and training, and establishments of preschool education, general education and regular education.
- On 19 December 2012, the Ministry of Information and Communications stipulated Circular No. 23/2012/TT-BTTTT detailing the implementation of and providing guidelines for a number of content in relation to postal stamps.
- Circular No. 22/2012/TT-BTTTT dated 18 December 2012 of the Ministry of Information and Communications providing for the scope of exclusive postal services.
- On 17 December 2012, the Ministry of Information and Communications issued Circular No. 21/2012/TT-BTTTT providing for the operation of the Vietnam Post Corporation in international organizations on post.
- Circular No. 06/2012/TT-BNG dated 10 December 2012 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs promulgating the standard forms for implementing a number of articles of Decree No. 88/2012/ND-CP dated 23 October 2012 on information and press activities of the foreign presses, foreign representative offices and foreign organizations in Vietnam.
- On 4 December 2012, the Ministry of Information and Communications stipulated Circular No. 20/2012/TT-BTTTT promulgating the national technical regulations.

Culture – Sports - Tourism

- Decision No. 1861/QĐ-TTg dated 11 December 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the Agreement between the Government of Vietnam and the Government of Morocco on cooperation in tourism.

- On 13 December 2012, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism issued Circular No. 16/2008/TT-BVHTTDL providing the operational conditions for sports establishment organizing Skate activities.
- Circular No. 15/2012/TT-BVHTTDL dated 13 December 2012 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism providing guidelines for the examination operation of copyright and related rights.
- On 10 December 2012, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism stipulated Circular No. 14/2012/TT-BVHTTDL providing the operational conditions for sport establishments organizing badminton activities.
- Circular No. 13/2012/TT-BVHTTDL dated 10 December 2012 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism providing the operational conditions for sport establishments organizing Ping-pong activities.
- On 10 December 2012, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism issued Circular No. 12/2012/TT-BVHTTDL providing the operational conditions for sport establishments organizing Football activities.
- Circular No. 11/2012/TT-BVHTTDL dated 6 December 2012 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism proving the operational conditions for sport establishments organizing Judo activities.

Administration - Judiciary

- On 24 December 2012, the Government stipulated Decision No. 59/2012/QD-TTg on legal aid policy for poor people and ethnic minorities in the poor communes for the period from 2013 to 2020.
- Decision No. 3888/QD-BTP dated 18 December 2012 of the Ministry of Justice promulgating the plan in 2013 to initiate the implementation of legal aid policy for disabled people.
- On 7 December 2012, the Ministry of Information and Communications issued Decision No. 2384/QD-BTTTT approving the Scheme on "Promotion of information, dissemination, popularization and education of law in order to raise awareness of and skills in prevention of and fighting human trafficking crime in the whole society".
- Circular No. 10/2012/TT-BNV dated 14 December 2012 of the Ministry of Home Affairs providing the economic - technical norms for handling documents, which are no longer valid.
- On 10 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No.215/2012/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the implementation of a number of content about the management and handling of exhibits and means confiscated and put into the State treasury due to administrative violations.

- Circular No. 09/2012/TT-BKHDT dated 6 December 2012 of the Ministry of Planning and Investment providing for the elaboration, evaluation and issuance of legal documents of the Ministry of Planning and Investment.

Agriculture - Forestry - Fishery

- On 17 December 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 1896/QD-TTg approving the project on preventing and controlling invasive exotic creatures in Vietnam up to 2020.
- Decision No. 1895/QD-TTg dated 17 December 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the Program on development of agriculture applying high technologies under the National program of development of high technologies up to 2020.
- On 26 December 2012, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Circular No. 65/2012/TT-BNNPTNT providing the order and procedures for the issuance of plant quarantine certificates.
- Circular No. 64/2012/TT-BNNPTNT dated 24 December 2012 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development promulgating the additional list of fertilizers allowed to be manufactured, traded and used in Vietnam.
- On 24 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No.223/2012/TT-BTC providing for the regime on collection, submission and use management of charges and fees in the field of plant protection.

Enterprise

- Decision No. 42/2012/QD-UBND dated 22 December 2012 of the People's Committee of Hanoi repealing Decision No. 02/2009/QD-UBND dated 9 January 2009 and Decision No. 82/2009/QD-UBND dated 25 June 2009 of the People's Committee of Hanoi on the collection rates of fee for the issuance of business registration certificates and provision of information about business registration in the area of Hanoi.
- On 5 December 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No.211/2012/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the implementation of a number of articles of Decree No. 90/2011/ND-CP dated 14 October 2011 on the issuance of corporate bonds.

Miscellaneous

- Decision No. 2091/QD-TTg dated 28 December 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the Strategy on development of the national reserves up to 2020.

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