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Legal news

February 2012

Contents

HIGHLIGHTED NOTES	2
Other Sectors	
Finance - Banking	10
Securities	10
Taxation	10
Labour	11
Education	11
Health	11
Transport	11
Science - Technology	12
Information - Communications	13
Administration - Judiciary	13
Agriculture	14
Forestry	15
Miscellaneous	15
Contact Details	16

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HIGHLIGHTED NOTES

1. Amendment and supplement to a number of provisions on secured transactions

This is the contents provided for in Decree No.11/2012/ND-CP dated 22 February 2012 amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decree No.163/2006/ND-CP dated 29 December 2006 on secured transactions ("Decree 11").

Accordingly, the Decree 11 amends and supplements a number of articles of Decree No.163/2006/ND-CP dated 29 December 2006 on secured transactions as follows:

- (i) Amending Article 3 (Clause 1, Clause 9); Article 4 (Clause 1, Clause 2); Article 8; Article 14 (Clause 3); Article 19 (Clause 3); Article 21; Article 47; Article 58 (Clause 4); Article 61 (Clause 1);
- (ii) Supplementing Article 7a; Article 8a; Article 12 (Clause 4); Article 20a; Article 22 (Clause 5); Article 27 (Clause 3); Article 47a; Article 58 (Clause 6); Article 64a; Article 64b; Article 68 (Clause 3, Clause 4);
- (iii) Repealing the provisions of Clause 2 of Article 10 and the phrase "an engine number of" in Point b, Clause 1 of Article 20.
- (iv) Replacing the phrase "a motorized means of transport" by the phrase "means of road transport, means of inland waterway or rail transport" in Point b, Clause 1 of Article 20; replacing the phrase "mortgages of land use rights, forest use rights or ownership over productive forest being the planted forest of the third party" by the phrase "mortgages of land use rights, forest use rights or ownership over planted forest for production in order to secure performance of obligations of another person" in Clause 4 of Article 72.

It is noted that under Decree 11,

- (i) Security property means a current property or future property, which is not prohibited from being traded by laws.
- (ii) Future property comprises:
 - (a) Property formed from loan capital;
 - (b) Property currently in the course of formation or currently being legally created as at the time of entering into the secured transaction;
 - (c) Property already formed and in the category for which ownership must be registered, but only registered in accordance with laws after the time of entering into the secured transaction.
 - (d) Future property excluding land use rights.
- (iii) Securing performance of an obligation by future property

- (a) When the securing party owns a part or the whole of a security property being future property, then the secured party has the rights to the part or the whole of such security property. With respect to a property of which the ownership must be registered as required by law but the securing party has not yet conducted registration, the secured party still has the right to settle such property on maturity for settlement.
- (b) In a case where a security property being future one is settled in order to perform civil obligations, then the authorized State body shall rely on the results of settlement of the security property in order to conduct procedures for transfer of the ownership and use rights regarding the property to the purchaser or the recipient of the property immediately after there are results of settlement of such security property.
- (iv) Security for performance of future obligation
 - (a) In a contract providing security for performance of a future obligation, the parties are not obliged to specifically prescribe the scope of the secured obligation or the time-limit for performing the securing obligation, unless otherwise agreed by the parties or stipulated by law.
 - (b) When the obligation is formed, the parties shall not be required to register the changes to the registered contents of the security transaction.
- (v) In the case where a security transaction entered into prior to split, separation, consolidation, merger or conversion of legal entity (hereinafter referred to as legal entity reorganization) is still effective, the parties shall not be required to re-enter into such security transaction when the legal entity is reorganized. In the case of a security transaction already registered, the new legal entity shall present a document issued by the authorized body regarding legal entity re-organization in order to conduct procedures for registration of changes in accordance with laws.
- (vi) Mortgaged property currently being held: If a mortgaged property is currently being held pursuant to Article 416 of Civil Code, then the holding party is liable to hand over the property it is holding to the mortgagee to settle in accordance with laws after the mortgagee or the obligor has fully performed obligations to such holding party.
- (vii) Transferring a right to claim a debt: where a right to claim a debt is transferred pursuant to Article 313 of the Civil Code, the parties are not required to re-enter into a security transaction. When conducting procedures to register the change of secured party in accordance with laws, the party transferred with the right to claim the debt must present the transfer contract in order to prove the change.
- (viii) Priority order for payment as between joint guarantees, and as between a guarantor and a pledgee, mortgagee, depositee, security or margin recipient:

- (a) Joint guarantees shall be in the same rank of priority order for payment. The proceeds received from the settlement of the property of the guaranter shall be paid to the joint guarantees on pro rata basis corresponding to the guaranteed obligation.
- (b) In a case where the pledge contract, mortgage contract, deposit contract, security contract or margin contract has already been registered in accordance with laws, then the pledgee, the mortgagee, the depositee, the security or margin recipient shall be paid in priority over the guarantee.
- (c) In a case where the pledge contract, mortgage contract, deposit contract, security contract or margin contract has not been registered in accordance with laws, then the priority order for payment as between the guarantee and the pledgee, the mortgagee, the depositee, the security or margin recipient shall be determined in line with the order in which the secured transactions were entered into.
- (ix) A person settling a security property (hereinafter referred to as the realiser) shall be the securing party or the person authorized by the securing party, except otherwise agreed by the parties to the security transaction. The realiser shall rely on the contents agreed in the security contract to conduct settlement of the security property without requiring a power of attorney from the secured party to settle the security property.
 - (a) In a case where security property is rights to use land or residential houses, then the organization or individual purchasing the security property or receiving such property in exchange for performance of the obligation of the secured party must be within the category of entities eligible to be issued with a certificate of land use rights, ownership over residential houses and other assets attached to the land;
 - (b) in a case where such organization or individual is not within such category of eligible entities, then it/he/she is only entitled to the value of the land use rights or of the residential houses.
- (x) Settlement of security property being land use rights and property attached to land in a case where there is no agreement on method of settlement:
 - (a) In the case of a mortgage of land use rights without a mortgage of the property attached to the land, and the land user is also the owner of the property attached to the land, the property attached to the land shall be settled at the same time as the land use rights, unless otherwise agreed by the parties. The parties have the right to agree by themselves or recourse to an organization having function of asset valuation in order to determine the value of the land use rights and the property attached to land. The proceeds from the settlement of security property shall be paid in priority to the owner of the property attached to the land, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

(b) In the case of a mortgage of land use rights only without a mortgage of the property attached to the land, and the land user is not concurrently the owner of the property attached to the land, when settling the land use rights, the owner of the property attached to the land is entitled to continue using the land in accordance with the agreement between the land user and the owner of the property attached to the land, unless otherwise agreed. The rights and obligations between the mortgagor and the owner of the property attached to the land shall be transferred to the purchaser or receiver of the land use rights.

Decree 11 shall take effect as from 10 April 2012.

2. Socio – economic Development Strategy of Hanoi up to 2030 with orientation to 2050

This is contents approved by the Prime Minister in Decision No. 222/QD-TTg dated 22 February 2012.

Accordingly, the Prime Minister approved the Socio – economic Development Strategy of Hanoi up to 2030 with orientation to 2050 in which the development of the following branches and fields is oriented:

- (i) Building a modern economic structure, which is highly capble of integration, active and suitable for the development of the knowledge-based economy.
 - (a) Strongly developing high-level and high quaility services.
 - (b) Developing industry in the direction of modernity, improvement of quality, competitiveness and environmental friendliness.
 - (c) Developing argriculture and rural areas in the direction of civillization, modernity, efficiency and stability.
- (ii) Substaintially completing the infrastructure system in the direction of synchronization and modernity.
- (iii) Forming resonable urban space.
- (iv) Developing and promoting cultural values.
- (v) Developing education and high quality human resources.
- (vi) Improving people's health care and protection.
- (vii) Developing sports and physical exercises.
- (viii) Developing science and technology for rapid and qualitative development.
- (ix) Ensuring employment and social security.
- (x) Protecting and improving the environment, actively and effectively coping with climate change.
- (xi) Firmly ensuring security and defense.

(xii) Developing regional and external cooperation and relations.

The Prime Minister assigns Hanoi People's Committee; the Ministry of Industry and Trade; the Ministry of Education and Training; the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs; the Ministry of Science and Technology; the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Information and Communications; the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; the Ministry of Finance; the Ministry of Planning and Invesment; the State Bank of Vietnam; and relevant provinces and cities directly under the Central Government, based on their assigned functions and duties, to be responsible for effectively leading and coordinating the implementation of this Socio – economic Development Strategy.

This Decision comes into full force and effect as from the date of signing.

3. Guidelines on dossier for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties applicable to overdue payment thereof

Above contents are contained in Circular No. 24/2012/TT-BTC dated 17 February 2012 of the Ministry of Finance amending and supplementing Circular No. 77/2008/TT-BTC dated 15 September 2008 providing guidelines for the implementation of several measures to handle outstanding tax debts (Circular 24).

Accordingly, Circular 24 amends and supplements Points 1b, 1c, 2b and 2c of Section II of Circular No.77/2008/TT-BTC dated 15 September 2008 providing guidelines for the implementation of several measures to handle outstanding tax debts. Details are as follows:

- (i) Dossier of request for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties applicable to overdue payment thereof shall be prepared by enterprises and one set of this dossier shall be submitted to the customs department where customs procedures are performed, which comprises:
 - (a) An official letter of enterprise requesting for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties applicable to overdue payment thereof, which clearly states the reason for such exemption and the amount of tax pursued;
 - (b) The declaration for the export and import goods subject to tax pursuit;
 - (c) The customs office's first-time notice of tax;
 - (d) The receipt of tax payment according to the customs office's first-time notice of tax;
 - (e) The customs office's decision on or notice of tax pursuit;
 - (f) The receipt of the payment of pursued tax according to the decision on or notice of tax pursuit (in case where the pursued tax has been paid, but the penalties applicable to overdue payment of tax are not yet paid);
 - (g) The decision on penalties applicable to overdue payment of pursued tax;
 - (h) The commercial contract;
 - (i) The commercial invoice, bill of lading;

(j) The assessment certificate of the assessment agency (if any).

One set of all above-mentioned papers must be lodged. The enterprise's written request for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties applicable to overdue payment thereof must be original, while other documents must be true copies certified by the authorized representative of the enterprise and sealed with enterprise stamp.

- (ii) Order of, and procedures and authority for handling requests for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties applicable to overdue payment thereof:
 - (a) If the dossier is incomplete: within 3 working days as from the date of receiving the dossier, the local Customs Department must notify the enterprise in writing of contents to be amended or supplemented, return the dossier, and request the enterprise to make the amendment and supplement thereto as stipulated.
 - (b) In case where the dossier is proper, the process shall be as follows:
 - If the dossier satisfies all conditions for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties, within 10 working days from the date for receiving proper dossier as stipulated, the local Customs Department shall send an official letter reporting and stating its proposals on handling the case together with the enterprise's dossier to the General Department of Customs. Contents of such an official letter shall indicate: subjective and objective causes (as mentioned above), circumstances and factors leading to the wrong calculation (or notification) of the payable tax amount resulting in the tax pursuit; the tax amount according to the first-time notice; the pursued tax amount; and the tax amount and amount of monetary fines requested for exemption as stipulated.
 - If the dossier does not satisfy conditions for exemption from tax pursuit and penalties as stipulated, within 10 working days from the date of receiving the proper dossier, the local Customs Department shall issue a written reply and request taxpayer to fully pay the pursued tax amount and the monetary fines applicable to overdue payment thereof according to regulations.

On the basis of the dossier and the report sent by provincial Customs Departments, the General Department of Customs shall examine and submit them to the Ministry of Finance, which shall make the decision on exempting enterprises from tax pursuit and related penalties.

Circular 24 concurrently provides for dossier of request for remission of tax debts and penalties to be prepared and submitted by enterprises to customs offices where customs procedures have been carried out; order, procedures and authority of local Customs Department for remission of tax debts and penalties.

Circular 24 shall take effect as from 15 April 2012, and replaces previous guidelines contrary to this Circular.

4. Conditions for discount of valuable papers by credit institutions and branches of foreign banks

This is contents contained in Circular No. 01/2012/TT-NHNN dated 16 February 2012 of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) on the discount of valuable papers of the SBV by credit institutions and branches of foreign banks ("Circlar 01").

Accordingly, Circular 01 stipulates the practice of discount of valuable papers of SBV with respect to:

- (i) Banks, non-banking credit institutions and branches of foreign banks; and
- (ii) Central People's Credit Fund during the period of pending transformation into the Cooperative Bank in accordance with the Law on Credit Institutions.

Methods of practicing the discount comprise:

- (i) Direct transaction: Credit institutions and branches of foreign banks directly transact with the SBV.
- (ii) Indirect transaction: Credit institutions and branches of foreign banks transact with the SBV through the online trading system for money market under the guidance of the SBV.

For the purpose of confidentiality regime, the SBV shall grant codes, passwords, and electronic signature codes to transaction staffs of credit institutions and branches of foreign banks, inspectors and staff authorized to execute transaction documents via online trading system for money market of the SBV.

Transaction date in the discount is business day. In case of mature date of the discount coincides with a public holiday, the mature date of the discount will be the next business day.

A list of valuable papers eligible for discount shall be stipulated by the SBV's Governor from time to time. The valuable papers, which are eligible for discount by the SBV, must meet the following criteria:

- (i) Being denominated in Vietnamese Dong (VND);
- (ii) Being transferable;
- (iii) Being under lawful ownership of credit institutions or branches of foreign banks requesting for the discount;
- (iv) Not being valuable papers issued by the credit institutions and branches of foreign banks requesting for the discount;
- (v) The maximum residual period is 91 days for the case of discount of the valuable papers for the whole residual period of such papers;

(vi) The residual period of valuable papers must be longer than the discount period required by the SBV with regard to term discount.

Credit institutions and branches of foreign banks entering into discount transactions must meet the following conditions:

- (i) Being credit institutions not under special control;
- (ii) Having no overdue debts to SBV at the time of proposing the discount;
- (iii) Having deposit account opened at the SBV (the Transaction Office or branches of the SBV) in provinces and central run cities (hereafter authorised SBV's branches) conducting the discount;
- (iv) Having proposal dossier informing discount limit of valuable papers deposited at the SBV in due course under Article 9.3 of Circular 01;
- (v) Having valuable papers eligible and within the list of valuable papers eligible for discount by the SBV; and
- (vi) In case of indirect transaction, credit instituations and branches of foreign banks must be equiped with sufficient information technology facilities and equipment, lines and connections with sever system of the SBV (the Transaction Office or Informatic Technology Department).

Circular 01 also provides for notice of discount limit; Authority for signing documents related to the participation in discount practice; the department of the SBV conducting the discount practice; transaction representatives of credit institutions and branches of foreign branches; order of discount practice; deliver and return of discounted valuable papers; discount reject cases; formula for determination of payable amount when discounting valuable papers of credit institutions and branches of foreign banks; dealing with related contraventions; responsibilities of credit institutions, branches of foreign banks and other related departments of the SBV.

Circular 01 takes effect as from 31 March 2012 and replaces:

- (i) Decision No. 898/2003/QD-NHNN dated 12 August 2003 of the State Bank of Vietnam promulgating the Regulation on the discount and rediscount operation of the State Bank of Vietnam with respect to banks;
- (ii) Decision No. 12/2008/QD-NHNN dated 29 April 2008 of the State Bank of Vietnam on the amendment of a number of articles of the Regulation on the discount and rediscount of valuable papers of the State Bank with respect to banks, accompanied by Decision No. 898/2003/QD-NHNN dated 12 August 12 2003; and
- (iii) Article 1 of Circular No. 26/2011/TT-NHNN dated 31 August 2011 of the State Bank of Vietnam implementing the scheme of administrative procedure simplification in the field of monetary activities according to the Resolutions of the Government.

Other Sectors

Finance - Banking

- On 21 February 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Decision No. 354/QD-BTC corecting Circular No. 04/2012/TT-BTC of the Ministry of Finance.
- Decision No. 219/QD-NHNN dated 9 February 2012 of the State Bank of Vietnam approving the planning on development of human resources in banking sector for the period from 2011 to 2020.
- On 8 February 2012, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 16/2012/TT-BTC providing for the printing, issuance, management and use of invoices for selling the goods of national reserves.
- Circular No. 12/2012/TT-BTC dated 6 February 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the criteria to determine the public non-business professional units eligible for the valuation of properties by the State with a view to be assigned to the units' management according to the mechanism on allocation of capital to enterprises.

Securities

- On 1 March 2012, the Prime Minister stipulated Decision No. 252/QD-TTg approving the strategy on development of Vietnam's stock markets for the period from 2011 to 2020.
- Circular No. 17/2012/TT-BTC dated 8 February 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the issuance of Government bonds in the domestic market.

Taxation

- On 4 February 2012, the Hanoi Taxation Department issued Decision No.1618/QD-CT-TCCB promulgating the process of implementing the receipt and settlement of tax administrative procedures in One-Stop Shop under the Hanoi Taxation Department's Office.
- Circular No. 25/2012/TT-BTC dated 21 February 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the implementation of preferential import rates applicable to commodities under the heading 2710 in the Preferential Import Tariff.
- On 4 February 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No. 11/2012/TT-BTC providing guidelines for exemptions from export taxes applicable to goods being construction materials, which are taken from the domestic market to non-

tariff zones for construction, repair or maintenance of technical infrastructures and common social infrastructures in the non-tariff zones.

Labour

- Decision No. 224/QD-LDTBXH dated 27 February 2012 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs promulgating the work program in the field of labour, people with meritorious services to the Revolution and society in 2012.
- On 8 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 169/QD-TTg assigning the estimation of collections and expenditures of Social Insurance of Vietnam in 2012.
- Circular No. 04/2012/TT-BLDTBXH dated 16 February 2012 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs promulgating the National Technical Regulation on Industrial Safety Helmets.

Education

- On 15 February 2012, the Ministry of Education and Training stipulated Circular No. 05/2012/TT-BGDDT on the amendment and supplement to a number of articles of the Regulation on training at doctor degree level, accompanied by Circular No. 10/2009/TT-BGDDT dated 7 May 2009 of the Minister of the Education and Training.
- Circular No. 04/2012/TT-BGDDT dated 15 February 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training promulgating the list of education and training at level IV applicable to master and doctor degrees.

Health

- On 22 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No.226/QD-TTg approving national strategy on nutrition for the period from 2011 to 2020 with orientation to 2030.
- Decision No. 170/QD-TTg dated 8 February 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the master plan on treatment systems for harmful medical solid wastes up to 2025.
- On 2 February 2012, the Ministry of Health stipulated Circular No. 03/2012/TT-BYT providing guidelines for the test of drugs on clinic.

Transport

 Decision No. 194/QD-TTg dated 15 February 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the detailed planning of Ho Chi Minh roads.

- On 10 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 11/2012/QD-TTg approving the planning on development of the transport in key economic region of the Mekong Delta up to 2020 with orientation to 2030.
- Decision No. 383/QD-BGTVT dated 27 February 2012 of the Ministry of Transport assigning the task of the owner and project executives with respect to Sub-project on technical support for preparation of project on management of road properties of Vietnam.

Construction

- On 10 February 2012, the Prime Minister stipulated Decision No. 09/2012/QD-TTg amending a number of articles of Decision No.204/2005/QD-TTg dated 15
 August 2005 adjusting and supplementing the subjects and regime of loans for construction of residential houses under the Program on creating the clusters and lines of population and residential housing in the areas regularly flooded in Mekong Delta.
- Decision No. 127/QD-TTg dated 2 February 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the planning on construction of the Southern Phu Yen - Northern Khanh Hoa up to 2025.
- On 2 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 125/QD-TTg approving the master plan on construction of Thanh Thuy border-gate economic zone, Ha Giang Province up to 2030.
- Decision No. 125/QD-BXD dated 13 February 2012 of the Ministry of Construction promulgating the Plan on reviewing the regulations and administrative procedures, which are within the scope of the Ministry of Construction's management function, in 2012.
- On 16 February 2012, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No.23/2012/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the regime on collection, payment and use management of fees for issuance of planning permits.

Science - Technology

- Decision No. 225/QD-TTg dated 22 February 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the Project on "Promotion on productivity and quality operation" under the national Program on "Improvement on productivity and quality of products, goods of enterprises in Vietnam to 2020".
- On 17 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 208/QD-TTg on establishment of the National Steering Committee for International Integration in the fields of education, science and technology.

- Decision No. 583/QD-BCT dated 13 February 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade approving the planning on development of Vietnamese casting sector for the period from 2009 to 2020, with orientation to 2025.
- On 10 February 2012, the Ministry of Science and Technology stipulated Decision No.147/QD-BKHCN approving the List of projects under the program on support to the development of intellectual property with a view to be additionally selected and implemented in two years 2012 and 2013.

Information - Communications

- Decision No. 235/QD-BTTTT dated 9 February 2012 of the Ministry of Information and Communications announcing newly promulgated, amended and supplemented administrative procedures within the scope of the Ministry of Information and Communications's management function.
- On 4 February 2012, the Ministry of Information and Communications issued Decision No. 216/QD-BTTTT announcing the list of legal documents on information and communications, which are no longer valid.

Administration - Judiciary

- Decree No. 10/2012/ND-CP dated 17 February 2012 detailing the implementation of judicial measure of education in communes, wards and towns with respect to juvenile offenders.
- On 17 February 2012, the Government stipulated Decree No. 09/2012/ND-CP providing for the managerial organization and the regimes applicable to residents in the time of waiting for country exit under the Law on Enforcement of Civil Judgments.
- Decree No. 08/2012/ND-CP dated 16 February 2012 promulgating the Working Regulation of the Government.
- On 2 February 2012, the Government issued Decree No. 06/2012/ND-CP on the amendment and supplement to a number of articles of the Decrees on judiciary registry, marriage, family and certification.
- Decree No. 05/2012/ND-CP dated 2 February 2012 amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Decrees on the registration of the secured transactions, legal assistance, lawyers, and legal consultancy.
- On 29 February 2012, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism stipulated Decision No. 702/QD-BVHTTDL promulgating this Ministry's operation plan on controlling administrative procedures in 2012.

- Decision No.288/QD-BTP dated 24 February 2012 of the Ministry of Justice promulgating the Regulation on the activities of the Interdisciplinary Working Group on the issue of marriage between Vietnamese citizens and foreigners.
- On 17 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 207/QD-TTg assigning the agencies in charge of drafting bills and ordinances under law and ordinance-making program of the National Assembly, Session XIII.
- Decision No. 02/2012/QD-UBND dated 3 February 2012 of the People's Committee of Hanoi providing for the position, functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Department of Home Affairs of Hanoi.
- On 24 February 2012, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs jointly stipulated Inter-ministerial Circular No.27/2012/TTLT-BTC-BLDTBXH providing for the management and use of expenditures for implementing the regime on application measures of consignment to healing camps, and the regime on contribution and exemption, reduction and support with respect to subjects in the healing camps and in organizations, which held drug detoxification in family and in community.
- Inter-ministerial Circular No. 02/2012/TTLT-BCA-BQP-BTP-BGDDT dated 6
 February 2012 of the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Defence, the
 Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Education and Training providing
 guidelines for the organization of cultural teaching; legal education; civic
 education; popularization of news, information and policies; and implementation
 of living modes and entertainment for the offenders.

Agriculture

- On 13 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 188/QD-TTg approving the Program on protection and development of aquatic products up to 2020.
- Decision No. 124/QD-TTg dated 2 February 2012 of the Prime Minister approving the master plan on development of agricultural production up to 2020 with orientation to 2030.
- On 22 February 2012, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Circular No. 10/2012/TT-BNNPTNT promulgating the List of plant protection products allowed to be used, limited to be used, or prohibited from use in Vietnam.
- Circular No. 09/2012/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15 February 2012 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development promulgating the "additional list of plant varieties allowed to be produced or traded in Vietnam".

Forestry

- On 8 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 07/2012/QD-TTg promulgating a number of policies on strengthening forest protection.
- Decision No. 126/QD-TTg dated 2 February 2012 of the Prime Minister on the pilot share of interests in management, protection and sustainable development of special-use forests.

Miscellaneous

- On 9 February 2012, the Government stipulated Decree No. 07/2012/ND-CP providing for the agencies assigned to implement the specialized inspection functions and specialized inspection activities.
- Decision No. 193/QD-TTg dated 15 February 2012 of the Prime Minister on strategy on development of insurance market in Vietnam for the period from 2011 to 2020.
- On 10 February 2012, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 10/2012/QD-TTg amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Regulation on visa exemption for Vietnamese residing overseas, accompanied by Decision No.135/2007/QD-TTg dated 17 August 2007 of the Prime Minister.
- Circular No. 04/2012/TT-BCT dated 13 February 2012 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade providing for the classification and labelling of chemicals.
- On 9 February 2012, the Ministry of Planning and Investment stipulated Circular No. 01/2012/TT-BKHDT providing guidelines for the determination of costs of establishment, assessment and announcement of the master plan on socioeconomic development; planning on development of primary sectors, fields and products.
- Circular No. 15/2012/TT-BTC dated 8 February 2012 of the Ministry of Finance issuing the standard form of declaration for export and import goods.

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