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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LAW

New important points of Law on Science and Technology 2013

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Law on Science and Technology No. 21/2000/QH10 ("S&T Law 2000"), after more than 10 years of implementation, has revealed many limitations and shortcomings in comparison with demands for strengthening research and application of sciences and technologies ("S&T"), has not completely met requirements of the actual situation of socio-economic development and international integration. In order to remedy those shortcomings and legislate for S&T with clearer and more practical regulations, on 18 June 2013, in the 5th Session, Legislature XII, the National Assembly adopted the amended Law on Science and Technology ("S&T Law 2013").

On the basis of the S&T Law 2000, S&T Law 2013 includes 80 articles, divided into 08 chapters, which repealed 17 over 59 articles, amended 42 over 59 articles and supplemented 38 new articles. Within the scope of this article, we would like to introduce 11 new points of the S&T Law 2013, which may be considered as significant, comprising:

- 1. Definition of "Technology": was amended to be "solutions, processes and technical know-how attached to or not attached to tools and means to transform power sources into products" in order to be correct and consistent with provisions of Law on Technology Transfer 2006.
- 2. Authority to determine the S&T tasks: S&T Law 2013 supplements provisions under which bodies, organizations and individuals are entitled to determine the S&T tasks for S&T organizations that they established in compliance with the laws, in order to ensure the fairness and non-discrimination between a public S&T organization and a non-public S&T organization.
- 3. Rights of domestic S&T organizations: S&T Law 2013 also expands provisions on rights of S&T organizations to establish S&T enterprise(s) directly under its authority, representative office(s) and branch(es) in foreign country/countries; of research and development organizations, and S&T service organizations established by S&T organizations to be partly or wholly converted into S&T enterprises; and of public S&T organizations operating under autonomy and self-responsibility mechanisms, and being entitled to business registration in order to ensure their actual suitability and the legislation on autonomy and self-responsibility mechanisms applicable to S&T organizations and S&T enterprises as stipulated in relevant legal documents (e.g. Decree No. 115/2005/ND-CP and Decree No. 80/2007/ND-CP).
- 4. S&T organizations with foreign capital, representative offices and branches of foreign S&T organizations in Vietnam: S&T Law 2013 provides detailed provisions in order to legislate provisions of current laws on investment co-

operation with foreign countries in the field of S&T (e.g. Decree No. 80/2010/ND-CP), and simultaneously to better suit the actuality of international integration in S&T domain, to create a legal basis for managing activities of the S&T organizations with foreign capital, representative offices and branches of foreign S&T organizations which have actually operated in Vietnam.

- 5. Incentives reserved for S&T enterprises: In general, S&T Law 2013 has legislated provisions on incentives reserved for S&T enterprises as stipulated in Decree No. 80/2007/ND-CP and repealed conditions according to which S&T enterprises are entitled to the regime of exemption and reduction of corporate income tax as enterprises investing in high-tech zones, which shall be calculated from generation of initial taxable income, with respect to revenues from S&T activities. On the other hand, according to S&T Law 2013, although the foresaid enterprises are still given priority in lease of land and infrastructures in the industrial zones, export processing zones, economic zones and high-tech zones, but they are no longer entitled to the lowest price as prescribed.
- 6. S&T tasks: S&T Law 2013 supplements provisions on definitions; grounds for determination; authority to make decisions; order of and procedures for determination; responsibilities of bodies and organizations proposing and ordering for implementation; organizational forms; and implementation methods of S&T tasks; in order to ensure orientation of bodies, organizations and individuals in determination of S&T tasks, closely binding S&T tasks, especially those funded by the State budget, to the objectives and requirements of socio-economic development; creates a legal basis to encourage and facilitate the S&T organizations to associate with enterprises in determination and implementation of S&T tasks serving business and productions as well as requirements on innovation; and improvement of technology level, capacity and competitiveness of products and goods.
- 7. S&T contract: S&T Law 2013 adds word "order" to "contract on *order* for science research and technology development" in order to more clearly express the type of civil contract with special features in the field of S&T; and at the same time, further details S&T contracts in order to clarify the principle of commitment, form, main contents, and rights and obligations of the parties as well as dispute settlement mechanism in S&T contract.
- 8. Policies on taxes and credit: S&T Law 2013 supplements provisions according to which, apart from corporate income tax under S&T Law 2000, technology scientist will not be subject to personal income tax imposed on those generated from their implementation of contracts on scientific research and technological development; Database imported to be directly used in the activities of scientific research and technological development are also not subject to import tax and value-added tax; Products made from high-tech, other S&T services, and imported high technologies are entitled to tax incentives as prescribed by the laws; and S&T enterprises, high-tech enterprises, and enterprises implementing projects on high-tech application, high-tech research and development, high-tech creation, creation of high-tech

enterprises are entitled to the highest level of tax incentives as prescribed by the current laws. Organizations and individuals that have demands for borrowing to implement S&T programs, schemes and projects may be considered by competent authorities to grant guarantees for loans at credit institutions.

- 9. Costs of S&T activities: In order to encourage organizations and individuals to invest in S&T-related activities, S&T Law 2013 stipulates that the following expenditures shall be counted to reasonable expenses: (i) Expenditures for investing in construction of material and technical infrastructures serving scientific research and technological development, (ii) Expenditures for sponsoring training and re-training S&T manpower domestically or overseas, and (iii) Expenditures for organizations and individuals' investment and sponsorship to build and develop S&T market.
- 10. Funds in the field of S&T: Apart from clearer provisions on the establishment, operational purposes and capital sources of the National Fund for S&T Development, the S&T Law 2013 supplements the right of organizations and individuals to propose S&T tasks for sponsoring by other funds (such as the National Fund for Technology Innovation stipulated in Law on Technology Transfer 2006, the National Fund for High-tech Venture Investment stipulated in Law on High-tech 2008) in order to be consistent with practices and prevailing laws.
- 11. S&T market: On the basis of five policies and measures as stipulated in S&T Law 2000, S&T Law 2013 gives eleven measures, which should be taken to promote the development of S&T market, and two duties of investment in building and developing S&T market, in order to affirm the role and responsibility of the State in building and developing S&T market; and at the same time, to encourage organizations and individuals to invest in building and developing S&T market.

With the above-mentioned new points, S&T Law 2013 continues to confirm that S&T development is the foremost national policy of Vietnam; creates synchronised mechanisms and policies as well as favourable and equal legal corridor and environment for the development of activities in the field of S&T in order to promote the industrialization and modernization of the country.

Other Sectors

Finance

- On 28 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Decision No. 1534/QD-BTC approving the development orientation of the finance industry's electronic information portal up to 2020.
- Circular No. 90/2013/TT-BTC dated 28 June 2013 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines on the State budget estimate for year 2014.
- On 28 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 89/2013/TT-BTC amending and supplementing Circular No. 228/2009/TT-BTC dated 7 December 2009 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the appropriation and use of reserves for devaluation of stocks, losses of financial investments, bad receivable debts, and warranty for products, goods and construction works at enterprises.

Banking

- Decree No. 68/2013/ND-CP dated 28 June 2013 detailing and providing guidelines for the implementation of Law on Deposit Insurance.
- On 27 June 2013, the State Bank of Vietnam stipulated Circular No. 16/2013/TT-NHNN providing for the maximum interest rate applicable to short-term loans in VND provided by the credit institutions and foreign bank's branches to their customers to satisfy demands for fund serving a number of economic sectors and branches.
- Circular No. 15/2013/TT-NHNN dated 27 June 2013 of the State Bank of Vietnam providing for the maximum interest rate applicable to deposits in VND of organizations and individuals at credit institutions and foreign bank's branches.
- On 27 June 2013, the State Bank of Vietnam issued Circular No. 14/2013/TT-NHNN providing for the maximum interest rates applicable to deposits in US Dollar of organizations and individuals at credit institutions and foreign bank's branches.
- Circular No. 02/2013/TT-BTM dated 24 June 2013 of the Committee for Ethnic Minorities providing guidelines for the implementation of a number of articles of Decision No. 54/2012/QD-TTg dated 4 December 2012 of the Prime Minister promulgating the Policy on lending for the purpose of production development with respect to ethnic minority households in especially difficult situation for the period from 2012 to 2015.
- On 11 June 2013, the State Bank of Vietnam stipulated Circular No. 13/2013/TT-NHNN amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular

No.23/2010/TT-NHNN dated 9 November 2010 of the State Bank's Governor on the management, operation and use of Inter-bank electronic payment system.

 Circular No. 77/2013/TT-BTC dated 4 June 2013 of the Ministry of Finance providing for the loan interest rates applicable to investment credits and export credits of the State and the difference of the interest rates calculated as postinvestment support.

Securities

- On 28 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 87/2013/TT-BTC providing guidelines for e-transactions on the securities market.
- Circular No. 83/2013/TT-BTC dated 25 June 2013 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the implementation of Decision No. 64/QD-TTg dated 7 January 2013 of the Prime Minister on the charge ratio enjoyed by equitized credit institutions when recovering the off balance sheet debt items to be retained.

Taxation

- On 19 June 2013, the National Assembly adopted Law No. 32/2013/QH13 amending and supplementing a number of articles of Law on Corporate income tax.
- Law No. 31/2013/QH13 passed by the National Assembly on 19 June 2013 amending and supplementing a number of articles of Law on Value-added tax.
- On 27 June 2013, the Government stipulated Decree No. 65/2013/ND-CP detailing a number of articles of Law on Personal income tax and Law amending and suppermenting a number of articles of Law on Personal income tax.
- Decision No. 3695/QD-BCT dated 6 June 2013 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade on the supplement to the list of machinery, equipment, supplies and materials that can be produced domestically.
- On 26 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 85/2013/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the allocation, management and use of badges, insignia, uniforms and sign of Tax branch.
- Circular No. 81/2013/TT-BTC dated 19 June 2013 of the Ministry of Finance on the amendment and supplement to Circular No. 201/2012/TT-BTC dated 16 November 2012 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for tax policy applicable to unprocessed agricultural products enjoying Vietnam's support to the investment and cultivation in Cambodia and being imported into Vietnam.
- On 7 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No. 79/2013/TT-BTC amending the preferential import tax rates applicable to a number of items under heading 17.02 in the Preferential Import Tariff.

Trade

- Decree No. 67/2013/ND-CP dated 27 June 2013 detailing a number of articles and implementation measures of the Law on Prevention of Tobacco Harm with respect to tobacco business.
- On 25 June 2013, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Decision No.4268/QD-BCT promulgating the Regulations on presentation formalities and techniques and templates of text document types of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- Decision No. 4267/QD-BCT dated 25 June 2013 of the Industry and Trade promulgating the Regulation on receiving, handling, issuing and managing documents of the agencies under the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- On 17 June 2013, the General Department of Vietnam Customs stipulated Decision No. 2048/QD-TCHQ on the amendment and supplement to the Framework of Quality management system in accordance with Vietnamese standard No. ISO 9001:2008, accompanying Decision No. 2495/QD-TCHQ dated 18 November 2011.
- Decision No. 3932/QD-BCT dated 14 June 2013 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade promulgating the list of legal documents issued and jointly issued by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, which are no longer valid.
- On 4 June 2013, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Decision No.3624/QD-BCT announcing newly-issued administrative procedures and cancelled or repealed administrative procedures in the field of food safety under management scope and functions of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- Decision No. 3623/QD-BCT dated 4 June 2013 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade announcing newly-issued administrative procedures; amended, supplemented or replaced administrative procedures; and cancelled or repealed administrative procedures within the scope of management function of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- On 28 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No. 88/2013/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the pilot implementation of custom procedures for the export and import activities of gasoline and oils, materials for gasoline and oils mixing and production; activities of mixing, producing and transforming gasoline and oils at Van Phong gasoline and oil bonded warehouse.
- Circular No. 86/2013/TT-BTC dated 27 June 2013 of the Ministry of Finance providing for the application of the priority regime in the field of State management on customs with respect to eligible enterprises.
- On 25 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the Ministry of Transport jointly issued Inter-ministerial Circular No.84/2013/TTLT-BTC-BCT-BGTVT providing guidelines for the

implementation of Decision No. 48/2011/QD-TT dated 31 August 2011 of the Prime Minister on the pilot implementation of a national one-stop customs mechanism.

- Circular No. 12/2013/TT-BCT dated 20 June 2013 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade regulating the procedures for notification, registration and information publication relating to e-commerce websites.
- On 20 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No. 82/2013/TT-BTC providing for the fee rates applicable to import, export and storage of Trinitrotoluen explosives (TNT) under national reserve managed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.
- Circular No. 11/2013/TT-BCT dated 18 June 2013 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade issuing the National technical regulation on design requirements of filling stations.

Education

- On 26 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 37/2013/QD-TTg on the adjustment of planning for the network of universities and colleges for the period from 2006 to 2020.
- Decision No. 22/2013/QD-UBND dated 25 June 2013 of the People's Committee of Hanoi promulgating the Regulations on additional teaching and additional learning in the area of Hanoi.
- On 24 June 2013, the People's Committee of Hanoi stipulated Decision No.21/2013/QD-UBND promulgating the Regulations on supplement to the advanced teaching program in addition to program on preschool education and general education to be applicable to high quality preschool education and general education establishments.
- Decision No. 854/QD-BLDTBXH dated 6 June 2013 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs approving key professions and school entitled to choose key professions for the period from 2011 to 2015 and orientation up to 2020.
- On 28 June 2013, the Ministry of Education and Training issued Circular No.23/2013/TT-BGDDT providing for the organization of fostering, examining, testing and issuing licenses for the professional fostering certificate of overseas study consultancy.
- Inter-ministerial Circular No. 01/2013/TTLT-BGDDT-BYT dated 18 June 2013 of the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Health providing for the evaluation of health work in preschool educational establishments.
- On 6 June 2013, the Ministry of Education and Training stipulated Circular No.20/2013/TT-BGDDT promulgating the Regulations on fostering professional

qualification and skills for lecturers of university education institutions.

Labour

- Decree No. 66/2013/ND-CP dated 27 June 2013 providing for the basic wage level for cadres, public officials and servants, and armed forces.
- On 19 June 2013, the Government issued Decree No. 60/2013/ND-CP detailing Clause 3, Article 63 of the Labour Code on the implementation of grass-roots democracy regulation at working places.
- Decision No. 948/QD-LDTBXH dated 25 June 2013 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Department of Workplace Safety.
- On 25 June 2013, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs stipulated Decision No. 947/QD-LDTBXH providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Department of Legal Affairs.
- Decision No. 958/QD-LDTBXH dated 25 June 2013 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs allowing to use 8 sets of profession training program for 8 key professions at ASEAN regional and international levels, which were transferred from Malaysia in order to be applied for pilot training organization in 2013.
- On 17 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 934/QD-TTg on the execution of the Agreement on Labour co-operation between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Laos.
- Decision No. 612/QD-BHXH dated 5 June 2013 of the Vietnam Social Insurance promulgating the regulation on protection of State secrets in the social insurance branch in Vietnam.
- On 11 June 2013, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs stipulated Circular No. 11/2013/TT-BLDTBXH promulgating the List of light works permitted to use labourers under 15 years old to work.
- Inter-ministerial Circular No. 09/2013/TTLT-BLDTBXH-BNV dated 10 June 2013 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs providing guidelines for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Centre for provision of public social work services.
- On 10 June 2013, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs issued Circular No. 10/2013/TT-BLDTBXH promulgating the List of works and working places prohibited from using labourers who are minor.
- Circular No. 08/2013/TT-BLDTBXH dated 10 June 2013 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs providing guidelines for Decree

No.46/2013/ND-CP dated 10 May 2013 detailing the implementation of a number of articles of the Labour Code with respect to labour disputes.

Health

- On 21 June 2013, the Ministry of Health stipulated Decision No. 2174/QD-BYT approving the National action plan on combating drug resistance for the period from 2013 to 2020.
- Decision No. 932/QD-TTg dated 17 June 2013 of the Prime Minister approving the Agreement on co-operation in health and medicine science between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the United States of America.
- On 10 June 2013, the Ministry of Health issued Decision No. 1988/QD-BYT supplementing the flu A (H7N9) infectious disease to the list of group A infectious diseases under the Law on Prevention and control of infectious diseases.
- Decision No. 1962/QD-BYT dated 6 June 2013 of the Ministry of Health approving the National action plan on nutrition up to 2015.
- On 6 June 2013, the Ministry of Health stipulated Decision No. 1950/QD-BYT approving "Plan of development and use of flu vaccine for the period from 2013 to 2020, with orientation to 2030".
- Inter-ministerial Circular No. 22/2013/TTLT-BGDDT-BYT dated 18 June 2013 of the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Health providing for the evaluation of health work in preschool educational establishments.
- On 6 June 2013, the Ministry of Health issued Circular No. 17/2013/TT-BYT providing the criteria and guidelines for testing and recognizing the exclusion of leprosy disease at the provincial and district levels.

Transport

- Consolidated legal document No. 01/VBHN-BGTVT dated 2 June 2013 of the Ministry of Transport on registration of aircraft nationality and of the rights regarding civil aircraft.
- On 26 June 2013, the Ministry of Transport stipulated Decision No. 1776/QD-BGTVT adjusting the Plan of the maintenance of maritime infrastructure in 2013 accompanying Decision No. 163/QD-BGTVT dated 17 January 2013.
- Decision No. 1526/QD-BGTVT dated 5 June 2013 of the Ministry of Transport approving the master project on the control of vehicles' capacities on land roads.

Natural Resources - Environment

- On 3 June 2013, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Decision No.3584/QD-BCT supplementing the zoning planning for the exploration, exploitation, processing and use of raw minerals group of white limestone (marble), felspat, kaolin and magnezit up to 2015, with consideration to 2025.
- Circular No. 17/2013/TT-BTNMT dated 21 June 2013 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment providing for the techniques for mapping of underground water resources at 1:200,000 scale.
- On 21 June 2013, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment stipulated Circular No. 16/2013/TT-BTNMT providing for the techniques for mapping of underground water resources at 1:100,000 scale.
- Circular No. 15/2013/TT-BTNMT dated 21 June 2013 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment providing for the techniques for mapping of underground water resources at 1:50,000 scale.
- On 21 June 2013, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment issued Circular No. 14/2013/TT-BTNMT providing for the Technical process and economic-technical criteria for design and construction of the model of community-based biodiversity conservation in coastal wetland ecosystem.
- Circular No. 13/2013/TT-BTNMT dated 21 June 2013 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment providing for the Technical process and economictechnical criteria for the detection of genetically-modified organisms by the method of deoxyribonucleic acid quantitative and qualitative analysis.
- On 5 June 2013, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment stipulated Circular No. 12/2013/TT-BTNMT providing for the delivery and submission, collection and receipt, storage, preservation and provision of data on geology and minerals.
- Circular No. 29/2013/TT-BNNPTNT dated 4 June 2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development providing for the establishment and management of marine conservation zones at provincial level.

Construction

- On 25 June 2013, the Government issued Decree No. 62/2013/ND-CP providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Construction.
- Decision No. 3457/QD-UBND dated 28 June 2013 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City approving the Regulation on management of space and urban landscape architecture of the present downtown in Ho Chi Minh City (930 ha).
- On 28 June 2013, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City stipulated Decision No. 21/2013/QD-UBND detailing a number of contents on the grant of

construction permits in the area of Ho Chi Minh City.

- Decision No. 19/2013/QD-UBND dated 24 June 2013 of the People's Committee of Hanoi promulgating the Regulation on management and use of funds to maintain condominium buildings in the area of Hanoi.
- On 21 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 980/QD-TTg approving the Planning for construction of Northern midland and mountainous region up to 2030.
- Decision No. 3796/QD-UBND dated 20 June 2013 of the People's Committee of Hanoi announcing the amended, supplemented, newly-issued and repealed administrative procedures under settlement jurisdiction of the Hanoi Department of Construction.
- On 10 June 2013, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City stipulated Decision No. 19/2013/QD-UBND repealing Decision No. 133/2007/QD-UBND dated 23 November 2007 of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City on the pilot establishment of the Construction Inspectorate of district and Construction Inspectorate of ward/commune/ town in Ho Chi Minh City.

Land

- Resolution No. 49/2013/QH13 dated 21 June 2013 of the National Assembly on extending the use term of land for cultivation of annual crops, aquaculture land, salt-making land of households and individuals.
- On 13 June 2013, the People's Committee of Hanoi City issued Decision No.18/2013/QD-UBND on the collection, payment, management and use of proceeds from the auction of land use rights in order to allocate land with the collection of land use levy or lease of land in the area of Hanoi.
- Decision No. 17/2013/QD-UBND dated 10 June 2013 of the People's Committee of Hanoi on the adjustment of and supplement to the price list of types of land accompanying 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 the year 2013.

Information - Communications

- On 24 June 2013, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City stipulated Decision No. 3326/QD-UBND approving the "Program on application of information technology in education and training branch in Ho Chi Minh City for the period from 2013 to 2015".
- Decision No. 2035/QD-BYT dated 12 June 2013 of the Ministry of Health announcing the Technical list of information technology application in the field of health.

- On 4 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 34/2013/QD-TTg promulgating the Policies on popularizing the State statistical information.
- Circular No. 14/2013/TT-BTTTT dated 21 June 2013 of the Ministry of Information and Communications providing guidelines for the preparation, approval and implementation organization of the planning for passive telecommunications technical infrastructure in localities.
- On 14 June 2013, the Ministry of Information and Communications stipulated Circular No. 13/2013/TT-BTTTT on planning for distribution of frequency channels to professional activities of fixed and terrestrial mobile telephony with frequency band (30-30 000) MHz.

Administration - Judiciary

- Law No. 36/2013/QH13 on the amendment and supplement to a number of articles of Law on Residence passed by the National Assembly on 20 June 2013.
- On 20 June 2013, the National Assembly adopted Law of No. 35/2013/QH13 on Conciliation at the Grass-roots level.
- Decree No. 63/2013/ND-CP dated 27 June 2014 detailding the implementation of Ordinance on codification of normative system.
- On 17 June 2013, the Government issued Decree No. 59/2013/ND-CP detailing a number of articles of Law on Anti-corruption.
- Decision No. 1519/QD-BTP dated 20 June 2013 of the Ministry of Justice announcing the newly-issued, amended and supplemented administrative procedures in the field of civil status with foreign elements within the scope of management functions of the Ministry of Justice.
- On 18 June 2013, the Ministry of Justice issued Decision No. 1491/QD-BTP providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Department of Civil status, nationality and authentication.
- Decision No. 1489/QD-BTP dated 18 June 2013 of the Ministry of Justice providingfor the functions, tasks, power and organizational structure of the Department of Judicial affairs support.
- On 12 June 2013, the Prime Minister stipulated Decision No. 921/QD-TTg on the transfer of responsibility for monitoring the situation of issuance of text documents detailing the implementation of laws and ordinances.
- Decision No. 680/QD-BNV dated 11 June 2013 of the Ministry of Home Affairs promulgating the Program on consolidation of legal documents related to sectors under the State management the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- On 8 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 896/QD-TTg approving the Master project on simplification of administrative procedures, citizens' papers and databases related to population management for the period from 2013

to 2020.

- Joint Circular No. 10/2013/TTLT-BTP-BCA-TANDTC-VKSNDTC-BTC dated 26 June 2013 of the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Public Security, the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the application of a number of articles of the Criminal Code on crimes in the field of taxation, finance and securities.
- On 15 June 2013, the Ministry of Justice stipulated Circular No. 09/2013/TT-BTP detailing the implementation of Decree No. 16/2013/ND-CP dated 06 February 2013 of the Government on the review and systemization of legal documents.
- Circular No. 03/2013/TT-TTCP dated 10 June 2013 of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam providing for the regime on reporting on works of inspection, complaint and denunciation settlement, and accusations and anticorruption.

Agriculture - Forestry

- On 27 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 1017/QD-TTg on the approval for and the execution of the "Memorandum of understanding between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on Agricultural goods co-operation".
- Decision No. 20/2013/QD-UBND dated 24 June 2013 of the People's Committee
 of Ho Chi Minh City promulgating the mechanism on support funded by the
 State budget to implement the National target program on construction of new
 countryside in the area of Ho Chi Minh City for the period from 2010 to 2020.
- On 18 June 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Decision No. 1379/QD-BNN-TCLN announcing the surface area of forest in the basin within the boundaries of two or more provinces as the basis for the implementation of the policy on payment for forest-related environmental services.
- Decision No. 899/QD-TTg dated 10 June 2013 of the Prime Minister approving the Project on restructuring the agricultural sector in the orientation of increasing value and sustainable development.
- On 24 June 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued Circular No. 34/2013/TT-BNNPTNT providing guidelines for advisory units; standards, costumes and cards of persons assigned to perform specialized inspection tasks in Agriculture and rural development field.
- Circular No. 32/2013/TT-BNNPTNT dated 14 June 2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development promulgating the National technical Regulation on Quarantine and Plant protection.
- On 12 June 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated

Circular No. 31/2013/TT-BNNPTNT promulgating the National technical regulation on examination and verification of pig breed.

 Circular No. 30/2013/TT-BNNPTN dated 11 June 2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development providing guidelines for formulation of plans for using surface soil and adding the area of specialized land for wet rice cultivation, which is lost due to land use purpose conversion.

Enterprise

- On 20 June 2013, the National Assembly passed Law No. 37/2013/QH13 on the amendment and supplement to Article 170 of Law on Enterprises.
- Decree No. 61/2013/ND-CP dated 25 June 2013 promulgating the regulation on financial supervision and evaluation of operational efficiency, and publication of financial information with respect to the State owned enterprise and enterprise with the State capital.
- On 7 June 2013, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 35/2013/QD-TTg promulgating the Regulation on operation of Supervision Boards' members of one member limited liability companies of which 100% charter capital is held by the State.

Miscellaneous

- Law No. 33/2013/QH13 on Natural Disaster Prevention passed by the National Assembly on 19 June 2013.
- On 20 June 2013, the Government stipulated Resolution No. 80/NQ-CP approving the Protocol amending the Agreement between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Laos on the encouragement and protection of investments.
- Decree No. 64/2013/ND-CP dated 27 June 2013 on sanctioning administrative violations in the activities of science and technology, and transfer of technology.
- On 24 June 2013, the People's Committee of Hanoi issued Decision No.3816/QD-UBND on the identification of associations of particular nature operating in the area of urban or rural districts, towns, wards, communes, and towns of Hanoi.
- Circular No. 78/2013/TT-BTC dated 7 June 2013 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the regime on collection, payment and use management of fees for granting the Certificates of satisfaction of conditions for doing business of the audit services and fee for granting the Certificates on registration of audit practice.
- On 4 June 2013, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 75/2013/TT-BTC detailing the lottery business activities.

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