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Legal news

April 2011

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LAW ON BANKING

Guaranteeing more transparency

By Luu Tien Ngoc

Background

As you all may be aware that the Government of Vietnam just issued Decree No.15/2011/ND-CP, dated February 16, 2011, on issuance and management of Government guaranties (“Decree 15”).

Decree 15 was issued to update regulations on the issuance and management of Government guaranties in the Law on Public Debt Management (which became effective on January 1, 2010), making the issuance and management of Government guaranty clearer and more transparent, and improving the effect of Government guaranty in the new context of the country development. It was stated that Decree 15 would be effective on April 5, 2011, and replace Decision No.272/2006/QĐ-TTg, dated 28 November 2006, of the Prime Minister, on issuance and management of Government guaranties to foreign loans.

To achieve the said objectives, Decree 15 includes a number of new and updated provisions and extends its application scope (not only foreign loans as stated by Decision 272) to local loans, local and foreign bonds issued by local companies (including State-owned companies, local companies and companies with foreign capital). However, in the scope of this article, we do not intend to brief the new and updated provisions of Decree 15, but focus only on one point, from the legal perspective, which may be of interest by:

1. Existing shareholders¹ or equity members² (including foreign shareholders or equity members) in a company, which intends to have guaranties from the Government, via the Ministry of Finance of Vietnam (“MoF”), for its intended loans or issued bonds, during the time they remain shareholders or equity members of the said company; and
2. Potential investors (particularly foreign investors), who intend to buy shares³ or equity capital⁴ in a company, which has already an executed loan or issued bonds with guaranties by the Government of Vietnam (via the MoF).

Further restrictions on transfers by major existing shareholders or equity members

Pursuant to Article 15.3.(b), Decree 15, at the time upon which the MoF considers the issuance of the guaranty, the company (i.e. the guarantee) must undertake that, during the effective time of the Government guaranty:

¹ This is applicable to joint stock companies.

² This is applicable to limited liability companies.

³ This is applicable to joint stock companies.

⁴ This is applicable to limited liability companies.

1. All major shareholders or equity members, each of which individually holds at least five percent (5%) of the total paid-up charter capital, are required to undertake collectively to hold at least sixty five percent (65%) of the total paid-up charter capital of the company, for the entire period of time during which the Government guaranty remains its effect. The company is obliged to register the list of the said major shareholders or equity members with the relevant stock exchanges, in accordance with the guidance from the MoF.
2. In case a major shareholder or equity member in the said list intends to transfer entire or part of its shares or equity capital to any other investors outside the said list, the new investors must satisfy all criteria on financial capabilities, which will be approved by the MoF.
3. In case the company (i.e. the guarantee) issues any additional amount of shares or calls for any additional amount of equity capital, the company is required to register additionally the new investors in order to maintain the undertaking of the said sixty five percent (65%) by all major shareholders or equity members (i.e. each of which individually holds at least five percent (5%) of the paid-up charter capital) of the company.

We understand that the restrictions on the transfers as described above will apply to all major shareholders or equity members (i.e. each of which individually holds at least five percent (5%) of the total paid-up charter capital), including not only local major shareholders or equity members, but also foreign major shareholders or equity members.

If it is the case, and except for the restrictions as applicable to local shareholders or equity members to foreign investors as further described in the next section, the restrictions on the transfers as described in this section will not apply to the transfer by all minor shareholders or equity members (i.e. each of which individually holds lower than five percent (5%) of the total paid-up charter capital).

As a consequent, all minor shareholders or equity members (i.e. each of which individually holds lower than five percent (5%) of the total paid-up charter capital) will be entitled to trade freely their shares or equity capital.

Since the said guidance by the MoF is not available (which as stated in Decree 15, will be issued by the MoF), no body at the moment knows how the registration (with stock exchanges), additional registration (with stock exchanges), and approval (by the MoF) will be made.

We assume that the said registration, additional registration and approval would be for the purpose of monitoring the transfer to be made by the said major shareholders or equity members, during the effective time of the Government guaranty, and for the ultimate benefits of the Government (i.e. the guarantor). However, from the legal perspective, we take the view that:

1. The registration and additional registration would, to some extents, make sense with respect to public companies (particularly listed companies), of which shares are traded on a relevant stock exchanges. However, we cannot imagine how they will work with respect to non-public companies

- (particularly limited liability companies), of which shares or equity capital will be traded outside the stock exchanges.
2. Pursuant to the Law on Enterprises, there is only case where a transfer of shares or equity capital being restricted (e.g. by founding shareholders within the first three (3) years). It means that a shareholder or equity member is entitled to freely sell out entire or a part of its shares or equity capital, without any limitation by the law. In that sense, the restriction by Decree 15 to the transfer of shares or equity capital by major shareholders or equity members, during the effective time of the Government guarantee, should be justified so as to make it being in compliance with the law.

Further restriction and conditions on transfers by all local shareholders or equity members to and purchases by foreign investors

Pursuant to Article 15.3.(a) of Decree 15, at the time upon which the MoF considers the issuance of the guaranty, the company (i.e. the guaranty) must undertake that, during the effective time of the Government guaranty:

1. The company (i.e. the guaranty) will only be permitted (to allow) the transfers, entire or a part of the shares or equity capital, by local shareholders or equity members (i.e. being Vietnamese individuals and/or organizations), to foreign investors, after the company (i.e. the guaranty) has fulfilled the repayment of all debt obligations to the lenders (i.e. the beneficiary), with respect to the outstanding debts, in proportion with the ratio of the shares or equity capital to be transferred.
2. The company (i.e. the guaranty) will be obliged to make a prior written notification to the MoF. Within fifteen (15) business days from the receipt of the notification, the MoF will send its written reply to the company (i.e. the guaranty).

We understood that the restrictions and conditions on the transfers as described above, will apply only to the transfer by local shareholders or equity members to and the purchase by, foreign investors. If it is the case, and except for the restrictions as applicable to major shareholders or equity members (i.e. each of which individually holds at least five percent (5%) of the total paid-up charter capital) as described above, the restrictions and conditions on the transfers as described in this section will not apply to the transfer by minor foreign shareholders or equity members (i.e. each of which individually holds lower than five percent (5%) of the total paid-up charter capital) to other foreign investors.

Since there is no guidance by the MoF in existence, no body, at the moment, knows on which basis the MoF will make its reply to the company (i.e. the guaranty), and it is unclear of what the MoF tends to say, by stating “in proportion with the ratio of the shares or equity capital to be transferred”, when trying to understand the full meaning of Article 15.3.(a).

Exceptional cases as approved by the Prime Minister

We note the exceptional cases as provided by Article 15.3.(c) of Decree 15, that in special cases, the MoF will make a proposal to the Prime Minister for his

consideration and making his decision on waive of the restrictions and conditions as provided by Articles 15.3.(a) and 15.3.(b), as described above.

Conclusion

Having identified some points that may negatively affect the rights and benefits of shareholders, equity members and foreign investors, we strongly believe that the MoF has thoughtfully studied all of those points, and will work out proper solutions and guidelines to early translate Decree 15 into practice, which will balance the legal rights and benefits of all relevant parties in a guaranteed loan/bond transaction, including the Government (i.e. via the MoF, being guarantor), the lenders (i.e. the beneficiary), the company (i.e. the guaranty), and fully respect the legal rights and benefits of shareholders or equity members in the company./.

Other Sectors

Finance

- Decision No. 518/QD-TTg dated April 8th, 2011 of the Prime Minister adjusting the allocation of expenditure estimate to implement the National Target Programs in 2011.
- On April 27th, 2011, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 53/2011/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the standard forms of report and publication of information about national public debts and national foreign debts.
- Circular No. 50/2011/TT-BTC dated April 22nd, 2011 of the Ministry of Finance providing for the regime and standard forms of reporting on the implementation of basic construction investment capital from the State budget.
- On April 21st, 2011, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No. 49/2011/TT-BTC amending and supplementing the Regulation on and process of meeting with citizens, receiving and settling people's complaints and denunciations in the units under the Ministry of Finance, accompanying Decision No.43/2007/QD-BTC dated June 4th, 2007 and Decision No. 122/2008/QD-BTC dated December 25th, 2008 of the Minister of Finance.
- Circular No. 48/2011/TT-BTC dated April 8th, 2011 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the determination of demands, sources and expenditure methods to make the difficulty-lightening subventions to officers, public officials, civil servants, armed forces, pensioners at low retirement pension level, persons receiving preferential subventions, contributed people, and poor households facing difficult lives.

Banking

- On April 9th, 2011, the State Bank of Vietnam issued Decision No. 750/QD-NHNN adjusting the credit institutions' ratio of compulsory reserves in foreign currencies.
- Circular No. 11/2011/TT-NHNN dated April 29th, 2011 of the State Bank of Vietnam providing for the termination of credit institutions' capital mobilization and lending in gold.
- On April 22nd, 2011, the State Bank of Vietnam stipulated Circular No.10/2011/TT-NHNN providing the criteria for selection of the strategic shareholders regarding equitized State-owned commercial banks.
- Circular No. 09/2011/TT-NHNN dated April 9th, 2011 of the State Bank of Vietnam providing for the maximum interest rate applicable to capital

mobilization in U.S. Dollar for the organizations and individuals in the credit institutions.

- Circular No. 08/2011/TT-NHNN dated April 8th, 2011 of the State Bank of Vietnam detailing the credit for rice export business in accordance with Decree No. 109/2010/ND-CP dated November 4th, 2010 of the Government.

Taxation

- On April 6th, 2011, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 21/2011/QD-TTg extending the term for corporate income tax payment of small and medium sized enterprises in order to solve difficulties and contribute to enhancing the economic development in 2011.
- Decision No. 779/QD-BTC dated April 1st, 2011 of the Ministry of Finance on inspecting the observance of laws on prices and taxation regarding a number of essential goods.
- On April 22nd, 2011, the Ministry of Finance stipulated Circular No. 52/2011/TT-BTC providing guidelines for the implementation of Decision No. 21/2011/QD-TTg dated April 6th, 2011 of the Prime Minister extending the term for corporate income tax payment of small and medium sized enterprises in order to unfasten difficulties and contribute to enhancing the economic development in 2011.
- Circular No. 47/2011/TT-BTC dated April 7th, 2011 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for a number of contents on the value-added tax with respect to the electricity production and business activities.
- On April 5th, 2011, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 46/2011/TT-BTC providing for the export tax rate applied to coconut item under code 0801.19.00 in the Export Tariff.

Trade

- Decision No. 24/2011/QD-TTg dated April 15th, 2011 of the Prime Minister adjusting the electricity selling price according to the market mechanism.
- On April 13th, 2011, the General Department of Customs stipulated Decision No.662/QD-TCHQ promulgating the regulations on streamlining and customs inspection with respect to imported and exported goods sent via international air express courier service.
- Circular No. 17/2011/TT-BCT dated April 14th, 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, which are applicable to commodities having origin from a contracting

party and enjoying tariff incentives when being imported directly into the territory of the other contracting party.

- On April 4th, 2011, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 45/2011/TT-BTC providing for the customs procedures regarding goods transported by international multimode.
- Circular No. 44/2011/TT-BTC dated April 1st, 2011 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the work of fighting against counterfeit goods and protection of intellectual property rights in the field of customs.

Labour

- On April 14th, 2011, the Government stipulated Decree No. 28/2011/ND-CP amending and supplementing the list of enterprises, in which strikes are not allowed, accompanying Decree No. 122/2007/ND-CP dated July 27th, 2007 of the Government providing for the list of enterprises in which strikes are not allowed and the settlement of requirements of the labor collectives in such enterprises.
- Decree No. 22/2011/ND-CP dated April 04th, 2011 providing for the common minimum salary level.
- On April 19th, 2011, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 579/QD-TTg approving the development strategy of Vietnamese human resources for the period from 2011 to 2020.
- Circular No. 13/2011/TT-BLDTBXH dated April 27th, 2011 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs providing guidelines for the adjustment in retirement pension, social insurance allowances and monthly allowances under Decree No. 23/2011/ND-CP dated April 4th, 2011 and Decree No. 22/2011/ND-CP dated April 4th, 2011 of the Government.
- On April 26th, 2011, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs stipulated Circular No. 12/2011/TT-BLDTBXH providing guidelines for the implementation of common minimum salary level in State-owned one member limited liability companies.
- Circular No. 11/2011/TT-BLDTBXH dated April 26th, 2011 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs providing for the frame curriculums of vocational secondary and college levels regarding occupations under group of technical and technological occupations.
- On April 26th, 2011, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs issued Circular No. 10/2011/TT-BLDTBXH providing for the frame curriculums of vocational secondary and college levels regarding occupations under occupation groups: Business and Management - Computers and Information Technology - Press and Information - Security and Defence - Humanities.

- Circular No. 09/2011/TT-BLDTBXH dated April 26th, 2011 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs providing for the frame curriculums of vocational secondary and college levels regarding occupations under occupation groups: Production and Processing - Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - Health.
- On April 22nd, 2011, the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs stipulated Circular No. 08/2011/TT-BLDTBXH promulgating the national technical regulations on occupational safety for electric lifts.
- Circular No. 07/2011/TT-BLDTBXH dated April 15th, 2011 of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs providing guidelines for the determination of subjects, allowance rates and the organization of implementing difficult-lightening subsidization in accordance with Decision No. 471/QD-TTg dated March 30th, 2011 of the Prime Minister regarding the difficult subsidization in favour of officers, public officials, civil servants, armed forces, pensioners at low retirement pension level, persons receiving preferential subventions, contributed person and households facing difficult lives.

Health

- On April 19th, 2011, the Ministry of Health issued Circular No. 16/2011/TT-BYT providing guidelines for the principles of pharmaceutical manufacture from medicine materials and the roadmap of applying principles and standards of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) to establishments manufacturing medicines from medicine materials.
- Circular No. 15/2011/TT-BYT dated April 19th, 2011 of the Ministry of Health providing for the organization and operation of medicine retail establishments in hospitals.

Education

- On April 14th, 2011, the Ministry of Education and Training stipulated Circular No. 17/2011/TT-BGDDT promulgating the regulations on standards of headmasters of preschools.
- Circular No. 16/2011/TT-BGDDT dated April 13th, 2011 of the Ministry of Education and Training providing for the supply, management and use of children toys in schools.
- On April 9th, 2011, the Ministry of Education and Training issued Circular No.15/2011/TT-BGDDT amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Regulation on universities and colleges' enrolment in the form of learning combined with working, accompanying Decision No. 62/2008/QD-GDDT dated November 25th, 2008 of the Minister of Education and Training.

- Circular No. 14/2011/TT-BGDDT dated April 8th, 2011 of the Ministry of Education and Training promulgating the regulations on standards of headmasters of elementary schools.

Transport

- On April 9th, 2011, the Government stipulated Decree No. 27/2011/ND-CP on the supply, exploitation, processing and use of information about passengers before entering in Vietnam by air.
- Decision No. 638/QD-TTg dated April 28th, 2011 of the Prime Minister on the directions, tasks and plans for the transport infrastructure structure development of the Mekong Delta up to 2015, with orientation to 2020.
- On April 22nd, 2011, the Ministry of Finance issued Decision No. 916/QD-BTC on the price frame for transport of passengers having economy class tickets regarding exclusive domestic air routes.
- Decision No. 488/QD-TTg dated April 5th, 2011 of the Prime Minister approving the Agreement between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the European Union on a number of specific domains in air transport.
- On April 4th, 2011, the Ministry of Transport stipulated Decision No. 640/QD-BGTVT on the classification of roads to determine the land road transport tariff in 2011.
- Circular No. 34/2011/TT-BGTVT dated April 26th, 2011 of the Ministry of Transport amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Regulations on verification registration of means of inland waterway transport accompanying Decision No. 25/2004/QD-BGTVT dated November 25th, 2004 and Standards, authorities and tasks of verification registration officers registering means of inland waterway transport, accompanying Decision No. 2687/2000/QD-BGTVT dated September 14th, 2000.
- On April 22nd, 2011, the Ministry of Finance issued Circular No. 51/2011/TT-BTC amending and supplementing Circular No. 90/2004/TT-BTC dated September 7th, 2004 of the Ministry of Finance providing guidelines for the collection, payment, management and use regime of land road use fees.
- Circular No. 33/2011/TT-BGTVT dated April 19th, 2011 of the Ministry of Transport providing for the procedures for issuance of technical safety quality and environmental protection certificates to facilities and equipment surveying, exploiting and transporting petroleum and gas by sea.
- On April 19th, 2011, the Ministry of Transport stipulated Circular No.32/2011/TT-BGTVT on amendment and supplement to a number of articles of the Regulations on verification registration of ships in Vietnam, accompanying

Decision No. 51/2005/QD-BGTVT dated October 12th, 2005 of the Minister of Transport.

- Inter-ministerial Circular No. 02/2011/TTLT-BCA-BGTVT dated April 15th, 2011 of the Ministry of Public Security and the Ministry of Transport providing for the organization of study and re-examination of the Road Traffic Law with regard to people who suffer from deprivation of driving licenses or certificates of improving legal knowledge on road traffic.
- On April 15th, 2011, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No. 31/2011/TT-BGTVT providing for the quality inspection of technical safety and environmental protection regarding imported vehicles.
- Circular No. 30/2011/TT-BGTVT dated April 15th, 2011 of the Ministry of Transport providing for the quality inspection of technical safety and environmental protection in vehicles production and assembly.
- On April 15th, 2011, the Ministry of Transport stipulated Circular No.29/2011/TT-BGTVT amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Regulations on the quality inspection of technical safety and environmental protection with respect to imported motorcycles, mopeds and engines used for the manufacture and assembly of motorcycles and mopeds, accompanying Decision No. 57/2007/QD-BGTVT dated November 21st, 2007 of the Minister of Transport and the Regulations on the quality inspection of technical safety and environmental protection in manufacture and assembly of motorcycles and mopeds accompanying Decision No. 58/2007/QD- BGTVT dated November 21st, 2007 of the Minister of Transport.
- Circular No. 28/2011/TT-BGTVT dated April 14th, 2011 of the Ministry of Transport on amendment and supplement to a number of articles of the “Regulations on the issuance of construction permits and implementation of activities in scope of land reserved for railways”, accompanying Decision No.60/2005/QD-BGTVT dated November 30th, 2005, “Charter on crossroads” accompanying Decision No. 15/2006/QD-BGTVT dated March 30th, 2006, “Regulations on the closure and opening of the railway stations” accompanying Decision No. 53/2007/QD-BGTVT dated November 6th, 2007 of the Minister of Transport.
- On April 14th, 2011, the Ministry of Transport issued Circular No. 27/2011/TT-BGTVT applying the amendment and supplement of 2002 to the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea of 1974 accompanying the International Code on Security of Sea Ships and Ports.
- Circular No. 26/2011/TT-BGTVT dated April 13th, 2011 of the Ministry of Transport amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Regulations on registration of means of railway transport accompanying Decision No.55/2005/QD-BGTVT dated October 28th, 2005 of the Minister of Transport.

- On April 9th, 2011, the Ministry of Transport stipulated Circular No. 25/2011/TT-BGTVT regulating the examination and handling of legal documents in the field of transport.
- Circular No. 45/2011/TT-BTC dated April 4th, 2011 of the Ministry of Finance providing for the customs procedures with respect to goods transported by international multimode.

Construction

- On April 5th, 2011, the Government issued Decree No. 24/2011/ND-CP amending a number of articles of Decree No. 108/2009/ND-CP dated November 27th, 2009 on investments in the form of Build - Operate - Transfer Contracts, Build - Transfer - Operate Contracts, and Build - Transfer Contracts.
- Circular No. 03/2011/TT-BXD dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Construction providing guidelines for the activities of verification, inspection, assessment and certification of eligibility to ensure conditions on force bearing safety, and certification of the conformity of the construction works' quality.

Land

- On April 18th, 2011, the Prime Minister stipulated Decision No. 25/2011/QD-TTg on amendment and supplement to a number of points in Clauses 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Article 2 of Decision No. 134/2008/QD-TTg dated October 2nd, 2008 of the Prime Minister providing for the functions, duties, authority and organizational structure of the General Department of Land Management under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Circular No. 13/2011/TT-BTNMT dated April 15th, 2011 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment providing for the symbols of maps of land use actual status in service of land use planning and land use planning maps.

Natural Resources - Environment

- On April 18th, 2011, the Government issued Decree No. 29/2011/ND-CP on strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment, and environmental protection commitment.
- Decision No. 1610/QD-BCT dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade supplementing the zoning plan of exploration, exploitation, processing and use of group of raw material mineral white limestone (marble), feldspar, kaolin and magnesium up to 2015, with orientation to 2025.
- On April 14th, 2011, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment stipulated Circular No. 12/2011/TT-BTNMT providing for the management of hazardous wastes.

Science – Technique

- Decree No. 26/2011/ND-CP dated April 8th, 2011 amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decree No. 108/2008/ND-CP dated October 7th, 2008 of the Government detailing the implementation of a number of articles of Law on Chemicals.
- On April 21st, 2011, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Circular No.18/2011/TT-BCT supplementing and repealing the administrative procedures stipulated in Circular No. 28/2010/TT-BCT dated June 26th, 2010 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade detailing a number of articles of Law on Chemicals and Decree No. 108/2008/ND-CP dated October 7th, 2008 of the Government detailing the implementation of a number of articles of the Law on Chemicals.
- Circular No. 04/2011/TT-BKHCN dated April 20th, 2011 of the Ministry of Science and Technology on amendment and supplement to a number of articles of the Regulation on registration, storage and use of the results of implementing scientific and technological missions, accompanying Decision No. 03/2007/QĐ-BKHCN dated March 16th, 2007 of the Minister of Science and Technology.
- On April 7th, 2011, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Science and Technology jointly stipulated Inter-ministerial Circular No. 01/2011/TTLT-BNV-BKHCN providing guidelines for the transfer of rank and classification of salary with respect to public officials in sector of quality control of products and goods.
- Inter-ministerial Circular No. 16/2011/TTLT-BCT-BNV dated April 5th, 2011 of the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Home Affairs providing guidelines for the functions, duties, authority, organizational structure and staffing of the Centres for Industry Promotion and Industrial Development Consultancy under the provincial Departments of Industry and Trade.

Information - Communications

- On April 6th, 2011, the Government issued Decree No. 25/2011/ND-CP detailing and implementing a number of articles of the Law on Telecommunications.
- Circular No. 09/2011/TT-BTTTT dated April 8th, 2011 of the Ministry of Information and Communications on amendment and supplement to a number of provisions of Circular No. 09/2008/TT-BTTTT dated December 24th, 2008 and Circular No. 12/2008/TT-BTTTT dated December 30th, 2008.
- On March 31st, 2011, the Ministry of Information and Communications stipulated Circular No. 08/2011/TT-BTTTT amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No. 37/2009/TT-BTTTT dated February 14th, 2009 of the Minister of Information and Communications providing for the dossier and

procedures related to licensing, registration and recognition of organizations providing authentication services of digital signatures.

Administration - Judiciary

- Circular No. 03/2011/TT-VPCP dated April 25th, 2011 of the Government's Office detailing the implementation of a number articles of Decree No.100/2010/ND-CP dated September 28th, 2010 of the Government on the Official Gazette.
- On April 20th, 2011, the Ministry of Public Security issued Circular No.19/2011/TT-BCA detailing the implementation of administrative measure of sending to reformatories.
- Circular No. 08/2011/TT-BTP dated April 5th, 2011 of the Ministry of Justice providing guidelines for a number of contents on the statistical work of the justice branch.

Agriculture

- On April 21st, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Circular No. 32/2011/TT-BNNPTNT promulgating the list of vaccines, biological products, microorganisms and chemicals used in veterinary medicine, which are permitted to be marketed in Vietnam.
- Circular No. 31/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated April 21st, 2011 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development promulgating the list of veterinary medicines permitted to be marketed in Vietnam.
- On April 15th, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued Circular No. 28/2011/TT-BNNPTNT providing for the certification and recognition of exploited aquatic products, which are exported to the European markets.
- Circular No. 27/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated April 13th, 2011 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development providing for the criteria and procedures for issuance of the farm economy certificates.
- On April 6th, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Circular No. 25/2011/TT-BNNPTNT amending, supplementing and repealing a number of regulations on administrative procedures in the field of forest protection and development according to Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010 dated December 15th, 2010 of the Government.
- Circular No. 06/2011/TT-BKHDT dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Planning and Investment providing guidelines for the dossier, order and procedures for issuance of "Certificates of additional investment incentives and

supports to enterprises investing in agriculture and rural regions in accordance with Decree No. 61/2010/ND-CP dated June 4th, 2010 of the Government”.

- On April 6th, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued Circular No. 24/2011/TT-BNNPTNT amending, supplementing and repealing a number of the regulations on administrative procedures in the field of fishery in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010 of the Government.
- Circular No. 23/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development amending, supplementing and repealing a number of the regulations on administrative procedure in the field of management of aquatic products’ quality in accordance with Resolution No.57/NQ-CP dated October 15th, 2010 of the Government.
- On April 6th, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Circular No. 22/2011/TT-BNNPTNT on amendment and supplement to a number of regulations on administrative procedures in the field of cooperative economy and rural development, emulation and commendation, and management of scientific topics in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010.
- Circular No. 21/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development amending and supplementing a number of regulations on administrative procedures in the field of irrigation in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010.
- On April 6th, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued Circular No. 20/2011/TT-BNNPTNT amending, supplementing and repealing a number of the regulations on administrative procedures in the field of veterinary medicine in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated October 15th, 2010.
- Circular No. 19/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development amending, supplementing and repealing a number of the regulations on administrative procedures in the field of breeding in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010.
- On April 6th, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development stipulated Circular No. 18/2011/TT-BNNPTNT amending, supplementing and repealing a number of the regulations on administrative procedures in the field of plant protection and quarantine in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010.
- Circular No. 17/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated April 6th, 2011 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development amending, supplementing and repealing a number of the regulations on administrative procedures in the field of cultivation in accordance with Resolution No. 57/NQ-CP dated December 15th, 2010.

- On April 1st, 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued Circular No. 16/2011/TT-BNNPTNT providing for the assessment, appointment and management of laboratories of the agriculture and rural development branch.

Miscellaneous

- Decision No. 22/2011/QD-TTg dated April 15th, 2011 of the Prime Minister on the pilot implementation of electrical frontier-guard procedures for seaports.
- On April 25th, 2011, the Prime Minister stipulated Decision No. 615/QD-TTg on the targeted support from the central budget to 7 districts, which have high poverty household rates by application of mechanism and infrastructure investment policies, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution No.30a/2008/NQ-CP dated December 27th, 2008 of the Government on the Program on supporting the rapid and sustainable poverty reduction for 62 poor districts.

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