



COMPLIANCE AND ANTICORRUPTION

Tackling the Financing of Terrorism

With a view to strengthening the legal framework applicable to the fight against terrorism, Law No. 28-2021 of 12 May 2021 was enacted to institute the legal regime on the freezing of assets connected to terrorism and the financing thereof. This Law details the procedures for receiving and circulating lists relating to the freezing assets, as well as the devices for national and international cooperation in on the matter. All persons involved in the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism are subject to its provisions, including financial institutions, realtors, currency exchange agents, insurance companies, money transfer companies, non-profit organizations, among others.

BUSINESS

Tourism Sector Regulated

Any economic operator wishing to develop a tourist activity in Congo will now have to abide by the requirements of Law No. 29-2021, of 12 May 2021, regulating the tourism sector, in particular with regard to obtaining the necessary authorizations, licenses or approvals. This Law approves a new legal regime for these activities, setting out the requirements and conditions for their carrying-out, the rules on the classification of tourist establishments, and the related infringements.

Licensing Fees for Special Economic Zones Approved

Following the approval of an amendment to the Special Economic Zones legal framework in late January, Order No. 8659 of 3 May 2021 regulates the licensing fees relating to Special Economic Zones. The issuance of licenses is therefore to the payment of such fees, which will comprise both fixed amounts and variable amounts (depending on the investment). This Order also details the compliant means of payment, as well as the amount of fees due in case of renewals.

ENERGY

Ensuring Nuclear Safety

Two critical steps were taken to implement Congo's policy on nuclear safety with the accession to the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (Law No. 21-2021 of 6 May 2021) and to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (Law No. 22-2021 of 6 May 2021) having been

authorized. The Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident is intended to ensure the notification of accidents that result or are likely to result in a release of radioactive material, which may lead to a transboundary release. For its part, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material targets the effective protection of nuclear material used for peaceful purposes in international transport or in domestic use, storage and transport.

Cooperation with Russia for Safe and Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

Law No. 20-2021 of 6 May 2021 authorized the ratification of the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Congo and the Government of the Russian Federation on the cooperation in the field of peaceful use of nuclear energy. The cooperation between the two States, which is to be developed in accordance with the needs and priorities of the national nuclear programs, will address the creation and development of the atomic energy infrastructure of Congo, the development of projects and the construction of nuclear power reactors and nuclear research reactors, the exploration of mineral materials (uranium 4), and the management of radioactive waste, among other fields. These cooperation efforts will involve the creation of working groups, the exchange of experts and equipment, and the supply of materials and other components.

For further information about the contents of this Legal News, please contact:

Ana Pinelas Pinto

Ana.Pinto@mirandalawfirm.com

mirandaalliance

mirandaalliance

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