BNG L E G A L

Monthly Law Update

March 2013

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Banking

Prakas No. B 7-012-185 dated 31 December 2012 on Prudential Rules and Risk Management Requirement Applicable for Banking and Financial Institutions Acting as Cash Settlement Agents Related to Securities. (L&R/Ban/Khm&Eng/2013) (Royal Gazette, Year 13, No. 21, dated March 19, 2013).

The Prakas is applicable to the commercial bank acting as Cash Settlement Agent, hereafter called "Agent Bank", authorized by Securities Exchange Commission of Cambodia (SECC). The purpose of this Prakas is to set forth the prudential rules and risk manangement of settling the cash transaction of Security Firms' customers.

The Agent Banks which violate the provision of this Prakas may give rise to disciplinary sanction as set forth in Article 52, 53 and 54 of the Law on Banking and Financial Institutions. This Prakas shall have effect from the signing date.

Forestry

Order No.02 (RGC) dated February 22, 2013 Measures to Prevent, to Obstruct and to Suppress the Logging, the Transport, Collection, Storing and Export of Rosewoods. (L&R/For/Khm/2013) (Royal Gazette, Year 13, No.19, dated March 12, 2013).

During these last few years, the Government notes that rosewoods have been harvested and exploited unlawfully. Some citizens have been crossing borders, entering the neighboring countries to log and transport rosewoods. To prevent, obstruct and suppress these illegal activities, measures are taken:

1. Commander of Cambodian Armed Force and Commander of Border Protection Police must issue strict orders to prevent illegal border crossing. Provincial Governors must cooperate during the implementation of these measures in order to locate the mastermind and to perform the arrest of citizens who attempt to cross border or who have already crossed border and are being sent back by the neighboring countries.

2. Commissioner General of National Police, Commander of Royal Gendarmerie, Commanders of Provincial / Municipal Units must collaborate with each other to take measures for locating and suppressing the mastermind of purchasing the rosewoods and people whom are suspected of being involved with purchasing the rosewoods. All relevant authorities and the public must cooperate to provide pieces of information which are necessary for the investigation.

3. Authorities in charge must take stringent measures to obstruct the export of rosewoods to markets in 2nd and 3rd countries and the illegal use within the country.

4. The Government will condemn any relevant official, authority, police and armed force that are found to be involved in these crimes.

5. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations must continue discussing with ministries of foreign affairs of neighboring countries to solve the problem of illegal border crossing to avoid the loss of citizen's life. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations and the Ministry of Commerce must collaborate in discussing with the 2nd and 3rd countries to prevent the export of rosewoods to their markets.

6. Commanders of Provincial / Municipal Units must instruct the local authorities to educate people in order to prevent the illegal border crossing.

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7. The Ministry of Information must organize television and radio short breaks in order to inform and educate the public about the illegal border crossing.

8. The Government will reward or provide incentive to any person or unit that achieves good result in these works.

9. The Government assigns the task of coordination of all these activities to the Minister of Interior.

Land and Properties

Sub-decree No.108 (RGC) dated March 18, 2013 on Organization and Functioning of the General Secretariat of National Committee for Urbanization and Land Management. (L&R/Lan&Pro/Khm/2013) (Royal Gazette, Year 13, No. 23, dated March 27, 2013).

This Sub-decree provides for duties, structure of divisions and tasks assigned to each division under the General Secretariat of the National Committee for Urbanization and Land Management (the "Committee") which was established by the Royal Decree dated May 26, 2012.

Among all duties stipulated in this Sub-decree, some important duties of this General Secretariat are:

- Assist the Committee in providing technical support and coordination service for the work on land management and urbanization at national, regional and sub-national levels in Cambodia.

- Assist the Committee in leading, advising, providing consultation and coordination service for the work on the master land use plan and on land use projects.

- Assist in providing technical support for the preparation of policies and legal framework regarding land management and urbanization.

- Assist the Committee in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of land management at national, regional and sub-national levels and the implementation of the master land use plan and land use projects at Municipal/Capital level and the master land use plan at Srok / Khan Level.

This sub-decree establishes 5 Divisions for the General Secretariat and the Head of each Division is equal in rank to the Head of a Department. It also stipulates a broad list of duties of each division and specifies that each Division can have a number of Offices under its supervision. The organization and functioning of those offices will be determined by Prakas of the Minister of Land Management, urbanization and construction who is also the President of the Committee.