LEGAL UPDATE

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- 1. The Decision of Cabinet of Ministers, dated September 30th, 2020, states that the consignor must provide the carrier with documents and other information related to the cargo for the proper performance of the contract of carriage. The consignor shall compensate the damage originated from the absence and inaccuracy of such information and documents. Further, the Decision covers the new rules on grounds of claiming against the freight forwarder related to freight forwarding services and the claim period.
- 2. By the Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers dated October 02nd, 2020, project financing for the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (hereinafter SMEs) is implemented, through contests held by Small and Medium Business Development Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (hereinafter Agency). These contests shall cover the following practice areas:
 - educational projects;
 - science projects;
 - research projects;
 - maintenance projects.

Any legal entity with the SME status or an individual (engaged in entrepreneurial activity without establishing a legal entity) shall be granted with the right to participate in the contest for financing mentioned projects.

The Decision mainly specifies rules of participation in the contests, examination of projects, terms of project execution, sources of project financing, project monitoring and reporting.

3. On 7th October, 2020, Cabinet of Ministers signed a Decision on the rules about the form of the conformity certificate, the use

and issuance of the conformity mark. The key purpose of these principles is to describe the assessment process of the conformity. The assessment process is aimed to measure the compliance of the product (work, service), the process involved with it (including the management system), the production method to the requirements specified in the standards.

Furthermore, this Decision stipulates the forms of drawing up the conformity certificate. The names of goods or fields of activities will be indicated in the conformity certificate for the voluntary examination of the conformity of goods and their methods of production (works, services).

The conformity mark is the assessment and certification of compliance of the production method with the requirements of normative documents on standardization of the goods (works, services) and process related with the goods (including the management system) that meet the requirements of technical regulations or are not regulated by technical regulations.

Eventually, if the mark of conformity cannot be applied directly to the goods (gaseous, liquid and granular materials and substances), it is applied to the packaging.

4. Cabinet of Minister signed the Decision stipulating the rules for cash accounting and cash transactions of taxpayers.

The mentioned stipulation exempts the following authorities and organizations from its application sphere: (1) the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan, (2) organizations financed from the state budget and (3) credit organizations.

This Decision also defines the rules for withdrawing cash from bank accounts, receiving it from other persons, cash inflows and using it for its intended purpose. Accordingly, the purpose of the cash funds withdrawn from the bank account and rules of outflows of specified cash are highlighted on the documents. The sources and the rules of the purpose of cash inflows to the taxpayer's cash desk should be indicated in the cash receipt.

Moreover, theDecision is further covering the rules on preparation of documents on cash inflows and outflows. The cash receipt order and the documents attached to it must be prepared in accordance with the mentioned rules, and all documents must be signed by authorized persons, receiving cash or persons who give cash.

The cash funds flows from cash transactions from all sources are reflected in cash register.

- 5. Cabinet of Ministers approved a decree regulating the evaluation of effectiveness of tax and customs concessions. According to the Decree the effectiveness of concessions is an estimated measure of concessions from a budgetary, economic and social point of view. These Rules describe the stages, duration, the information sources, methodology and rules for analyzing the results of the evaluation of the effectiveness of concession. It also defines an assessment of effectiveness of existing or proposed concessions and exemptions (hereinafter - concessions) in the field of taxation and customs. Evaluation of the effectiveness of existing concessions must be carried out until July 10 of the year following the reporting year. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the newly proposed concessions to the legislation is carried out in the Rules within certain periods. There are some areas of information sources for the evaluation of effectiveness of concessions. The list of areas is as follows:
 - Budget effeciency indicators;
 - Economic effeciency indicators;
 - Social effeciency indicators.

Current Decision dated November 3rd, 2020, is also stating the formula for calculating the budget and economic efficiency ratio.

6. On November 3rd, 2020, Cabinet of Ministers approved the Rules of Agrarian Insurance. The application of the mentioned rules is aimed to reduce the risks faced by agricultural producers in this area, eliminate damage and losses, increase the investment attractiveness of the agricultural sector, create a stable business environment in agriculture, develop insurance in the agricultural sector, as well as the practical implementation of state support mechanisms.

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