

Simplification of Business Licensing

Notes

1. This decree was passed by the Council of Ministers but has not yet been published, and therefore does not yet have the force of law.
2. The decree is designed to simplify business licensing.
3. It applies to new business or the application for additional licenses for existing business.
4. The types of business selected to be covered are those which do not pose any health or environmental risk.
5. Simplified licensing will be carried out by the Balcao Unico, district administration or municipal council depending on where the company is based.
6. The license is issued on receipt of a completed form and the NUIT of the company to be licensed.
7. The following types of activity can request a simplified license: agriculture; service provision; construction; sports; industry; transport & communication; tourism. However only certain activities within each category are eligible.
8. Eligible activities are:
 - a) Agriculture – arable cultivation of up to 350ha under irrigation or 1,000ha un-irrigated; livestock production of up to 100,000 small animals or birds, 3,000 pigs or 100 breeding sows, up to 500 cattle
 - b) Retail commerce – classes I, II, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, XII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVIII, XIV, and XX
 - c) Service provision – furniture sales rooms, auction rooms, video clubs, agency, marketing, accounting, support, law firms, repairs of various types, boutiques, tailors, tobacconists, craft sellers, hairdressers
 - d) Construction – building construction; small scale public works construction
 - e) Sports – sale of sporting goods, putting on and organizing sports events, promotion and publicity of sports events
 - f) Industry – small scale industry except for the food and beverage, and pharmaceuticals sectors
 - g) Transport & Communication – internet café
 - h) Tourism – tea rooms, bakeries and cafes.
9. Those activities which are eligible are among those that are exempt from environmental licensing.
10. The traditional form of inspection before licensing, the “vistoria” is removed for companies requesting a simplified license. These companies will be expected to comply with all the legal norms in respect of health and safety etc. and will be subject to post-licensing inspection. There is no indication of whether or not the companies will be expected to pay for this inspection.