MOFCOM Pronounced Its Ruling on Imported Sugar Trade Remedy Inquiry

The Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) released its final ruling on the trade remedy investigation on imported sugar via Announcement [2017] No. 26 on May 22, 2017. It is concluded, the total volume of the products being investigated increased during the investigation period, which has resulted in material injury to the Chinese sugar industry; and that a causal relationship was established between the increase in imports and the injury. According to advice issued by MOFCOM, the tariffs committee of the State Council has decided to implement remedy measures against the imported sugar as from May 22, 2017.

MOFCOM Released a Report on Investment and Cooperation Projects in Countries along the “One Belt, One Road” for Jan.-April 2017

In the first four months through April, Chinese investors invested (non-financial investment) an aggregate of US$ 3.98 billion in 45 countries along the "One Belt, One Road". During the period, Chinese companies signed 1,862 new construction contracts in 61 Belt and Road countries. The total contractual value rose 2.3% year-on-year to US$31.85 billion and the total turnover rose 5.6% year-on-year to US$18.95 billion.

SAT Adds Income Tax-free Institutions under China-Portugal Tax Agreement

The State Administration of Taxation recently published its Announcement on Implementing Competent Authority Agreement on Tax-Free Institutions under Interest Provision of Tax Treaty between China and Portugal. The Agreement on the Institutions Applicable to Item 1(6) and Item 2(5), Paragraph 3, Article 11 (Interest) of the Agreement between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Portuguese Republic on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income was inked on April 7, 2017. The agreement has taken effect on May 7, 2017 and will apply to taxable items taking place starting from June 1, 2017.

Round Table Summit Released Joint Communique to Promote Cooperation in Railway and Other Sectors

The Round Table Summit of "Belt and Road" Forum for International Cooperation released a Joint Communiqué on May 15, 2017, disclosing 14 cooperation initiatives, including promoting cooperation in highway, railway, port, sea and inland waterway transportation, aviation, energy pipeline, electricity, submarine cable, optical fiber, telecommunications, information and communication technology and other sectors.

Capital and Corporate

Administrative Measures for the Due Diligence Investigations of Tax-related Information of Non-residents’ Financial Accounts Issued

Recently, six departments including the State Administration of Taxation have jointly issued the Administrative Measures for the Due Diligence Investigations of Tax-related
Information of Financial Accounts Owned by Non-residents (the "Measures"), effective from July 1, 2017. The Measures first set out definitions of relevant terms, such as the financial institution, financial account, and passive non-financial entity, and then provide for the due diligence of personal accounts, due diligence of institutions' accounts and other compliance requirements.

Issues on Custody and Settlement Services for the "Bond Connect" Made Clear

Recently, the Shanghai Clearing House and the Central Moneymarkets Unit of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority ("CMU") have jointly issued the Joint Announcement on the Provision of the Custody and Settlement Services for the "Bond Connect". The Announcement states that the Shanghai Clearing House and CMU will jointly support the "Bond Connect" through a connection between the two infrastructures.

SZSE Issued the Guidelines on Information Disclosure for the Civil Engineering Construction Industry

Recently, the Shenzhen Stock Exchange ("SZSE") has enacted and issued the Guidelines for Industrial Information Disclosure No.7 - Listed Companies Engaged in Civil Engineering Construction Business (the "Guidelines") with immediate effect. The Guidelines are comprised of 16 articles, and standardize from different perspectives, such as the periodic report and interim report, initial disclosure and continuous disclosure, financial information and non-financial information, the disclosure obligations duly performed by listed companies engaged in the civil engineering construction business.

CIRC to Regulate Personal Health Insurances’ Design and Development of Products

The China Insurance Regulatory Commission ("CIRC") has recently distributed the Circular on Regulating the Design and Development of Products by Personal Health Insurances (the "Circular"), with immediate effect. The Circular notes that insurance companies are supported and encouraged to develop four types of personal health insurances, including the long-term annuity insurance products developed by insurance companies, the purpose of which is to primarily help consumers accumulate long-term survival benefits and long-term pensions and provide consumers with long-term and continuous services for getting the survival benefits and pensions.

CIRC Issued Notice on Matters Regarding Debt Investment Plans Investing in Major Construction Projects

China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC) recently distributed the Notice on Matters Regarding Debt Investment Plans Investing in Major Construction Projects, announcing that insurance funds will be supported to invest in major construction projects that can significantly stimulate macroeconomic and regional economic development, provided that all risks involved in the investment are kept in check. The Notice sets out policies to support insurance funds investing major construction projects through debt investment plans.

Our Team

International Trade Team of Shanghai AllBright Law Offices is a leading team in international trade legal service area. The team’s accurate knowledge of domestic and foreign laws and procedures can help clients avoid the risk of international trade barriers, solve international disputes from trade remedies and customs.

Apart from international trade legal service, the team has expanded investment and financing service. With its international cooperation net, the team can design specific cross-border financing plan for local companies to solve their difficulties of financing.