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## **Adjustment of pensions and welfare benefits to non-employed persons**

A decree dated 14 September 2008 was published on the revaluation of pensions and welfare benefits to non-employed persons.

Pensions and pension benefits provided for by Law No. 83-12 of 2 July 1983 relating to retirement, have been adjusted for non-employed persons with the application of a single rate of 5%.

This rate applies to monthly pension benefits and pension rights arising from social security contributions.

The amount of the adjustment is added to the statutory minimum pension provided for in Act No. 83-12 of 2 July 1983 above.

Disability pensions are adjusted under the same conditions.

The amount for attendance allowances, attributable to a disability pension or retirement, is adjusted to 5%.

## **Allowance for non-employed dependant spouses**

A decree dated 14 September 2008 was issued for the purpose of fixing the allowance for non-employed spouses at one thousand two hundred and fifty dinars (1250 DA) per month.

## **Technical specifications for imports of pharmaceutical products and medical devices**

A decree dated 30 October 2008 was published with a view to fixing the technical specifications for pharmaceutical products and

medical device imports for human medicine.

The specifications define the technical conditions for the import of pharmaceutical products and medical devices for use in human medicine provided for in Articles 169, 170 and 173 of Law No. 85-05 of 16 February 1985 on the protection and promotion of health issues and irrespective of the legal status of the importer.

The provisions of the Decree of 6 June 2005 laying down the technical specifications for the imports of pharmaceutical products for human medicine are repealed.

The importer is personally responsible for implementing the prescribed rules in the interest of public health.

## **Ban on imports of pharmaceutical products and medical devices for human medicine manufactured in Algeria**

A decree dated 30 November 2008 was issued for the purpose of prohibiting pharmaceutical products and medical device imports for human medicine, whose needs are covered by domestic production.

A product list is annexed to the Order. It is an open list, which may be revised and updated according to the imperatives of the market, the domestic production capacity and national needs in this area.

## **Tools and methodology for developing the indicative program for supplying the domestic market in gas**

Executive Decree No. 08-394 dated 14 December 2008 was published with a view to fixing the tools and

methodology for developing the indicative program for supplying the domestic market in gas, pursuant to the provisions of the Article 46 of Law No. 02-01 of 5 February 2002 on electricity and gas distribution by pipeline.

## **The period for establishing the program**

The tentative timetable for the supply of national gas market is established for a period of ten (10) years and updated annually for ten (10) years and whenever market developments require it.

## **The commission responsible for establishing the program**

The indicative program is established by the Committee for regulating electricity and gas, in collaboration with relevant institutions and in consultation with operators under Article 46 of Law No. 02-01 of 5 February 2002, above. The method of consultation is defined by a decision of the commission to regulate electricity and gas.

## **Minimum capital of banks and financial institutions operating in Algeria**

A Regulation No. 08-04 dated 23 December 2008 was published with a view to fixing the minimum capital that must be released upon their establishment, banks and financial institutions in Algeria.

Banks and financial institutions, established as a joint stock company under Algerian law, must have, upon establishment, capital paid up in full and in cash at least equal to:

- Ten billion dinars (DA 10.000.000.000) for banks;

- Three billion five hundred million dinars (3,500,000,000 DA) for financial institutions.

Banks and financial institutions whose headquarters are abroad are required to assign to their branches, authorized by the council of money and credit (CMC) to carry out banking operations in Algeria, an allocation of not less than the minimum capital required for the establishment of banks and financial institutions under Algerian law in the same category, for which the branch was authorized.

This allocation must be released under the same conditions as those provided for the establishment of banks and financial institutions under Algerian law.

Banks and financial institutions in operation have a period of twelve (12) months from the date of promulgation of the Regulation, to comply with the requirements.

Upon the expiration of that period, banks and financial institutions that have not complied with the requirements of the Regulation, will withdraw approval as per Article 95 of Ordinance No. 03-11 of 26 August 2003 on money and credit.

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