



# NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER

### 2023

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# ENERGY AND PETROLEUM

The U.S. Treasury Department issued new general licenses for Venezuela, which authorize certain transactions that were originally prohibited under the sanctions program issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). The licenses issued are: General License 3I, General License 5M, General License 9H, General License 43, General License 44, and General License 45. Said licenses temporarily authorize the following, among other aspects: (i) Transactions involving the oil and gas sector in Venezuela; (ii) Transactions with MINERVEN, the Venezuelan state-owned gold mining company, with the intent to reduce black market gold trading; (iii) The removal of the ban on secondary trading in certain Venezuelan sovereign bonds and PDVSA debt securities and stock. However, the prohibition against trading in the primary market of Venezuelan bonds remains in effect; (iv) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of General License 44, all transactions prohibited by the Venezuela Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 591 (the VSR), including transactions involving Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA) or any entity in which PDVSA owns, directly or indirectly, a 50 percent or higher interest that are related to operations of the oil or gas sector in Venezuela, are authorized up to April 18, 2024.



## LABOR

The Ministry of the Popular Power for the Social Process of Work repealed Safety and Health at Work Program Technical Standard (NT-01-2008) and issued a new Safety and Health at Work Program Technical Standard (NT-04-2023), with the purpose of establishing the fundamental criteria and procedures for the design, preparation, implementation, follow-up, and evaluation of the Program of Safety and Health at Work. The provisions of NT-04-2023 are applicable to all work entities, whatever their nature may be. (Official Gazette of 09/12/2023. Resolution No. 648. Entry into force: Upon publication in the Official Gazette and a 30-day period is established for its implementation).

The National Institute of Labor Prevention, Health and Safety (*Instituto Nacional de Prevención, Salud y Seguridad Laborales - INPSASEL*) established the regulatory parameters for registration and accreditation of the Services of Safety and Health at Work and for approval and registration of the Safety and Health at Work Programs. (Official Gazette of 09/12/2023. Administrative Rulings Nos. 0244-2023 and 0245-2023. Entry into force: Upon publication in the Official Gazette).



# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Ministry of the Popular Power for Communication and Information issued an Administrative Ruling that contains the National Plan of Domain Names “.ve”. The purpose of the Ruling is to establish the terms and conditions for registration, administration, renewal, transfer, and use of Domain Names “.ve”, applicable to all extensions assigned by the National Telecommunications Commission, by virtue of the provisions of the Organic Telecommunications Law. The Ruling is applicable to all applicants, holders, and administrative contacts of domain names “.ve”. The Guide of Requirements for Registration and Maintenance of Title to Domain Names “.ve” will be published in the web site of the National Telecommunications Commission and in the NIC.ve platform. A period of one (1) year after publication of the Ruling in the Official Gazette is established in order for the domain names registered as educational institutions with extensions “tec.ve” y “e12.ve” to migrate to the extension “edu.ve”. National and international trademarks registered with the national and international intellectual property authority will be allowed a period of six (6) months following publication of the Ruling in the Official Gazette to register their extension “.ve” classified as second-level domain. (Official Gazette of 09/27/2023. Administrative Ruling No. 046. Entry into force: As from the date of publication in the Official Gazette).

## MISCELLANEOUS

The Ministry of the Popular Power for Transportation established, through an Official Request, the minimum and maximum rates for urban transportation service. Likewise, it established, through a Resolution, the maximum official rate for suburban routes nationwide to be charged by the providers of the public service of ground passenger transportation. The Official Request published in Official Gazette of 03/07/2023 and Resolution No. 020, published in said Official Gazette, are revoked. (Official Gazette of 09/13/2023. Official Request and Resolution No. 075. Entry into force: Upon publication in the Official Gazette).

Caracas, October 31, 2023.



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