Amendment to Ministry of Finance Instruction on VAT

On the 22nd January 2013, the Minister of Finance amended the Instruction on Value Added Tax (VAT), which is published in the Official Gazette and entered into force on 31st January 2013.

The amendment introduces the legal procedure that contractors and subcontractors operating in the hydrocarbons research and development sector shall follow in order for services related to the research and development phase of the hydrocarbon activities to be deemed considered and accepted as VAT exempted.

The amendment has abrogated and ended the permissibility of taxpayers operating in the research of oil and exploitation of the oil fields to exempt VAT from the import of oil by-products required for their activity.

Other changes include the introduction of the procedure that NGOs which are contractors of projects financed by IPA should follow in order to get reimbursement for the VAT paid for goods and services purchased in the framework of such projects.

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