

MINISTERIAL DIPLOMA No. 01/2013

of 23 January 2013

**ON INTERVENTION IN PUBLIC SUPPLY OF
RICE AND PRICE UNIFORMITY**

Bearing in mind Government Resolution No. 20/2008, Decree-Law No. 28/2008 and Decree No. 13/2008, respectively, all published on August 13 and that established the intervention policies and principles in the public supply of rice and the respective food reserve;

Considering that, in the implementation of the aforementioned legal diplomas, Ministerial Diploma No. 1/2012, of 11 December and Order No. 173 / MCIA / XII / 2012, of 11 December, were issued internally, with the aim of standardizing the market price of rice;

Given that there is a lack of uniformity in the price of rice stipulated in the two documents referred to above, the MCIA, through this diploma, is standardizing the sale price of rice in the market and at the same time establishing the criteria and legal discipline to be met by sellers.

Thus:

The Government orders, by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Environment, under the legal provisions and the public supply policy, identified above, to publish the following legal diploma:

Article 1

Standardization of intervention rice prices

The prices for intervention rice are as follows:

- a) The sale price to the final consumer is USD \$ 12.00 (twelve US dollars), per bag of 25 kg bag;
- b) The purchase price of rice by the companies to the MCIA to be resold in the market is USD \$ 10.00 (ten US dollars) for each bag of 25 kg, except for the capital of Dili, (not including the Sub-district of Metinaro and Ataúro) which will be USD \$ 10.50.

Article 2

Requirements for companies to hire

- 1. The rice will be sold to companies that, in addition to the requirements to be included in the respective Terms of Reference for contracting, to be prepared by the MCIA Services are, from the outset, obliged and responsible for:
 - a) Being duly licensed and registered for tax purposes (MCIA license, public transport and Tax Identification Number / TIN), with certificate of debts to the State;
 - b) Distribution of rice to all districts, with priority for remote and mountain locations, according to the approved plan;
 - c) Having adequate means of transportation to access remote locations;
 - d) In the case of direct sales to final consumers, not selling more than 2 bags of 25 kg per family;
 - e) Accountability for rice, including losses, theft or road accidents, from leaving state warehouses to final sale;
 - f) The buyer must comply with the price list for the sale of rice stipulated in the present diploma;

2. Companies that, at the time of selection, are indebted to the State and, in particular, have not fulfilled their obligations in previous rice intervention operations, are outright disqualified from the award process and are unable to sign the public contract.

Article 3
Coordination of rice sales

In places where local authorities, namely the District or Subdistrict and Sucos Administration, in addition to PNTL, can be previously notified for joint coordination before placing them for sale.

Article 4
Payments

1. The price to be paid by the transport companies and / or distributors, will be paid by deposit in the official Food Security account, before the collection and loading of each batch of rice.
2. No quantity of intervention rice is loaded without the presentation of the receipt of the respective deposit or bank guarantee and the respective attached letter, with the mention of the respective quantity and weight of the bags.

Article 5
Prevention of fraud and diversion and sanctions

1. The inspection services of the MCIA provide full collaboration, with particular attention to the preventive aspects of fraud and diversions that may distort the intervention action, from transportation to the effective delivery of essential goods to the population.
2. Contracts signed with companies that commit infractions against the rules stipulated in the present legal diploma will be immediately canceled, without prejudice to the application of fines and accessory sanctions, namely those provided for in Decree-Law No. 23/2009, of 5 August that approved the Regime for Administrative Offenses against the Economy and Food Security.

Article 6
Repeal

Ministerial Diploma No. 1/2012 and Order No. 173 / MCIA / XII / 2012, of 11 December, are hereby repealed.

Article 7
Entry into force

This statute enters into force immediately and takes effect from the date of its signature.

Be it published.

Dili, 3 January 2013

The Minister for Commerce, Industry and Environment

António da Conceição