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Georgia

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Georgian Legal News

Refer to the Law

State Inspector approves list of countries with adequate personal data protection guarantees

On 21 October 2021, the State Inspector approved Order No 11, setting forth the list of 48 countries where appropriate guarantees of personal data protection are established.

According to Article 41 of the Law of Georgia on Personal Data Protection, personal data can be transferred to another country without the State Inspector's approval, if such country provides adequate personal data protection (subject to the existence of lawful grounds for data processing).

Order No 11 of the State Inspector substitutes Order No 1 of the Personal Data Protection Inspector of 16 September 2014 on the same matter, adding Japan to the list.

Amendments to Forest Code of Georgia

On 2 November 2021, a bill with amendments to the Forest Code of Georgia passed its first reading at the Georgian Parliament.

The amendments address the termination and restoration of forest land status, as well as the maintenance, sanitary, and reconstruction felling.

Grounds for terminating the forest land status are being changed significantly. In particular, forest land status can be terminated only if the forest is used as a resort or for recreational purposes.

The proposed legislative package provides that forest boundaries can be adjusted through the basic administrative procedures at the request of the National Forest Agency.

The amendments introduce a new type of forest use (beekeeping development), under which forest areas can be transferred to the interested person(s) or to the local population by way of direct transfer, without an auction. Two other use types introduced are non-timber forest resource use and forest use under an aquaculture license.

Law on windbreaks (shelterbelts)

On 2 November 2021, the Parliament of Georgia adopted the Law on Windbreak Strips.

The law regulates the legal relations concerning the granting and terminating the windbreak strip status to agricultural land plots or their parts in Georgia, as well as their registration, restoration, cultivation, management and use.

A windbreak strip is defined as a row of trees planted on an agricultural land plot or its part to provide shelter from the wind and to protect soil from erosion.

The law aims to determine the legal status of windbreaks, to protect soil from erosion and maintain its fertility and biodiversity.

The windbreak strip status is granted by the National Agency for Sustainable Land Management and Land Use Monitoring. The boundaries of the windbreak strip are recorded in the land registry; the title to the windbreak strip is inseparably attached to the land title.

The new law will come into force on 20 November 2021.

Contacts

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