## 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS36/13-14

## Paper for the House Committee Meeting on 21 March 2014

## Legal Service Division Report on Subsidiary Legislation Gazetted on 14 March 2014

# SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION NOT REQUIRED TO BE TABLED AND NOT SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT

United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) Regulation 2014 (L.N. 29)
United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) Regulation 2013
(Repeal) Regulation (L.N. 30)

L.N. 29 and L.N. 30 are made by the Chief Executive under section 3 of the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) (UNSO) on the instruction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and after consultation with the Executive Council.

#### L.N. 29

2. Since March 2001, the Security Council of the United Nations (UNSC) has adopted a series of resolutions imposing sanctions against Liberia in view of the country's support for armed rebel groups in neighbouring countries which constitutes a threat to international peace and security in the region. They have imposed travel ban measures<sup>1</sup>, financial sanctions measures<sup>2</sup> and arm-related sanctions<sup>3</sup>. The sanctions regime was last renewed by UNSC Resolution (UNSCR) 2079 in December 2012. The relevant sanctions have been implemented by regulations made under UNSO, the most recent one being the United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) Regulation 2013 (Cap. 537, sub. leg. BD) (Liberia Regulation 2013). All provisions in Liberia Regulation 2013, except for those relating to financial sanctions (including prohibition, licensing and law enforcement provisions), expired at midnight on 11 December 2013.

<sup>2</sup> UNSCR 1532 (2004)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNSCR 1521 (2003)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> UNSCR 1903 (2009)

- 3. L.N. 29 is made to give effect to the decision of UNSC in UNSCR 2128 (2013) as adopted by UNSC on 10 December 2013 in respect of Liberia by providing for the prohibition against -
  - (a) the supply, sale, transfer or carriage of arms or related materiel to certain persons;
  - (b) the provision to certain persons of assistance, advice or training related to military activities in certain circumstances; and
  - (c) entry into or transit through the HKSAR by certain persons.
- 4. L.N. 29 also continues to give effect to the decision of UNSC in UNSCR 1532 (2004) as adopted by UNSC on 12 March 2004 in respect of Liberia by providing for the prohibition against -
  - (a) making available to, or for the benefit of, certain persons or entities any funds or other financial assets or economic resources; and
  - (b) dealing with funds or other financial assets or economic resources owned by or otherwise belonging to, or held by, certain persons or entities.
- 5. According to the Administration, the content of L.N. 29, which renews or continues the implementation of sanctions against Liberia, is essentially the same as those in Liberia Regulation 2013.
- 6. Except for provisions relating to financial sanctions which will come into operation on 21 March 2014, L.N. 29 came into operation on the day of gazettal (i.e. 14 March 2014). According to the Administration, the lapse of one week between the commencement dates allows time for the Chief Executive to specify a new list of relevant persons and entities for the purpose of the financial sanctions.<sup>4</sup>

L.N. 30 repeals Liberia Regulation 2013 consequential upon the

## <u>L.N. 30</u>

making of L.N. 29. L.N. 30 will come into operation on 21 March 2014.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> L.N. 30 will come into operation on 21 March 2014 for the same reason.

### Other information and remarks

- 8. Under section 3(5) of UNSO, sections 34 and 35 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1) shall not apply to regulations made under UNSO. Therefore, L.N. 29 and L.N. 30 are not required to be tabled in the Legislative Council (LegCo) and are not subject to amendment by LegCo. However, since they come within the terms of reference of the Subcommittee to Examine the Implementation in Hong Kong of Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council in relation to Sanctions (the Subcommittee), Members may consider referring them to the Subcommittee for its consideration.
- 9. According to the Clerk to the Subcommittee, L.N. 29 and L.N. 30 was circulated to members of the Subcommittee vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1092/13-14(01) on 17 March 2014. Members may wish to refer to the paper for further information.

## **Concluding Observations**

10. No difficulties have been identified in relation to the legal or drafting aspects of the above items of subsidiary legislation.

Prepared by

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