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The consecration of a policy of liberalization of the economy, particularly of the foreign trade, and the increase of competition in the home trade, determine that, in general, the prices of the products are fixed through market mechanisms.

However, in view of a free market, highly competitive, mainly at international level, and considering the specific characteristics of Cape Verde, namely pertaining to the weakness of its productive base and food security of the populations, it is necessary to adopt measures in order to protect the national production, and, at another time, to safeguard the interests of development, in general and of the consumers, in particular.

Attentive to these circumstances, certain goods and services must continue to deserve a particular attention on the part of the Government, aiming the moderate and concerted evolution of its prices.

Under these terms,

Being convenient, to carry out the integration of goods and services to the price regimes, under the cover of Article 7 of Decree-law n. 52/2003, of November 24;

After consulting the Chambers of Commerce,

The Government of Cape Verde orders, through the Ministers of State and Infrastructures and Transportation, State and Health, Finances, Planning and Regional Development, Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries, and of Economy, Growth and Competitiveness, the following:

Article 1

Regime of free prices

All the goods and services not submitted to the remaining regimes of prices, established by the law, are subject to the regime of free prices, provided for on paragraph a), article 1 of Decree-law n. 52/2003 of November 24.

Article 2
Regime of fixed prices

The following goods and services are subject to the regime of fixed prices provided for on paragraph b), Article 1 of Decree-law n. 52/2003, of November 24:

- a) Maritime transports;
- b) Water;
- c) Energy;
- d) Combustible.

Article 3
Regime of highest prices

The following goods and services are subject to the regime of highest prices, provided for on paragraph c) of Article 1 of Decree-law n. 52/2003 of November 24:

- a) Wheat and wheat flour;
- b) Wheat bread;
- c) Corn;
- d) Common Rice;
- e) Sugar;
- f) Cars of passengers equipped with a taximeter.

Article 4
Stipulated prices

The following goods and services are subject to the regime of stipulated prices, provided for on paragraph d) of Article 1 of Decree-law n.52/2003, of November 24:

- a) Tobacco;

- b) Health services rendered in private health structures;
- c) Medication and health products;
- d) Communication services;
- e) Collective transports.

Article 5

The present Official Decree comes into force 30 days after its publication in the Official Bulletin.

Ministry of Finances, Planning and Regional Development, the Ministers of State and Infrastructures and Transportation, State and Health, Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries, and of Economy, Growth and Competitiveness, in Praia, on November 24, 2003 – The ministers *José Maria Pereira Neves – Manuel Incocêncio Sousa – Basílio Mosso Ramos – Maria Madalena de Brito Neves – Avelino Bonifácio Fernandes Lopes.*