

Excise Duties and Tax Warehouses Act

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following the amendments in SG No. 109/20.12.2007

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Text in Bulgarian: Закон за акцизите и данъчните складове

Chapter One

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section I

Scope of Application

Article 1. (Effective 1.07.2006) This Act shall govern excise duty taxation as well as control on production, use, storage, movement and securing of goods subject to excise tax.

Section II

Object of Excise Taxation and Persons Subject to Excise Duty

Article 2. (Effective 1.07.2006) Subject to excise tax shall be:

1. alcohol and alcoholic beverages;
2. tobacco products;
3. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) energy products and electricity;
4. coffee and coffee extracts;
5. automobiles.

Article 3. (Effective 1.07.2006) Persons subject to excise duty shall be:

1. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) licensed warehouse keepers and persons registered under this Act;
2. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) persons for whom a liability has arisen under the customs legislation in respect of excisable goods;
3. persons who have produced excisable goods outside a tax warehouse in violation of this Act or have disposed with excisable goods for which no excise duty has been paid;
4. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) excise-exempt end users and non-registered traders;

5. (new, SG No. 105/2006) tax representatives of VAT-registered persons in another Member State who supply excisable goods under the terms of distant selling within the Value Added Tax Act;

6. (new, SG No. 105/2006) the persons who receive on the territory of the country excisable goods released for consumption in another Member State, except for the cases of item 5 where the tax representative shall be obliged to pay the excise duty.

Section III

Terms

Article 4. (Effective 1.07.2006) For the purposes of this Act:

1. "Excisable goods" shall be the goods specified in Article 2.

2. "Licensed warehouse keeper" shall be a trader within the meaning of the Commerce Act, who has been granted a license to produce, store, receive or dispatch excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement.

3. "Tax warehouse" shall be the place where excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement are produced, stored, received or dispatched by a licensed warehouse keeper in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

4. "Excise duty suspension arrangement" shall be a set of rules applicable to production, storage and movement of goods under excise duty suspension arrangement.

5. (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) "CN code" shall be tariff codes according to the Combined Nomenclature as per Appendix I of Council Regulation No. 2658/87 (EEC) on the Tariff and Statistical Nomenclature and the Common Customs Tariff. For alcohol and alcoholic beverages the CN codes are according to the Combined Nomenclature applied at 31 December 1992, and for energy products and electricity according to the Combined Nomenclature applied at 1 January 2002.

6. "Selling price" shall be the price written on the excise label at which tobacco products are sold to end users, including production and distribution costs of the producer (importer), customs charges due, payments, fees, excise duty and value added tax.

7. "Excise label" shall be a government security proving payment of excise duty due, which shall be purchased from the Ministry of Finance and may not be subject to further transaction.

8. (Supplemented, SG No. 63/2006, amended, SG No. 81/2006) "Specialised small distillery" shall be a distillation unit where ethyl alcohol (rakiya) is produced from grapes and fruits - own production of natural persons, for their personal and family consumption up to 30 litres of ethyl alcohol (rakiya) per annum per family.

9. "Small producer of wine" shall be a unit where no more than 1,000 hectolitres are produced per annum.

10. (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) "Dual use energy product" shall be a product which is used both as heating fuel and for purposes other than as motor fuel and heating fuel; the use of energy products for chemical reduction and in electrolytic and metallurgical processes shall be regarded as dual use.

11. "Marking" shall be an action where a marker is added to gas oil and kerosene, which satisfies the requirements set down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

12. "Denaturation" shall be an action where poisonous substances or substances of unpleasant taste and flavour (mixtures) are added to ethyl alcohol, thereby making it dangerous for health or unfit for drinking.

13. "Technical specification" shall be a document of the producer containing a description of the product regarding the production technology and its intended use, technical requirements, rated values of particular indicators and methods of their testing, packaging and designation, storage and transportation.

14. (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) "Excise-exempt end user" shall be a sole trader or legal entity entitled to receive

energy products which are used for purposes exempt from excise duty based on a certificate of excise exemption.

15. "Private pleasure flying and sailing" shall be the use of a vessel or aircraft by its owner or by a natural person or legal entity for purposes other than transportation of passengers or goods or provision of goods against consideration or for the needs of government authorities.

16. (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) "New automobile" shall be an automobile for which one of the following conditions obtain at the date of importation, the date of filing the declaration under Article 76d to the customs authorities respectively:

- a) no more than 6 months have expired from the date of its initial registration (including registration abroad); or
- b) has run not more than 6,000 km.

17. "Repeated" violation shall be a violation committed within one year from entry into force of a penalty enactment by virtue of which the person had been penalized for the same type of violation.

18. (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) "Grave" violation shall be a violation for which a penalty enactment has been enforced with imposed property sanction exceeding BGN 15,000.

19. "Actual alcoholic strength by volume (alcoholic content)" shall be the volumes of pure ethyl alcohol contained at temperature of 20 °C in 100 volumes of product at the same temperature.

20. (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) "% vol" and "% mas" are designations of the alcoholic strength by volume and mass.

21. "Pure alcohol" is ethyl alcohol with actual alcoholic strength by volume 100 % vol (absolute alcohol).

22. "Biodiesel" is methyl ester derived from vegetable oils or animal fats, having the quality of diesel fuel used as motor fuel for diesel engines, derived from biodegradable fractions of products, waste and residues (including vegetable or animal substances) from agriculture, forestry, as well as biodegradable fractions from industrial or household waste.

23 (New, SG No. 81/2006) "Bioethanol" is ethanol, derived from biomass and/or from the biodegradable part of the waste, intended for use as biofuel.

24. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Territory of the country" is the geographic territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the continental shelf and the exclusive economic zone.

25. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Territory of a Member State" is the territory of every Member State wherein the Treaty establishing the European Community applies, specified for every Member State in Article 299 of said Treaty where:

a) excluded from said territory shall be:

aa) for Federal Republic of Germany: Isle of Heligoland and the Busingen territory;

bb) for Kingdom of Spain: Ceuta, Melilla and Canary Islands;

cc) for Republic of Italy: Livigno, Campione d'Italia and the Italian waters of Lugano Lake;

dd) (repealed, SG No. 108/2007);

ee) for United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Anglo-Normand Isles and Gibraltar;

ff) for Republic of France: French Overseas Departments;

b) movement of excisable goods to or from:

aa) Principality of Monaco - will be treated as movement to or from the Republic of France;

bb) Isle of Man - will be treated as movement to or from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

cc) Jungholz and Mittelberg (Kleines Walsertal) - will be treated as movement to or from the Federal Republic of Germany;

dd) San Marino - will be treated as movement to or from the Republic of Italy.

26. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Community" and "Community territory" is the territory of the Member States.

27. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Third country" or "third territory" is any territory other than the territory of Member States.

28. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Registered trader" is a person other than a licensed warehouse keeper who is entitled to receive under certain conditions excisable goods from another Member State under excise duty suspension arrangement. The registered trader may not store or send excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement.

29. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Non-registered trader" is a person other than a licensed warehouse keeper who is entitled to receive under certain conditions a specific quantity of excisable goods from another Member State under excise duty suspension arrangement. A non-registered trader may not store or send excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement.

30. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Importer" is the person owing payment of import customs charges as well as the person who has received goods on the territory of the country from third territories which are part of the Community customs territory.

31. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Standard tanks" (normal tank) shall mean:

a) the tanks permanently fixed by the manufacturer to all motor vehicles and whose permanent fitting enables fuel to be used directly, both for the purpose of propulsion and, where appropriate, for the operation, during transport, of refrigeration systems and other systems; gas tanks fitted to motor vehicles designed for the direct use of gas as fuel and tanks fitted to the other systems with which the vehicle may be equipped shall also be considered to be standard tanks;

b) the tanks permanently fixed by the manufacturer to all containers and whose permanent fitting enables fuel to be used directly for the operation, during transport, of refrigeration systems and the other systems with which special containers are equipped.

32. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Special container" shall mean any container fitted with specially designed apparatus for refrigeration systems, oxygenation systems, thermal insulation systems or other systems.

33. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Mineralogical processes" shall mean the processes classified in the NACE (General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Community) nomenclature under code DI 26 "manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products" in Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90 on the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community.

34. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Cost of a product" shall be the value of the product within the meaning of the accountancy legislation. This cost shall be calculated per unit on average.

35. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Cost of electricity" shall mean the actual purchase value of electricity or the cost of production of electricity if it is generated in the business.

36. (New, SG No. 105/2006) "Export" shall mean movement of excisable goods from the territory of the country to the territory of a third country or third territory.

Chapter Two

EXCISABLE GOODS

Section I

Alcohol and Alcoholic Beverages

Article 5. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Beer" shall be any product falling within CN code 2203 or any product which is a mixture of beer and soft drinks falling within CN code 2206, in both cases with actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 0.5 % vol.

Article 6. (Effective as of 1.07.2006) (1) "Still wines" shall be products falling within CN codes 2204 and 2205, but outside the scope of paragraph 2, which have:

1. actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 1.2 % vol, but not exceeding 15 % vol, provided that the alcohol contained in the finished product is entirely of fermented origin, or

2. actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 15 % vol but not exceeding 18 % vol, provided that they have been produced without any enrichment and provided that the alcohol contained in the finished product is entirely of fermented origin.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) "Sparkling wines" shall be all products falling within CN codes 2204 10, 2204 21 10, 2204 29 10 and 2205, which are:

1. in bottles with 'mushroom stoppers' held in place by ties or fastenings, or they have an excess pressure due to carbon dioxide in solution of three bar or more, and

2. actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 1.2 % vol, but not exceeding 15 % vol, provided that the alcohol contained in the finished product is entirely of fermented origin.

Article 7. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Other fermented beverages" other than beer and wine shall be:

1. still fermented beverages falling within CN codes 2204 and 2205, but outside the scope of Article 6, as well as the products falling within CN code 2206, but outside the scope of item 2, which have:

a) actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 1.2 % vol but not exceeding 10 % vol, or

b) actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 10 % vol, but not exceeding 15 % vol, provided that the alcohol contained in the finished product is entirely of fermented origin;

2. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) sparkling fermented beverages falling within CN code 2206 00 91, as well as products falling within CN codes 2204 10, 2204 21 10, 2204 29 10 and 2205, but outside the scope of Article 6, which are:

a) in bottles with 'mushroom stoppers' held in place by ties or fastenings, or they have an excess pressure due to carbon dioxide in solution of three bar or more, and

b) with actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 1.2 % vol, but not exceeding 13 % vol, or with actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 13% but not exceeding 15% vol, provided that the alcohol contained in the finished product is entirely of fermented origin.

Article 8. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Intermediate products" shall be all products with actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 1.2 % vol, but not exceeding 22 % vol, falling within CN codes 2204, 2205 and 2206, but outside the scope of Articles 5, 6 and 7.

Article 9. (Effective as of 1.07.2006) "Ethyl alcohol (alcohol)" shall be any product:

1. falling within CN codes 2207 and 2208, with actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 1.2 % vol, even when such product is part of another product falling within another chapter of the Combined Nomenclature of the Republic of Bulgaria;

2. falling within CN codes 2204, 2205 and 2206, with actual alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 22 % vol.

3. (new, SG No. 63/2006) obtained from distillation and potable, containing other products, whether in solution or not.

Section II

Tobacco Products

Article 10. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) "Cigars and cigarillos" shall be fit for smoking rolls of tobacco which:

1. are made entirely of natural tobacco, or
2. have an outer wrapper of natural tobacco, or

3. contain fine-cut tobacco and have an outer wrapper and a binder, both of reconstituted tobacco, and the outer wrapper is of the normal colour of a cigar and binds entirely the roll, including the filter but not the mouth-piece, if any, provided that the unit weight of the item not including the filter and the mouth-piece is equal to or does not exceed 1.2 g and the outer wrapper is fitted in spiral form with an acute angle of at least 30 ° to the longitudinal axis of the item, or

4. contain fine-cut tobacco and an outer wrapper of the normal colour of a cigar, of reconstituted tobacco, where the outer wrapper binds entirely the roll, including the filter but not the mouth-piece, if any, provided that the unit weight of the item not including the filter and the mouth-piece is equal to or exceeds 2.3 g and the circumference over at least one third of the length is not less than 34 mm.

(2) "Cigars and cigarillos" are furthermore deemed to be products made partially of substances other than tobacco but meeting the requirements of Paragraph 1, provided that they have:

1. one outer wrapper of natural tobacco;
2. one outer wrapper and one binder, both of restituted tobacco;
3. one outer wrapper of restituted tobacco.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Items which do not contain tobacco and are used exclusively for medical purposes shall not be considered to be "cigars and cigarillos".

Article 11. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) "Cigarettes" shall be:

1. rolls of tobacco capable of being smoked which do not meet the requirements of for cigars and cigarillos under Article 10;
2. rolls of tobacco which, by simple non-industrial handling, are inserted into cigarette-paper tubes;
3. rolls of tobacco which, by simple non-industrial handling, are wrapped in cigarette paper.

(2) "Cigarettes" shall furthermore be considered to be products made partially or entirely of substances other than tobacco but meeting the requirements of Paragraph 1.

(3) The smoking products referred to in Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall, for excise duty purposes, be considered as two cigarettes where, excluding filter or mouth piece, it is longer than 90 mm cm but not longer than 180 mm, as three cigarettes where, excluding filter or mouthpiece, it is longer than 180 mm but not longer than 270 mm, and so on.

(4) Products which do not contain tobacco and are used exclusively for medical purposes shall not be considered to be "cigarettes".

Article 12. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) "Smoking tobacco (for pipe and cigarettes)" shall be:

1. tobacco which has been cut or otherwise split, twisted or pressed into blocks and is capable of being smoked without further industrial processing;
2. tobacco refuse capable of being smoked and put up for retail sale, provided that it does not meet the requirements of Article 10 and Article 11;
3. fine-cut tobacco for the rolling of cigarettes meeting the requirements of items and 2 in which more than 25 % by weight of the tobacco particles have a cut width of less than 1 mm.

(2) "Smoking tobacco" shall furthermore be items made entirely or partially of substances other than tobacco but meeting the requirements of the definition of smoking tobacco under Article 1.

(3) Items which do not contain tobacco and are used exclusively for medical purposes shall not be considered "smoking tobacco".

Section III

Energy Products and Electricity

(Title supplemented, SG No. 105/2006)

Article 13. (Effective 1.07.2006, amended, SG No. 105/2006) (1) "Energy products" shall be products falling within:

1. CN codes 1507 through 1518, provided that they are intended for use as fuel for heating purposes or motor fuel;
2. CN codes 2701, 2702 and from 2704 through 2715;
3. CN codes 2901 and 2902;
4. CN code 2905 11 00, which are not of synthetic origin, if intended for use as fuel for heating purposes or motor fuel;
5. CN code 3403;
6. CN code 3811;
7. CN code 3817;
8. CN code 3824 90 99, including biodiesel, if intended for use as fuel for heating purposes or motor fuel.

(2) "Electricity" is a product falling within CN code 2716.

Article 14. (Effective 1.07.2006 - SG No. 91/2005, amended, SG No. 63/2006, No. 105/2006) (1) The provisions of Chapter Four shall apply in respect of the following energy products:

1. falling within CN codes 1507 through 1518, if intended for use as fuel for heating purposes or motor fuel;
2. falling within CN codes 2707 10, 2707 20; 2707 30 and 2707 50;
3. falling within CN codes 2710 11 through 2710 19 69; for energy products with CN codes 2710 11 21, 2710 11 25 and 2710 19 29 the provisions of the law regarding movement of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement and supervision on them shall apply only where these are in draft condition;
4. falling within CN codes 2711, excluding CN codes 2711 11, 2711 21 and 2711 29;
5. falling within CN codes 2901 10;
6. falling within CN codes 2902 20, 2902 30, 2902 41, 2902 42, 2902 43 and 2902 44;
7. falling within CN code 2905 11 00, which are not of synthetic origin, if intended for use as fuel for heating purposes or motor fuel;
8. falling within CN code 3824 90 99, if intended for use as fuel for heating purposes or motor fuel, including biodiesel.

(2) The provisions of Chapter Four shall also apply in respect of energy products not specified in Paragraph 1 where said products are intended for use, offered for sale or used as motor fuel or heating fuel, or as an additive or extender in motor fuel.

Section IV

Coffee

Article 15. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Coffee" shall be any product falling within CN codes 0901 11, 0901 12, 0901 21 and 0901 22.

Article 16. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Coffee extracts" shall be all products falling within CN code 2101 11.

Article 17. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Powered mixtures containing more than 10 per cent coffee extracts" shall be all products falling within CN code 2101 12.

Section V

Automobiles

Article 18. (Effective 1.07.2006) "Automobiles" shall be new and used passenger automobiles, cargo and passenger automobiles and racing automobiles, capable of carrying not more than 9 persons, including the driver, with engine power over 120 kilowatt (kW) according to the DIN system, respectively 126 kilowatt (kW) according to the SAE system, falling within CN code 8703.

Chapter Three

TAX LIABILITY

Section I

Incurrence of Excise Duty Liability

Article 19. (Effective 1.07.2006, amended, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The goods under Article 2 shall be subject to excise duty taxation, unless they are subject to excise duty suspension arrangement:

1. at their manufacturing on the territory of the country;
2. at their bringing into the territory of the country from the territory of another Member State;
3. at their importation on the territory of the country.

(2) Import of excisable goods shall mean their bringing into the territory of the country of non-Community excisable goods, as well as bringing into the territory of the country of Community excisable goods from third territories which are part of the customs territory of the Community.

(3) Notwithstanding Paragraph 2, where the goods are placed under customs regime at their bringing into the territory of the country, their import shall be considered to have been accomplished when they are released for free circulation.

Article 20. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The liability for excise duty payment shall arise from the date of release of excisable goods for consumption.

(2) Release for consumption shall be:

1. bringing out excisable goods from a tax warehouse, unless the goods move under excise duty suspension arrangement from the moment of bringing them out in compliance with the terms and procedures of this Act;
2. failure to meet the conditions for movement of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement;
3. consumption of excisable goods in a warehouse, unless they have been input as raw materials for the production of excisable goods;
4. production of excisable goods not subject to excise duty suspension arrangement;
5. importation, including in violation of customs legislation, unless excisable goods are placed under excise duty suspension arrangement;
6. bringing out from a tax warehouse of excisable goods affixed with an excise label;
7. expiry of 60 days from receipt of excise labels for goods for which the excise duty has not become due on another

ground;

8. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) establishing shortage of goods for which excise duty is due, including shortage of coal, coke, electricity or natural gas established in respect of the persons under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 2;

9. termination of the validity of a license for tax warehouse management - for all goods which at the time of termination are subject to excise duty suspension arrangement.

10. (new, SG No. 105/2006) deregistration of the persons - for the stock of goods on which no excise duty has been charged;

11. (new, SG No. 105/2006) receipt of excisable goods from a registered trader under excise duty suspension arrangement;

12. (new, SG No. 105/2006) receipt of excisable goods from a non- registered trader under excise duty suspension arrangement;

13. (new, SG No. 105/2006) receipt of excisable goods released for consumption in another Member State;

14. (new, SG No. 105/2006) receipt of excisable goods under conditions of distant selling within the meaning of the Value Added Tax Act;

15. (new, SG No. 105/2006) the sale of coal and coke to persons other than those registered under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, item 1, except for sale to natural persons other than sole traders;

16. (new, SG No. 105/2006) consumption of coke and coal by the persons under Article 57a Paragraph 1, item 1 for their own needs;

17. (new, SG No. 105/2006) the sale of electricity or natural gas to consumers of electricity and natural gas for household and business purposes within the meaning of the Energy Act;

18. (new, SG No. 105/2006) consumption of electricity or natural gas by the persons under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, item 1 for their own purposes, except for the cases of electricity used to produce electricity and electricity used to maintain the ability to produce electricity;

19. (new, SG No. 105/2006) consumption of energy products by excise- exempt end users other than those specified in the certificate.

(3) Where the moment of release for consumption cannot be established, such date shall be the date on which supervisory authorities establish the actions, facts and circumstances under Paragraph 2.

Section II

Exemption and Refunding

Article 21. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Exempt from payment of excise duty shall be:

1. excisable goods designated for diplomatic missions and consulates and representations of international organizations and members of their staff;

2. (amended, SG No. 63/2006) excisable goods for which a duly ratified, promulgated and enacted international treaty provides for exemption from any tax, levy and other charges (payments, deductions) having the effect of indirect tax;

3. excisable goods designated for the armed forces of any other country which is a party to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, for use by such armed forces; for the needs of the civil staff accompanying them or for supply of relevant officer canteens or mess-rooms;

4. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) excisable goods imported by means of international postal and other parcels as well as in the personal luggage of passengers within the authorized duty-free import limits under the customs legislation;

5. (new, SG No. 105/2006) tobacco products, alcohol, alcoholic beverages and coffee purchased in another Member State by natural persons for personal purposes and transported by them in quantities laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act;

6. (new, SG No. 105/2006) excisable goods intended for the institutions of the European Community;

7. (new, SG No. 105/2006) import of or bringing from another Member State of electricity and natural gas;

8. (new, SG No. 105/2006) ethyl alcohol contained in products imported or brought into the territory of the country, which by their characteristics are not intended for consumption as food or drinks or which are not intended as additives in the production of food or drinks;

9. (new, SG No. 105/2006) import of or bringing from another Member State of coke or coal by persons under Article 57a Paragraph 1, item 1.

(2) (New, SG No. 63/2006) Where excise duty has not been paid on the goods referred to in Items 1 and 3 of Paragraph (1), exemption shall be granted by a refund.

(3) (Renumbered from Paragraph 2, SG No. 63/2006) The procedure for implementation of Paragraph 1 shall be as follows:

1. on item 1 - by an ordinance of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
2. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) on items 2 and 6 - by the implementing regulation to this Act;
3. on item 3 - by an ordinance of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Defense.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 63/2006, amended, SG No. 105/2006) No excise duty shall be due or the excise duty paid shall be refunded for motor vehicles which have been deforced or stolen and import customs charges on them are refunded or released under the customs legislation.

Article 22. (Effective 1.07.2006 - SG No. 91/2005) (1) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) Completely denatured ethyl alcohol shall be exempted from levy of excise duty.

(2) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The excise duty paid on ethyl alcohol, which is both expressly denatured and used for the manufacture of products not for human consumption, shall be refunded.

(3) (Renumbered from Paragraph 2, SG No. 63/2006) Refunded shall be the excise duty paid on alcohol and alcoholic beverages where used for production of:

1. vinegar falling within CN code 2209;
2. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006, amended, SG No. 31/2007) medicines within the meaning of the Medicinal Products in Human Medicine Act and veterinary medical products within the Veterinary Practices Act;
3. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) flavours with alcoholic strength not exceeding 1.2 % vol used as additives to foodstuffs and soft drinks;
4. semi-finished goods where used for production of foodstuffs (directly or as a constituent, filled or otherwise), provided that the alcoholic strength does not exceed 8.5 litres of pure alcohol per 100 kg of the semi-finished product for chocolates, and 5 litres of pure alcohol per 100 kg of the semi-finished product for other products.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 63/2006) Refunded shall be the excise duty paid on alcohol and alcoholic beverages where used:

1. for medical treatment purposes in medical establishments and pharmacies;

2. as samples for analysis, for necessary production tests, or for scientific purposes;
3. for scientific research;
4. in a manufacturing process provided that the finished product does not contain alcohol.

(5) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Refunded shall be the excise duty paid on flavours with alcoholic strength exceeding 1.2% vol used as additives in the production of foodstuffs and soft drinks with alcoholic strength not exceeding 1.2 % vol.

(6) (Renumbered from Paragraph 4, amended, SG No. 63/2006, renumbered from Paragraph 5, amended, SG No. 105/2006) The excise duty paid under Paragraphs 2 to 5 shall be refunded after the sale of the manufactured products referred to in Paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 or, respectively, after the use thereof under Paragraph 4.

Article 23. (Effective 1.07.2006, amended, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The excise duty paid by the persons under Article 76a, Paragraph 4 shall be refunded where the following conditions obtain simultaneously:

1. the persons have fulfilled their obligations under Article 76b;
2. the persons have the third copy of the simplified accompanying document, certified by the recipient in the other Member State;
3. the persons have the document under Article 76a, Paragraph 9.

(2) Refund under Paragraph 1 shall be carried out by filing a written request for excise duty refund to the competent customs authority under Article 76b, Paragraph 1, item 1.

(3) Attached to the request under Paragraph 2 shall be documents set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(4) The head of the competent customs authority shall, within 30 days from receipt of the request and the required documents, issue a motivated decision granting or refusing to grant the request, in whole or in part.

(5) The decision under Paragraph 4 may be appealed under the procedure of the Tax and Social-Insurance Procedure Code.

Article 24. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Exempt from excise duty shall be the energy products:

1. for aircraft and vessels, unless used for private pleasure flying and sailing;
2. (amended, SG, No. 105/2006) in standard tanks of motor vehicles and in containers for special use - upon the entry of the vehicles in the territory of the country;
3. (new, SG No. 105/2006) with CN codes 2710 11 21, 2710 11 25 and 2710 19 29 - in consumer packages of up to 3 litres within the meaning of the Consumer Protection and Rules of Trade Act;
4. (new, SG No. 105/2006) with CN codes 2705, 2707 40, 2707 60, from 2707 99 30 to 2708 20, from 2710 19 81 to 2710 19 99, 2712, 2713, 2714, 2715 from 2902 50 to 2902 90, 3403, 3811 21, 3811 29 where used for purposes other than as motor fuel or heating fuel.

(2) Exempt from excise duty shall be energy products:

1. (amended, SG No. 63/2006) with dual use for purposes;
2. used for injection into blast-furnaces for the purposes of chemical reduction as additive to carbonates used as basic fuel;
3. (amended, SG, No. 105/2006) used in production of electricity;
4. (new, SG No. 63/2006) used for purposes other than as motor fuel and heating fuel.

5. (new, SG No. 105/2006) used in mineralogical processes;

6. (new, SG No. 105/2006) used in a tax warehouse for production of energy products provided that the energy products used are produced in the same tax warehouse.

(3) Exemption under Paragraph 1, item 1, and Paragraph 2 shall apply only to excise-exempt end users.

(4) The procedure for exemption and issuance of certificates to end users shall be determined by implementing regulation to this Act.

(5) The Customs Agency shall keep a register of the certificates issued under Paragraph 4.

(6) The form and content of the register under Paragraph 5 shall be determined by the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 24a. (New, SG, No. 105/2006) (1) Excise duty paid on electricity shall be refunded:

1. to persons using electricity for chemical reduction or in electrolytic, metallurgical or mineralogical processes;

2. to persons using electricity in the manufacture of products, provided that the cost of the electricity accounts for more than 50 per cent of the cost of the product;

3. to licensed railway carriers and railway infrastructure managers - for traction and non-traction electricity used by them in the conduct of their business.

(2) The refund under Paragraph 1 shall be made on the basis of a written request, to be submitted by 30 April in the year following the use of electricity under Paragraph 1.

(3) The request under Paragraph 2 shall be filed to the head of the customs authority by domicile of the persons under Paragraph 1.

(4) Enclosed to the request shall be documents set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(5) The head of the competent customs authority shall, within 30 days from receipt of the request and the required documents, issue a motivated decision granting or refusing to grant the request, in whole or in part.

(6) The decision under Paragraph 5 may be appealed under the procedure of the Tax and Social-Insurance Procedure Code.

(7) The excise duty shall be refunded within 14 days from the date of issue of the decision under Paragraph 5.

Article 25. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Licensed warehouse keepers and registered persons shall be exempt from excise duty or excise duty paid shall be refunded upon:

1. destruction of excisable goods under administrative control, including where said goods are affixed with excise label, as well as upon retirement or destruction of excise labels under the terms of Article 27, Paragraphs 7, 8 and 10;

2. shortages and irrecoverable loss of excisable goods as a result of force majeure, including where said goods are affixed with excise label;

3. losses from natural wastage resulting from changes in the physical and chemical properties during storage and transportation of excisable goods, within normal limits, corresponding to established allowances for maximum natural wastage according to the regulation under Paragraph 2;

4. technological rejects within the admissible norms laid down in the technological documentation for the relevant production or activity.

(2) The norms for maximum natural wastage of excisable goods shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Finance.

Article 26. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Renumbered from Article 26, amended, SG No. 105/2006) In the cases of export of excisable goods the excise duty paid to the republican budget shall be refunded.

(2) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Except for the cases of Article 24, Paragraph 1, item 1, supply of energy products for feeding of vessels and aircraft shall be considered export and the excise duty secured/paid on the goods shall be released/refunded according to a procedure and within time limits set out in the implementing regulation to this Act. This shall not apply to vessels and aircraft used for sports, pleasure or private purposes.

Article 27. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Undue but paid excise duty or excise duty subject to refunding shall be refunded or offset against excise duty due on the basis of a written request filed to the head of the customs authority by domicile of the person or by location of the tax warehouse in the cases where the person is a licensed warehouse keeper.

(2) Enclosed to the request shall be the documents laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(3) The authority under Paragraph 1, within 30 days from receipt of the request, removal of irregularities respectively, shall make a motivated decision on granting or refusing to grant the request - in whole or in part. The time limit for making a decision in the cases of Article 26 shall be 14 days. Where no decision has been issued, this shall be deemed as a silent refusal of the request in whole.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The decision or refusal under Paragraph 3 may be appealed before the director of the regional customs directorate, who shall issue a decision on the claim within 14 days. If no decision is issued within the said time limit, this shall be deemed as confirmation in whole of the decision in the appealed Article. The decision or absence of a decision of the director of the regional customs directorate may be appealed under the Tax and Social-Insurance Procedure Code.

(5) The excise duty shall be refunded within 14 days from entry into force of the statement of refunding.

(6) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Excise labels ordered and received by the persons under Article 64, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 may be returned to the competent customs authority, provided that said excise labels have not been affixed on bottled beverages or tobacco products, and a written statement of ascertainment shall be executed, indicating the type, issue or serial number, total number, consecutive numbering as well as other specific features typical of respective excise labels.

(7) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Excise labels that have become defective in the process of production of tobacco products and bottled alcoholic beverages shall be retired by a bilaterally signed protocol between the persons under Article 64 and the competent customs authority and shall be handed over to the latter.

(8) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Where owing to objective reasons excisable goods or consumer packages do not meet normative requirements or technical or quality standards of the manufacturer and thus cannot be sold on the market, excise labels affixed on the packages shall be retired and destroyed in the presence of a customs authority under the procedure and in the manner set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(9) (Renumbered from Paragraph 7, amended, SG No. 105/2006) The excise duty under Paragraph 6 shall be refunded or offset under the procedure of this Article on the basis of a request for refund, which shall be filed not later than 30 days from the date of executing the written statement of ascertainment under Paragraph 6.

(10) (New, SG No. 105/2006) In the cases of Paragraphs 7 and 8 the excise duty shall be offset or refunded under the procedure of this Article on the basis of a request for refund, which shall be filed not later than 30 days from the date of executing the protocol under Paragraphs 7 and 8 provided that the visible requisites and securities ascertain incontestably the authenticity of the excise label.

Section III

Tax Base

Article 28. (Effective 1.07.2006) The tax base for excise duty purposes shall be as follows:

1. for beer - the number of hectoliters for Plato degrees;
2. for wine - the number of hectoliters per finished product;

3. for other fermented beverages - the number of hectoliters per finished product;
4. for intermediate products - the number of hectoliters per finished product;
5. for ethyl alcohol - the number of hectoliters of pure alcohol measured at a temperature of 20 °C;
6. for petrol, gas oil and kerosene - the number of litres recalculated to a comparative temperature of 15°C;
7. for fuel oils and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) - the quantity of fuel oils and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) measured in tons;
8. for natural gas - calorific capacity measured in gigajoules;
9. for coffee, coffee extracts and powdered mixtures with coffee content exceeding 10 per cent - the quantity measured in kilograms;
10. for cigars and cigarillos - the quantity of units per product;
11. (supplemented, SG No. 81/2006) for biodiesel and bioethanol - the quantity of litres recalculated to a comparative temperature of 15 °C;
12. (new, SG No. 105/2006) for coke and coal - the calorific capacity measured in gigajoules;
13. (new, SG No. 105/2006) for electricity - the quantity measured in megawatthours.

Article 29. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Excise duty on tobacco shall be calculated as a sum of a specific excise duty and a proportional excise duty. The tax base for calculating the specific excise duty on cigarettes shall be the quantity of units per product and of the proportional excise duty, the selling price.

(2) The excise duty on smoking tobacco (for pipe and cigarettes) shall be calculated as a sum of a specific excise duty and a proportional excise duty. The tax base for calculating the specific excise duty shall be the quantity of kilograms, and of the proportional excise duty, the selling price.

(3) The selling price under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be:

1. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) the price registered according to the prevailing established procedure under Article 20, Paragraph 2, items 1 - 5, 8 and 9;
2. the price written on the excise label - in the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, items 6 and 7;
3. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) the price registered according to the established procedure at the time of placing the goods under excise duty suspension arrangement respectively, except for the cases under Item 4;
4. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) the price registered according to the established procedure at the time of placing the goods under excise duty suspension arrangement or temporary storage respectively;
5. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) the price fixed in the implementing regulation to this Act - in the cases where no selling price for the respective cigarette brand under Paragraphs 1 and 2 has been registered according to the established procedure;
6. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) the price registered or laid down in the regulation at the time of supervisory authorities establishing violations under Chapter Nine.

Article 30. (Effective 1.07.2006) The tax base for automobiles shall be as follows:

1. for used automobiles - number of kilowatts depending on the engine power;
2. for new automobiles - number of kilowatts depending on the engine power for the excess over 120 kilowatts 120 (kW) under DIN system and for the excess over 126 kilowatts (kW) under SAE system.

Section IV

Excise Rate

Article 31. (Effective 1.07.2006) Excise rates on alcohol and alcoholic beverages shall be:

1. for beer - BGN 1.50 per 1 hectolitre of Plato degree;
2. for wine - BGN 0 per 1 hectolitre;
3. for other fermented beverages - BGN 0 per 1 hectolitre of finished product;
4. for intermediate products - BGN 90 per 1 hectolitre of finished product;
5. for ethyl alcohol - BGN 1,100 per 1 hectolitre of pure alcohol;
6. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) for ethyl alcohol (rakiya) produced in a specialized small distillery - BGN 550 per 1 hectolitre of pure alcohol.

Article 32. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Excise rates on motor fuels shall be as follows:

1. for leaded petrol falling within CN codes 2710 11 31, 2710 11 51, and 2710 11 59 - BGN 830 per 1,000 litres;
2. for unleaded petrol falling within CN codes 2710 11 31, 2710 11 41, 2710 11 45, and 2710 11 49 - BGN 635 per 1,000 litres;
3. for gas oil falling within CN codes 2710 19 41 through 2710 19 49 - BGN 535 per 1,000 litres;
4. for kerosene falling within CN codes 2710 19 21, and 2710 19 25 - BGN 485 per 1,000 litres;
5. for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) falling within CN codes 2711 12 11 through 2711 19 00, including energy products falling within CN codes 2901, 2711 29, from 2902 11 through 2902 44 - BGN 340 per 1,000 kilograms;
6. for natural gas falling within CN codes 2711 11 00, and 2711 21 00 - BGN 0 per 1 gigajoule;
7. for biodiesel falling within CN code 3824 90 99 and bioethanol falling within CN code 2207 20 00 - BGN 0 per 1,000 litres.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006, No. 81/2006, No. 105/2006) The excise rates on motor fuel used for tillage of agricultural land by agricultural producers approved for financial assistance under the Agricultural Producers Support Act, shall be as follows:

1. for gas oil falling within CN codes 2710 19 41 through 2710 19 49 - BGN 50 per 1,000 litres;
2. for kerosene falling within CN codes 2710 19 21 and 2710 19 25 - BGN 50 per 1,000 litres;
3. for natural gas falling within CN codes 2711 11 00 and 2711 21 00 - BGN 0 per gigajoule;
4. for biodiesel falling within CN code 3824 90 99 and bioethanol falling within CN code 2207 20 00 - BGN 0 per 1,000 litres.

(3) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The rates of excise duty referred to in Items 1 and 2 of Paragraph (2) shall be applied by means of reimbursement of the difference between the relevant rate under Paragraph (1) and the rate under Paragraph (2) for a quantity calculated on the basis of an annual fuel consumption rate of 73 litres per hectare of registered arable agricultural land.

(4) (New, SG No. 63/2006) Not later than the 1st day of July of each year, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall provide the Director of the National Customs Agency with the following information from the Register of Agricultural Producers:

1. identification particulars of the agricultural producer;
2. legal form of business organization, name (business name), permanent address (registered office and address of the place of management), telephone, fax, electronic mail address;
3. data on the agricultural land farmed (in hectares) according to the agricultural land parcel identification.

(5) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The right to reimbursement shall be exercised by the agricultural producers on a single occasion in respect of the motor fuel purchased thereby during the current year. A request for reimbursement shall be submitted from the 1st day of July until the 31st day of December in the current year,

(6) (New, SG No. 63/2006) Reimbursement under Paragraph (3) shall be effected within two months after submission of the request according to a procedure established the Regulations for Application of this Act .

(7) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The excise rate on energy products falling within CN codes 2710 11, other than those under Paragraphs 1 and 2, as well as for energy products falling within CN codes 2707 10, 2707 20, 2707 30, 2707 50, 2709 shall be BGN 635 per 1,000 litres.

(8) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The excise rate for energy products falling within CN codes 2710 19, other than those under Paragraphs 1 and 2, shall be BGN 535 per 1,000 litres.

(9) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The excise rate on energy products intended for use as additives or extenders to motor fuels shall be the rate under Items 2 - 5 of Paragraph 1 depending on the type of the fuel to which they refer. Where the type of fuel for which they are intended cannot be determined, the rate for them shall be BGN 635 per 1,000 litres.

Article 33. (1) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006, No. 105/2006) Excise rates on energy products for heating shall be as follows:

1. for gas oil falling within CN codes 2710 19 41 through 2710 19 49 - BGN 50 per 1,000 litres;
2. for fuel oils falling within CN codes 2710 19 61 through 2710 19 69 and for energy products falling within CN codes 2706, 2707 91, 2707 99 11, 2707 99 19, 2710 91, and 2710 99 - BGN 30 per 1,000 kg;
3. for kerosene falling within CN codes 2710 19 21 0 and 2710 19 25 - BGN 50 per 1,000 litres;
4. for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) falling within CN codes 2711 12 11 through 2711 19 00 - BGN 0 per 1,000 kg;
5. for natural gas falling within CN codes 2711 11 00 and 2711 21 00 - BGN 0 per gigajoule;
6. for biodiesel falling within CN code 3824 90 99 - BGN 0 per 1,000 litres;
7. for coal and coke falling within CN codes 2701, 2702 and 2704 - BGN 0.30 per gigajoule.

(2) The rate under Paragraph 1, item 4 shall apply to liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in containers used for heating and household purposes and meeting the requirements laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 34. (Effective 1.07.2006 - SG No. 91/2005, amended, SG No. 63/2006) The rates on gas oil and kerosene under Article 33 shall apply only to marked fuel.

Article 34a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The excise rate for electricity falling within CN code 2716, except for the cases of Paragraph 2, shall be BGN 1.00 per megawatthour.

(2) The excise rate for electricity falling within CN code 2716 for consumers of electricity for household purposes within the meaning of the Energy Act shall be BGN 0 per megawatthour.

Article 35. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The energy products under Article 13 intended for use, offered for sale or used as heating fuel or motor fuel and for which no excise rate is fixed in Article 32, Paragraph 1 and Article 33, Paragraph 1 shall be charged at the rate set for the equivalent heating fuel or motor fuel.

(2) (Supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) Apart from the energy products under Article 13 and bioethanol, all other

products intended for use, offered for sale or used as motor fuel, as additive or as extender of motor fuel shall be charged at the rate set for the equivalent motor fuel in Article 32, Paragraph 1.

(3) In addition to the energy products under Article 13 all other hydrocarbons, except peat, which are intended for use, offered for sale or used as heating fuel, shall be charged at the rate set for the equivalent heating fuel under Article 33, Paragraph 1.

Article 36. (Effective 1.07.2006) The excise rate on coffee shall be:

1. for coffee roasted all kinds - BGN 1.00 per 1 kg;
2. for coffee raw (unroasted) all kinds - BGN 0.70 per 1 kg;
3. for coffee extracts - BGN 1.50 per 1 kg;
4. for powdered mixtures with coffee extract exceeding 10 per cent - BGN 1.00 per 1 kg.

Article 37. (Effective 1.07.2006) The excise rate on cigars and cigarillos shall be BGN 270 per 1,000 pieces.

Article 38. (Effective 1.07.2006) The excise rate on smoking tobacco (for pipe and cigarettes) shall be:

1. of the specific excise duty - BGN 4.50 per 100 g;
2. of the proportional excise duty - 10 per cent of the selling price.

Article 39. (Effective 1.07.2006) The excise rate on cigarettes shall be:

1. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) of the specific excise duty - BGN 6.50 per 1,000 pieces;
2. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) of the proportional excise duty - 54 per cent of the selling price.

Article 40. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The excise duty on used automobiles shall be:

1. for automobiles with engine power exceeding 120 kW to 150 kW under DIN system - BGN 35 per 1 kW;
2. for automobiles with engine power exceeding 150 kW under DIN system - BGN 60 per 1 kW;
3. for automobiles with engine power exceeding 126 kW to 157.5 kW under SAE system - BGN 33.33 per 1 kW;
4. for automobiles with engine power exceeding 157.5 kW under SAE system - BGN 57.14 per 1 kW.

(2) The excise duty on new automobiles shall be:

1. seven hundred lev + BGN 90 per 1 kW for the excess over 120 kW under DIN system;
2. seven hundred lev + BGN 85.71 per 1 kW for the excess over 126 kW under SAE system.

Section V

Calculation and Payment of Excise Duty

Article 41. (Effective 1.07.2006) The amount of the excise duty due shall be calculated by multiplying the tax base by the excise rate.

Article 42. (Effective 1.07.2006) In the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, item 5 the excise duty shall be determined and accounted for in accordance with the procedure laid down for the customs liability.

Article 43. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Outside the cases under Article 42 the excise duty shall be charged by:

1. the licensed warehouse keeper, the registered person under Article 57, Article 57b, Paragraph 3, and Article 57c on the date it becomes due - by issuing a tax document under Article 84, Paragraph 1;

2. the registered person under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, items 1, 2 and 3 - by issuing a tax document under Article 84, Paragraph 1 under the terms of Article 84, Paragraph 3 for the goods on which the excise duty becomes due as per Article 20, Paragraph 2, items 15, 16, 17 and 18;

3. the registered person under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 2 - on the date of establishing the shortage under Article 20, Paragraph 2, item 8 by issuing a tax document under Article 84, Paragraph 1.

(2) The persons under Paragraph 1 shall declare the excise duty charged for the tax period by filing an excise declaration.

(3) The tax period shall cover one month and shall coincide with the calendar month.

(4) The first tax period shall cover the time from the date of submitting the license or the certificate of registration under this Act until the last day of the calendar month in which licensing or registration is made.

(5) The last tax period shall cover the time from the beginning of the calendar month in which the license was terminated until the date of termination thereof.

Article 44. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The excise duty due shall be paid to the republican budget as follows:

1. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) in the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, item 5 - to the account or in cash at the tills of the competent customs authority by the importer within the time limits for payment of the customs liability laid down in the Customs Act where the debtor is a natural person other than a sole trader;

2. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) in the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, item 5 - to the account of the competent customs authority by the importer within the time limits for payment of the customs liability laid down in the Customs Act;

3. (new, SG No. 105/2006) in the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, items 12 and 13 - to the account of the competent customs authority by permanent address, domicile respectively, by the person who is the recipient of the goods, within 14 days from their receipt;

4. (new, SG No. 105/2006) in the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, item 19 - to the account of the competent customs authority by the excise- exempt end user within 14 days from use of the energy products for purposes other than those specified in the certificate;

5. (new, SG No. 105/2006) in the cases under Article 76d - to the account of the competent customs authority by permanent address, domicile respectively, by the person within 14 days from the date of his being notified about the amount of the excise duty;

6. (renumbered from item 3, SG No. 105/2006) in all other cases - to the account of the competent customs authority by the licensed warehouse keeper or the registered person within the time limit for filing the excise declaration.

(2) The excise duty may furthermore be paid by a person other than the person under Paragraph 1 with the written consent of the debtor.

(3) The excise duty shall be deemed to have been paid to the republican budget as from the date on which the amount is received on the account or at the tills of the competent customs authority under Paragraph 1.

(4) Where the excise duty has not been paid to the republican budget within the time limits set forth under this Article, the person obligated to pay it shall be the person under Paragraph 1.

(5) The customs authorities shall authorize release of the goods after payment or securing of the excise duty due according to the procedure laid down for the customs liability.

Article 45. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Upon entry into force of a new amount of the excise rate the persons under Article 64, Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall declare available stocks of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages falling within CN codes 2208, affixed with excise labels, before the competent customs authority by location of the warehouse according to the procedure laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(2) Available stocks under Paragraph 1 shall be charged additionally and the additional excise duty due shall be paid within the time limits under Article 44.

EXCISE DUTY SUSPENSION ARRANGEMENT

Section I

General Provisions

Article 46. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Under excise duty suspension arrangement within the meaning of this Act excise taxation of goods shall be suspended temporarily on their production, bringing or importation into the territory of the country.

(2) Excise duty suspension arrangement shall be applied by a licensed warehouse keeper for:

1. production of excisable goods in a tax warehouse;
2. storage of excisable goods in a tax warehouse;
3. movement of excisable goods.

(3) Excise duty suspension arrangement shall not apply to the other tax liabilities of the person subject to taxation.

Section II

Licensing

Article 47. (1) (Renumbered from Article 47, SG No. 105/2006) A licensed warehouse keeper may be a person who:

1. (amended, SG No. 105/2006) is a trader within the meaning of the Commerce Act or the legislation of another Member State or a country which is a signatory to the European Economic Area Agreement as well as a legal person set up on the grounds of a normative act - where the person is a producer of excisable goods, or is an equity commercial company with registered and fully paid-in capital of not less than BGN 500,000 - in the cases where the person is not a producer of excisable goods;

2. is not undergoing bankruptcy proceedings or liquidation;

3. is represented by persons who:

a) have not been convicted of a crime of general nature;

b) have not been members of a managing or controlling body or unlimited liability partners in a company dissolved by insolvency, if unsatisfied creditors have remained;

4. has no due and payable customs liabilities, tax liabilities and compulsory social security liabilities;

5. (amended, SG No. 63/2006) has not committed a grave or repeated violation under this Act;

6. has been granted a license or permit or have been registered to conduct the activity where this is provided for by another law;

7. has own or rented premises for carrying out the activities under Article 46, Paragraph 2, which meet the security and control requirements laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act;

8. uses automated reporting systems, allowing real-time control on raw materials, excisable goods produced or stored and ensuring that the person is capable of meeting the requirements of the arrangement.

(2) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Traders within the meaning of the legislation of another Member State or a country which is a signatory to the European Economic Area Agreement shall carry out activity as a licensed warehouse keeper through a branch in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 48. (1) To obtain a license for management of a tax warehouse a written application shall be filed to the Director of the Customs Agency, which shall contain:

1. description of the operations to be performed in the tax warehouse;
2. the type of excisable goods to be produced or stored;
3. annual projected volume of excisable goods produced and/or stored under excise duty suspension arrangement according to the business plan under Paragraph 2, item 13;
4. annual projected volume of movement of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement;
5. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) description of the systems under Article 47, Paragraph 1, item 8;
6. exact location, description and intended use of the tax warehouse premises;
7. type of security to be provided;
8. names of employees authorized to sign accompanying administrative documents.

(2) The following documents shall be attached to the application under Paragraph 1:

1. (amended, SG, No. 34/2006) a current certificate of registration in the Commercial Register;
2. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) a conviction certificate of the circumstances under Article 47, Paragraph 1, item 3, littera "a", and where the persons are non-residents - a declaration;
3. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) a declaration of the circumstances under Article 47, Paragraph 1, item 3, littera "b";
4. a certificate of presence or absence of tax liabilities on compulsory social security payments;
5. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) a declaration of the circumstances under Article 47, Paragraph 1, item 5;
6. a license, permit or registration for conducting business where this is required by law;
7. a deed of ownership or rent contract for the tax warehouse premises;
8. a sketch of the real estate;
9. a layout of the tax warehouse premises;
10. annual financial statements for the previous years audited by a registered auditor or a specialised audit enterprise within the meaning of the Independent Financial Audit Act where the person has operated more than two years and interim financial statements prepared at the end of the month preceding the month of filing the application;
11. technical documentation for the automated reporting systems;
12. a technological scheme of the production process, input norms, maximum values of technological losses, technical specification;
13. a business plan including information about:
 - a) the type of excisable goods to be produced or stored in the tax warehouse;
 - b) the monthly average quantity of excisable goods to be stored - by type of goods and excise rates;
 - c) the maximum projected quantity of excisable goods that will move simultaneously under excise duty suspension arrangement - by type of goods and excise rates;

d) the production capacity for excisable goods and the maximum warehouse capacity for storage of excisable goods - by type of goods and excise rates;

e) the monthly average projected amount of the excise duty due - by type of goods and excise rates;

14. specimen of the persons under paragraph 1, item 8;

15. (new, SG No. 105/2006) a certified copy of a document verifying the uniform identification code of the person.

(3) One application may be filed to apply for licenses for management of more than one tax warehouse.

Article 49. (1) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Where the conditions for granting a license for management of tax warehouse are fulfilled and the documents submitted meet the requirements, the authority under Article 48, Paragraph 1 shall issue a decision on the application within one month from filing thereof.

(2) (Renumbered from Paragraph 1, SG No. 105/2006) Where the documents submitted under Article 48, Paragraph 2 do not meet the requirements or the information provided is insufficient, the authority under Article 48, Paragraph 1 shall notify the applicant within 14 days from receipt of the application and shall set a time limit to remove irregularities or provide additional information within 14 days from receipt of the notification.

(3) (Renumbered from Paragraph 2, amended SG No. 105/2006) Within the time limit under Paragraph 1 the applicant shall remove any irregularities or submit additional required information and upon failure to fulfill this obligation the authority under Article 48, Paragraph 2 shall refuse granting the requested license.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, amended SG No. 105/2006) After removal of the irregularities or provision of the required additional information the authority under Article 48, Paragraph 1 shall consider the application and the documents attached thereto and shall issue a decision on the application.

Article 50. (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Within the time limits under Article 49 the Director of the Customs Agency shall issue a license for management of a tax warehouse for production and/or storage of excisable goods or a motivated refusal.

(2) A separate license shall be issued for every individual tax warehouse.

(3) The license issued or the refusal for issuing a license may be appealed under the Administrative Procedure Code . The absence of a decision within the time limit set shall be deemed to be a refusal for issuing a license.

Article 51. (1) The license shall contain:

1. the name of the issuing body;

2. the identification number of the licensed warehouse keeper;

3. the identification number of the tax warehouse;

4. factual and legal grounds for its issuance;

5. (amended, SG, No. 34/2006, SG No. 63/2006) the company name, seat and registered address, the single identification code of the licensed warehouse keeper;

6. the address of the tax warehouse;

7. description of the activities to be performed in the tax warehouse and the type of excisable goods;

8. the type and amount of security;

9. the full name and the personal identification number of the persons representing the licensed warehouse keeper as well as other persons authorized to sign accompanying administrative documents;

10. the date of issue and signature of the person issuing the license.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The license for management of a tax warehouse shall be delivered upon presentation of the security.

(3) The right to apply excise duty suspension arrangement shall arise from the date of the license delivery.

Article 52. (1) (Renumbered from Article 52, SG No. 105/2006) The licensed warehouse keeper shall be obliged:

1. not to allow the full amount of the excise duty that has arisen or could arise upon application of the excise duty suspension arrangement to exceed the amount of the security provided;

2. notify customs authorities of any changes in the circumstances under which the license for management of the tax warehouse has been issued within 14 days of their occurrence by submitting the necessary documents;

3. ensure free access of customs authorities to all premises and the entire territory of the tax warehouse and shall ensure premises for conduct of the inspections;

4. observe all specific requirements for the production, storage and movement of excisable goods;

5. keep separate documentary records by type of activity and by type of excisable goods.

(2) (New, SG No. 105/2006) In the event of a change of the circumstances subject to recording in the license granted, the Director of the Customs Agency shall issue a decision, which shall form an integral part of the license granted and delivered.

Article 53. (1) The validity of the license for management of a tax warehouse shall be terminated:

1. on dissolution of the legal entity or death of the natural person - sole trader;

2. at a written request of the licensed warehouse keeper;

3. on revocation of the license.

(2) The license for management of a tax warehouse shall be revoked where:

1. the licensed warehouse keeper no longer meets the requirements under Article 47, or

2. if within the time limits set no new security has been provided, required in the cases where a new amount of the security has been fixed or where the security is no longer valid.

(3) The license shall be terminated by a decision of the Director of the Customs Agency, which may be appealed under the Administrative Procedure Code.

Article 54. (1) A register of the licensed warehouse keepers and tax warehouses shall be kept by the Customs Agency.

(2) The register shall contain:

1. the identification number of the licensed warehouse keeper;

2. the identification number of the tax warehouse;

3. (amended, SG, No. 34/2006, SG No. 63/2006) the company name, seat and registered address, the single identification code of the licensed warehouse keeper;

4. the address of the tax warehouse;

5. the type of excisable goods that may be produced and/or stored in the tax warehouse;

6. the date of issue of the license;
7. the date of termination of the validity of the license.

(3) Subject to entry in the register shall be any subsequent changes in the circumstances under Paragraph 2.

(4) The format of the register under Paragraph 1 shall be laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 55. Any licensed warehouse keeper shall be entitled to receive information from the registers under Article 24, Paragraph 5 and Article 54 according to a procedure laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Section III

Registration of Specialised Small Distilleries and

Small Producers of Wine

Article 56. (1) Subject to compulsory registration under this Act shall be:

1. specialized small distilleries;
2. small producers of wine.

(2) The Customs Agency shall keep a register of the registered units under Paragraph 1, which shall contain the following information:

1. identification number of the unit;
2. (amended, SG, No. 34/2006, SG No. 63/2006) name, seat and registered address, the single identification code of the person;
3. address of the unit;
4. the type of excisable goods that may be produced;
5. date of registration;
6. date of termination of the registration.

(3) The format of the register under Paragraph 2 shall be laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 57. (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The owners or tenants of a unit under Article 56, Paragraph 1 may be only persons under Article 40c of the Wine and Spirit Drinks Act.

(2) The persons under Paragraph 1 may file an application for registration of the unit to the head of the customs authority by location of the unit before commencing activity.

(3) The following shall be attached to the application under paragraph 2:

1. (amended, SG, No. 34/2006) current certificate of registration in the Commercial Register - in original or a notary certified copy;
2. (amended, SG, No. 81/2006) technical information on the opened and closed production units or warehouses, specifying the area and their location, full description of the technological equipment, including containers and their volume;
3. the original or a notary certified copy of a document certifying the unit's commissioning, issued in accordance with the Spatial Development Act;
4. (repealed, SG No. 105/2006);
5. (amended, SG, No. 34/2006, SG No. 63/2006) a copy of BULSTAT Register identification card, certified by the

person;

6. a license, permit or registration, where this is required by law;

7. a declaration that the unit meets the requirements of Article 4, items 8 and 9;

8. a list of the full names and personal identification numbers of the persons that manage the production process (in charge of the units) and comply with the requirements of the Wine and Spirit Drinks Act and the by-laws for its implementation.

(4) Based on the application and documents attached thereto under paragraph 3, the head of the customs authority, within 14 days from submission of the documents, removal of irregularities respectively, shall issue a certificate of registration or shall refuse to issue said certificate with a motivated decision. Absence of a decision within the time limit set shall be deemed to be a refusal for issuing the act.

(5) The registered person shall notify in writing the head of the customs authority of any change in the data contained in the application within 14 days from occurrence thereof.

Section IIIa

(New, SG No. 105/2006)

Compulsory Registration

Article 57a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) Subject to compulsory registration shall be the persons:

1. who produce, import or bring into the territory of the country coke or coal, as well as the persons who initiate transactions in coke or coal;

2. licensed under the Energy Act, who sell electricity or natural gas to consumers of electricity or natural gas for household or industrial purposes within the meaning of the Energy Act;

3. licensed under the Energy Act to produce electricity, for transfer or distribution of electricity or natural gas, for trade in electricity, for public supply of electricity or natural gas or supply of end suppliers of electricity or natural gas which use own electricity or natural gas for their own needs;

4. registered for VAT purposes in another Member State, who bring into the territory of the country excisable goods for supply under the terms of distant selling within the meaning of the Value Added Tax Act.

(2) The Customs Agency shall keep a register of the registered persons under Paragraph 1, which shall contain the following information:

1. name, registered address and registered office, uniform identification code of the person;

2. types of excisable goods subject to excise duty taxation by the person;

3. date of registration and number of the certificate of registration;

4. date of deregistration and number of the decision on deregistration;

5. the competent customs authority.

Article 57b. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The persons under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, items 1 - 3 shall file an application for registration to the head of the customs authority by registered address and registered office before start up of activity.

(2) The persons under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, item 4 shall file an application for registration to the head of the customs authority by permanent address, registered address and registered office of the tax representative respectively.

(3) A tax representative of a non-resident person registered for VAT purposes in another Member State may be only

a capable natural person with permanent address in the country or permanently residing therein or a resident legal person which is not undergoing liquidation or is not declared in bankruptcy and has no payable and unpaid tax liabilities and liabilities for insurance contributions collected by the National Revenue Agency.

(4) The tax representative shall represent the non-resident person in all its/his tax legal relations which have arisen hereunder and shall be responsible jointly and severally and unlimitedly for the obligations of the registered non-resident person under this Act.

(5) The application under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall contain:

1. a current certificate of registration with the commercial register - the original or a notary certified copy if the person is subject to such registration;

2. a copy of a document certified by the person, certifying its/his uniform identification code;

3. a license, permit or registration, where this is required by law;

4. type of excisable goods;

5. average monthly quantity of excisable goods supplied under the terms of distant selling;

6. the type of the security provided - for the persons under Paragraph 3.

(6) On the grounds of the application and the documents enclosed thereto under Paragraph 5 the head of the customs authority shall, within 14 days from receipt of the documents, removal of inconsistencies therein respectively, issue a certificate of registration or shall refuse to issue it by a motivated decision. Failing to issue said certificate shall be considered an express refusal of registration.

(7) Refusal of registration may be appealed under the Administrative Procedure Code.

(8) The certificate of registration under Paragraph 6 shall be delivered to the tax representative upon submission of the security under Article 83a.

(9) The registered person shall:

1. notify in writing the head of the competent customs authority of any change of the data in the application within 14 days of their occurrence;

2. keep documentation and accounting in accordance with the requirements set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Section IIIb

(New, SG No. 105/2006)

Registered Traders

Article 57c. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) An equity company under the Commerce Act, with registered and fully paid in capital of not less than BGN 500,000 shall have the right to register as a registered trader.

(2) The person under Paragraph 1 shall file an application for registration to the head of the customs authority by registered address and registered office before start up of activity, which shall contain:

1. a current certificate of registration with the commercial register - the original or a notary certified copy;

2. a copy of a document certified by the person, certifying its uniform identification code;

3. a license, permit or registration, where this is required by law;

4. location and layout of the premises where the goods are received as well as a document of ownership or a rent contract for such premises;

5. type of excisable goods received;

6. average monthly quantity of excisable goods supplied under excise duty suspension arrangement;

7. a list with the full name and the personal identification number of the persons who are authorised to sign accompanying administrative documents and specimens of their signatures;

8. the type of the security provided.

(3) Where the conditions for registration are fulfilled and the documents submitted meet the requirements, the authority under Paragraph 2 shall issue a decision on the application within one month from its receipt.

(4) Where the documents submitted under Paragraph 2 do not meet the requirements or the information provided is insufficient, the authority under Paragraph 2 shall, within 14 days from receipt of the application, notify the applicant and set a 14-day time limit for removal of inconsistencies or provision of additional information effective as from receipt of the notification.

(5) Within the time limit set under Paragraph 4, the applicant shall remove inconsistencies or provide the required additional information and should it fail to do so the authority under Paragraph 2 shall refuse to grant registration.

(6) Within one month from removal of inconsistencies or provision of the required additional information the authority under Paragraph 2 shall examine the application and the documents attached thereto and shall issue a decision.

Article 57d. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) In the time limits under Article 57c the head of the competent customs authority shall issue a certificate of registration to the registered trader or shall refuse to issue it by a motivated decision. Failing to issue said certificate shall be considered a refusal of registration.

(2) Refusal of registration may be appealed under the Administrative Procedure Code.

(3) The certificate of registration shall be delivered to the person upon submission of the security under Article 83a.

(4) The right of the registered person to receive goods under excise duty suspension arrangement shall arise on the date of delivery of the certificate of registration.

Article 57e. (New, SG No. 105/2006) The registered trader shall:

1. keep separate document reporting by type of excisable goods and store separately from other goods the goods received under excise duty suspension arrangement;

2. notify in writing the head of the customs authority of any change in the data in the application for registration within 14 days from its occurrence;

3. ensure free access of customs authorities to all premises and the entire territory of the tax warehouse and ensure them premises for conducting the checks;

4. not allow the full amount of the excise duty which has arisen or could arise upon application of the excise duty suspension arrangement exceed the amount of the security provided.

Article 58. (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The authority under Article 57, Paragraph 2, Article 57b, Paragraphs 1 and 2, and Article 57c, Paragraph 2 shall terminate the registration:

1. at a request of the registered person, where the grounds for compulsory registration do not exist;

2. on dissolution or liquidation of the registered person;

3. at its initiative, where:

a) the registered person does not meet the requirements of this Act, or

b) the registered trader or tax representative fails to provide a new security within the time limits set, required where a new amount of the security is stipulated or where the security is no longer valid.

Section IIIc

(New, SG No. 105/2006)

Non-registered Traders

Article 58a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) A right to receive a specific quantity of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement from a licensed warehouse keeper in another Member State shall have a person who is a trader within the meaning of the Commerce Act, who is registered under the Value Added Tax Act and who has obtained a permit under the procedure of this Section for every specific supply of excisable goods.

(2) To obtain a permit the person under Paragraph 1 shall file an application to the head of the customs authority by registered address and registered office not later than 30 days before the date of receipt of the goods, which shall contain:

1. a current certificate of registration with the commercial register - the original or a notary certified copy;
2. a copy of a document certified by the person, certifying its uniform identification code;
3. a license, permit or registration, where this is required by law;
4. location and layout of the premises where the goods are received as well as a document of ownership or a rent contract for such premises;
5. type and quantity of excisable goods received;
5. contract for supply of the excisable goods;
6. a company name/name and identification number of the licensed warehouse keeper - sender;
8. a list with the full name and the personal identification number of the persons who are authorised to sign the accompanying administrative document and specimens of their signatures.

(3) Where the conditions for registration are fulfilled and the documents submitted meet the requirements, the authority under Paragraph 2 shall determine the amount of the excise duty due and shall notify the person thereof within 7 days from their receipt.

(4) Where the documents submitted under Paragraph 2 do not meet the requirements or the information provided is insufficient, the authority under Paragraph 2 shall refuse to grant a permit within 7 days from receipt of the application. Failing to issue a decision shall be considered a refusal to issue a permit.

(5) The refusal under Paragraph 4 may be appealed under the terms of the Administrative Procedure Code.

Article 58b. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) Within 7 days from provision of the collateral or payment of the excise duty due the head of the competent customs authority shall issue a permit to the non-registered trader authorising the non-registered trader to receive the specific quantity of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement.

(2) The right of the non-registered trader to receive excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement shall arise after the date of delivery of the permit.

Section IV

Production of Excisable goods

Article 59. (Effective 1.07.2006 - SG No. 91/2005) (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 63/2006) Production of excisable goods shall be any processing and reprocessing, including extraction, recovery and mixing, of raw materials, materials and/or products as a result of which excisable goods are produced or packaged.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Production of excisable goods shall furthermore be considered the production of goods which contain ethyl alcohol exceeding 1.2% vol (1% mas), intended by their characteristics for consumption as food and drinks or as additives in the production of food or drinks.

(3) The activities and operations under Paragraph 1 with the goods under Article 2, items 4 and 5 for which excise duty has been paid shall not be considered production of excisable goods.

Article 60. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Production of goods under Article 2, items 1 and 2 and under Article 14 shall be carried out only in a tax warehouse.

(2) Alcoholic beverages falling within CN code 2208 (rakiya) may be produced in registered specialized small distilleries as well.

(3) Wine may be produced in registered units of small producers of wine as well.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Paragraphs 1 and 3 shall not apply to the production of wine and other fermented beverages from fruits and grapes - own production - intended only for personal consumption of the natural person or his family.

(5) (Repealed, SG No. 63/2006) .

(6) (Repealed, SG No. 63/2006) .

Article 61. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Producers of goods under Article 2 shall use in production measuring instruments meeting the requirements of the Measurements Act and the implementing regulations thereof.

(2) Specific requirements and control on measuring instruments under Paragraph 1 shall be determined by the Minister of Finance.

Article 62. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) For every batch produced the producers of petrol, gas oil and kerosene shall:

1. determine the volume in litres;
2. issue analysis certificate, containing the indicator of density (in kg/m³) at 15°C.

(2) In case of import of goods under Paragraph 1 the analysis certificate under Paragraph 1, item 2 shall be submitted for each batch.

(3) The volume shall be recalculated to a comparative temperature of 15 °C by measuring the weight in kilograms and recalculating it in litres based on the density at a temperature of 15 °C.

(4) The density at 15 °C shall be determined in accordance with the methods BDS EN ISO 3675 or BDS EN ISO 12185 and the tables under BDS ISO 91-1.

(5) The values of the initial extract content expressed in Plato degrees of bottled and draft beer shall be certified by an analysis certificate.

Article 63. (Effective 1.07.2006) The persons licensed to carry out the activities under Article 59, Paragraph 2 shall use instruments meeting the requirements of the Energy Act and the implementing regulations thereto.

Article 64. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Producers of tobacco products and bottled alcoholic beverages falling within CN code 2208 with alcoholic content exceeding 15 % vol, intended for sale on the domestic market, shall affix excise labels on the consumer package. The excise label shall be affixed in the tax warehouse of the producer.

(2) The persons importing goods under paragraph 1 into the territory of the country shall ensure affixing of excise labels on the consumer package in the following manner:

1. with the producer - outside the country's territory, or
2. in a tax warehouse, or
3. in a bonded warehouse.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The persons bringing into the territory of the country goods under Paragraph 1 from another Member State shall ensure that excise labels are affixed on the consumer package under the terms of Paragraph 2.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 105/2006) The excise label shall be affixed on the consumer package in a manner that ensures that it is impossible to use the good without destroying the excise label by tearing it off.

(5) (Renumbered from Paragraph 4, SG No. 105/2006) The excise label shall contain the series, number, other durable signs and symbols. The selling price shall also be indicated on the excise label of tobacco products.

(6) (Renumbered from Paragraph 5, SG No. 105/2006) The samples of excise labels shall be approved by an order of the Minister of Finance, to be promulgated in the State Gazette.

(7) (Renumbered from Paragraph 6, SG No. 105/2006) The excise labels shall be ordered, printed, purchased, distributed and placed according to a procedure and manner determined by the Minister of Finance.

(8) (Renumbered from Paragraph 7, amended, SG No. 105/2006) The persons under paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall order the necessary number of excise labels to the competent customs authority which shall deliver the excise labels to the applicants within 30 days from their ordering.

(9) (Renumbered from Paragraph 8, amended, SG No. 105/2006) Excise labels for tobacco products shall be ordered at the latest registered price according to the established procedure.

Section V

Storage of Excisable goods

Article 65. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Storage of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement involves placing and storage of excisable goods in a tax warehouse.

(2) In a tax warehouse may be stored excisable goods, which:

1. have been produced in the same tax warehouse;

2. (amended, SG No. 63/2006) have been released for free circulation with simultaneous placing under an excise duty suspension arrangement;

3. (supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) have been transported under excise duty suspension arrangement from another tax warehouse to the territory of the country or from a tax warehouse on the territory of another Member State.

(3) Storage is permitted only for excisable goods owned by:

1. a licensed warehouse keeper, or

2. a person - depositor, registered under the Value Added Tax Act.

Article 66. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The licensed warehouse keeper shall store the goods, separating them by type and depositor, including separation of the goods for which excise duty has or has not been paid.

(2) Storage in a tax warehouse of excisable goods which are not subject to excise tax is not allowed except for goods produced from energy products.

(3) (New, SG No. 63/2006) Authorized warehousekeepers shall be obligated to use measuring instruments complying with the requirements of the Measurements Act and the statutory instruments on the application thereof.

(4) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The specific requirements and the control over the measuring instruments referred to in Paragraph (3) shall be determined according to the procedure established by Article 61 (2) herein.

Section VI

Movement of Excisable Goods

Article 67. (Effective 1.07.2006, amended, SG No. 63/2006, No. 105/2006) Movement of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement shall be:

1. transportation of excisable goods from a tax warehouse on the territory of the country to another tax warehouse on the territory of the country, to another tax warehouse on the territory of another Member State, to a registered or non-registered trader in another Member State or to the persons under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 3;

2. transportation of excisable goods from a tax warehouse on the territory of the country to an exit border customs office or to third territories - in cases of export;

3. transportation of excisable goods, released for free circulation with simultaneous placing under an excise duty suspension arrangement, to a tax warehouse on the territory of the country;

4. transportation of excisable goods from a tax warehouse on the territory of another Member State to a tax warehouse on the territory of the country, to a registered or non-registered trader on the territory of the country or to the persons under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1, 3 and 6.

Article 68. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) During movement of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement the goods shall be accompanied by an accompanying administrative document.

(2) (Amend, SG No. 105/2006) The accompanying administrative document shall be issued in 5 copies as follows:

1. by the licensed warehouse keeper sender - upon transfer of the goods from the tax warehouse on the territory of the country to:

a) another tax warehouse on the territory of the country, or

b) another tax warehouse on the territory of another Member State, or

c) a registered trader in another Member State, or

d) a non-registered trader in another Member State, or

e) the persons under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 3;

2. by the licensed warehouse keeper sender - upon transfer of the goods from the tax warehouse on the territory of the country for the purposes of export to an exit border customs office or to third territories;

3. by the licensed warehouse keeper in whose tax warehouse the goods owned by the holder of the free circulation admission regime will be received - upon placing the goods under free circulation admission customs arrangement.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Upon transfer of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement to a non-registered trader in another Member State the goods shall be also accompanied by a document issued by the competent administration of the Member State of the recipient, certifying that the excise duty on the goods in the Member State of receipt is paid or secured.

(4) (New, SG, No. 105/2006) The mandatory requisites of the document under Paragraph 3 shall be determined by the implementing regulation to this Act.

(5) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Upon transfer of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement to the persons under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 3 the goods shall also be accompanied by a certificate of exemption from obligation of payment of excise duty according to a standard form set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(6) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Where the transfer of the excisable goods is related to leaving the territory of the country before bringing them out from a tax warehouse, the licensed warehouse keeper shall submit for certification to the competent customs authority the copies of the accompanying administrative document issued.

Article 69. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) In the cases under Article 68, Paragraph 2, item 1 the first copy of the accompanying administrative document shall be kept by the sender, the second, third and fourth copies shall accompany the

goods and the fifth copy shall be sent to the competent customs authority by location of the sender's warehouse.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The second, third and fourth copies of the accompanying administrative document shall be certified upon receipt of the goods by the licensed warehouse keeper - recipient, by the registered or non-registered trader in another Member State or by the persons under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 3.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The second copy shall be kept by the person under Paragraph 2, the third copy shall be returned to the sender, and the fourth copy shall be sent to the competent customs authority by location of the tax warehouse, the competent customs authority by registered address of the recipient respectively.

(4) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Where the recipient of the goods is established in another Member State, the third copy of the accompanying administrative document under Paragraph 3 shall be certified by the competent administration of said Member State.

Article 70. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) In the cases under Article 68, Paragraph 2, item 2 the first copy of the accompanying administrative document shall be kept by the sender, the second, third and fourth copies shall accompany the goods and the fifth copy shall be returned to the competent customs authority by location of the warehouse.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The second, third and fourth copies of the accompanying administrative document shall be certified by the exit border customs office, which shall keep the fourth copy.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The second copy shall be kept by the person specified in cell 7 of the accompanying administrative document, and the third copy shall be returned to the sender and kept by it.

Article 71. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) In the cases under Article 68, Paragraph 2, item 3 the first copy of the accompanying administrative document shall be kept by the person - holder of the free circulation admission arrangement, and the second, third and fourth copies shall accompany the goods. The fifth copy shall be kept by the customs authority that has administered the arrangement.

(2) The second, third and fourth copies of the accompanying administrative document shall be certified by the licensed warehouse keeper upon receipt of the goods in the warehouse.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The second copies shall be kept by the person under Paragraph 2. The third copy shall be sent to the customs authority that has administered the arrangement and the fourth copy shall be sent to the competent customs authority by location of the warehouse.

Article 71a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) In the cases of movement of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement under Article 67, item 4 the second, third and fourth copies issued by the licensed warehouse keeper in another Member State shall accompany the goods.

(2) The second, third and fourth copies of the accompanying administrative document shall be certified by the recipient of the goods under Article 67, item 4.

(3) The second copy shall be kept by the recipient, and the fourth copy shall be sent to the competent customs authority by location of the tax warehouse, the competent customs authority by registered address of the registered trader, non-registered trader or the person under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 2 respectively.

(4) The third copy shall be returned to the sender, certified also by the competent customs authority of the recipient.

Article 72. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Amendments and supplements to the accompanying administrative document shall be prohibited. An incorrectly drawn up accompanying administrative document shall be cancelled and a new one shall be drawn up.

(2) The sample, format and requisites of the accompanying administrative document shall be determined by the implementing regulation to this Act.

(3) The accompanying administrative document shall be recorded in the register "Warehouse Stocks Log" in the tax period for which it is issued, received, respectively.

(4) The accompanying administrative document shall be kept by the issuer and the receiver and shall be made available to supervisory authorities for a term of 5 years.

Article 73. (Effective 1.07.2006) The copies of the accompanying administrative document shall be submitted to the competent customs authority of the sender, the receiver respectively, within 15 days from dispatch of the goods, receipt of the goods respectively.

Article 74. (Effective 1.07.2006, SG No. 91/2005, amended, No. 105/2006) The licensed warehouse keeper - sender or the licensed warehouse keeper in whose warehouse the goods owned by the holder of the free circulation admission arrangement will be received shall owe excise duty on the goods sent or imported as specified in the accompanying administrative document, except in the following cases:

1. upon movement of the goods under Article 67, item 1 - where by the 15th day of the month following the month of bringing out the goods from the warehouse the warehouse keeper has received the third copy of the accompanying administrative document certified by the recipient;

2. upon movement of the goods under Article 67, item 2 - where by the 15th day of the month following the month of bringing out the goods from the warehouse the competent customs authority by location of the warehouse has received the second copy;

3. upon movement of the goods under Article 67, item 3 - where by the 15th day of the month following the month of release of the goods for free circulation, the customs authority that has administered the arrangement has received the third copy.

Article 75. (Effective 1.07.2006, SG No. 91/2005, amended, No. 105/2006) The recipients under Article 67, item 4, except for the persons under Article 21, Paragraph 1, items 1 and 3 shall owe excise duty due on the received goods as specified in the accompanying administrative document.

Article 76. (Effective 1.07.2006, SG No. 91/2005, amended, No. 105/2006) Where the copies of the accompanying administrative document are received after the time limits under Article 74, the licensed warehouse keeper - sender or the licensed warehouse keeper in whose warehouse the goods owned by the holder of the free circulation admission arrangement will be received shall adjust the amount of the excise duty due, which has arisen as a result of the application of Article 75 during the tax period in which he received the accompanying administrative document, in the manner and form as laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Chapter Four "A"

(New, SG No. 105/2006)

MOVEMENT OF EXCISABLE GOODS RELEASED FOR CONSUMPTION ON

THE COMMUNITY TERRITORY

Section I

Movement of Excisable Goods Released for Consumption on the Territory

of the Country

Article 76a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) Upon movement of excisable goods under Article 2, items 1, 2 and 3 from the territory of the country to the territory of another Member State, which are released for consumption on the territory of the country, the goods shall be accompanied by a simplified accompanying document.

(2) Upon movement of fully denatured ethyl alcohol in accordance with European Commission Regulation No. 3199/93 from the territory of the country to the territory of another Member State the goods shall be accompanied by a simplified accompanying document.

(3) Upon movement under Paragraphs 1 and 2 excisable goods shall also be accompanied by a document issued by the competent administration of the Member State to which the goods are sent, certifying that the amount of the excise duty on the goods which will be sent has been paid, secured or is not subject to payment in said Member State.

(4) The simplified accompanying document under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be issued in three copies by the sender of the goods.

(5) The first copy shall be kept by the person under Paragraph 4, and the second and third copies shall accompany the goods.

(6) The person under Paragraph 4 shall have the right to refund the excise duty paid on the goods under Article 23.

(7) The standard form, the format and requisites of the simplified administrative document shall be determined by the implementing regulation to this Act.

(8) A simplified accompanying document may be issued when the goods are accompanied by a commercial document (invoice, document of delivery, transport document etc.) provided that said commercial document contains the requisites of the simplified accompanying document and said requisites correspond by content and number of the requisites in the simplified accompanying document.

(9) The document under Paragraph 3 shall contain the requisites of the document under Article 83h, Paragraph 1.

Article 76b. (New, SG No. 105/2006) The person under Article 76a, Paragraph 4 shall be entitled to refund the excise duty paid on the goods where the following conditions obtain:

1. the person has notified in writing the competent customs authority by permanent address, registered address respectively, of its intention to send the excisable goods under Article 76a to another Member State before sending the excisable goods from the territory of the country;

2. the person has ensured free access of the customs authorities for possible examination;

3. the person has submitted to the competent customs authority a copy of a document certifying the payment or the securing of an excise duty in the Member State where the goods are sent.

(2) The written notification under Paragraph 1 shall contain:

1. name/company name, address, personal identification code of the person under Paragraph 1;

2. date of sending the excisable goods from the territory of the country;

3. description of the route from the territory of the country to the territory of the recipient Member State;

4. description of the types of excisable goods and their quantity;

5. name/company name and address of the recipient and the carrier;

6. place of receipt of excisable goods on the territory of another Member State;

7. the time limit in which the excisable goods are to be received on the territory of the other Member State.

Section II

Movement of Excisable Goods Released for Consumption on the Territory

of Another Member State

Article 76c. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) Upon movement of excisable goods under Article 2, items 1, 2 and 3 from the territory of another Member State to the territory of the country, which have been released for consumption on the territory of the other Member State, the goods shall be accompanied by a simplified accompanying document issued by the sender in the other Member State.

(2) Upon movement of fully denatured ethyl alcohol in accordance with European Commission Regulation No. 3199/93 from the territory of another Member State to the territory of the country, which has been released for consumption on the territory of the other Member State, the goods shall be accompanied by a simplified accompanying document issued by the sender in the other Member State.

(3) Upon movement under Paragraph 1 the excisable goods shall be also accompanied by the document under Article 83h, Paragraph 1.

(4) The person under Article 3, item 6, which receives goods under items 1 and 2, shall:

1. before sending the excisable goods from the other Member State, notify in writing the competent customs authority by permanent address, registered address respectively, that the said person intends to receive excisable goods;
2. before sending the excisable goods from the other Member State, provide security or pay the amount of the excise duty due to the competent customs authority, except for the cases of exemption from excise duty under this Act;
3. receive the excisable goods within the time limits specified in the notification under item 1;
4. submit to the competent customs authority a copy of the third copy of the simplified accompanying document, certified by the recipient, not later than 7 days from receipt of the goods on the territory of the country, including the date of receipt;
5. inform immediately the competent customs authority if it does not receive the goods within the time limits specified in the notification, as well as of the reasons for the delay or non-receipt.

(5) The written notification under Paragraph 4, item 1 shall contain:

1. name/company name, address, uniform identification code of the person under Paragraph 2;
2. date of sending the excisable goods from the other Member State;
3. description of the route from the sending Member State to the Republic of Bulgaria;
4. description of the types of goods and their quantity;
5. name/company name and address of the sender and the carrier;
6. place of receipt of the excisable goods on the territory of the country;
7. the time limit by which the excisable goods shall be received on the territory of the country.

(6) Within 7 days from receipt of the notification under Article 4, item 1, 7 days from removal of inconsistencies in it respectively, the head of the competent customs authority shall determine the excise duty due and notify the person of its amount.

Article 76d. (New, SG. No. 105/2006) (1) Any person who brings into the territory of the country excisable goods under Article 2, items 4 and 5 from the territory of another Member State shall file a declaration according to a standard form set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(2) The declaration shall be filed to the competent customs authority by permanent address, by registered address respectively, of the person within 30 days from acquisition of the goods in the other Member State.

(3) The customs authorities shall have the right to require submission of the goods together with the declaration under Paragraph 2.

(4) On the grounds of the declaration filed the competent customs authority shall determine the amount of the excise duty due and shall notify it to the person.

Chapter Five

SECURITY

Section I

Security under Excise Duty Suspension Arrangement Payment Regime

Article 77. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The licensed warehouse keeper shall provide security to the customs authorities to ensure payment of the excise duty that may arise for the goods under excise duty suspension arrangement.

(2) (Supplemented, SG No. 63/2006) The amount of the security shall be determined in such manner as to cover at any time the full amount of the excise duty which has arisen or may arise during implementation of the excise duty suspension arrangement, with the exception of the cases referred to in Article 78 (3) herein.

Article 78. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The amount of the security under Article 77 shall be calculated as a sum of:

1. thirty per cent of the amount of excise duty on the monthly average quantity of stored goods - by type of goods;
2. ten per cent of the amount of excise duty on the monthly average quantity of stored goods:

a) (amended, SG No. 105/2006) for quantities of stored raw distillate included in CN code 2208 20 40, produced in the same warehouse, or

b) for mandatory quantities under the Mandatory Stocks of Crude Oil and Petroleum Products Act stored in a licensed tax warehouse;

3. one hundred fifty per cent of the amount of excise duty due on the monthly average quantity of goods released for consumption;

4. twenty per cent of the amount of excise duty on the monthly average quantity of goods moving under excise duty suspension arrangement.

(2) The indicators "monthly average quantity of stored goods", "monthly average quantity of goods released for consumption", and "monthly average quantity of goods moving under excise duty suspension arrangement" shall be calculated according to a procedure laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(3) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The amount of the security for a tax warehouse for production and storage of excisable goods may not exceed BGN 30 million.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 63/2006) At the request of the licensed warehouse keeper the amount of the security may be fixed at a higher amount than the one under Paragraph 1.

Article 79. (Effective 1.07.2006) In the event of a change in the circumstances which materially affects the calculation of the amount of the security a new amount of the security may be determined.

Article 80. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The security under Article 77 may be created by cash deposit or bank guarantee under the customs legislation.

(2) The security shall be accepted in Bulgarian lev.

(3) No interest shall accrue on the security created by cash deposit.

Article 81. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A change of the type or amount of security shall be made by a decision of the Director of the Customs Agency, which shall form an integral part of the license for the warehouse management.

(2) (Supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) The licensed warehouse keeper shall provide the new security within 30 days from delivery of the decision under Paragraph 1, but not later than the expiry of the validity of the previous security.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The previous security shall be released by a decision of the Director of the Customs Agency within 30 days, effective from the date of provision of the new security under Paragraph 2.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) In cases of withdrawal of the license the security shall be released by a decision of the authority under Paragraph 1 after the liability for payment of excise duty has been discharged.

Section II

Security Provided upon Customs Arrangements or upon Receipt

of Excise Labels

(Title amended, SG No. 105/2006)

Article 82. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Where goods are placed under excise duty

suspension arrangement or temporarily stored the full amount of the excise duty payable shall be secured by cash deposit or bank guarantee according to the procedure for securing customs charges laid down in the customs legislation.

(2) Transit of goods shall be furthermore secured in the amounts and according to the procedure for securing customs charges.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) A person licensed to open and manage a bonded warehouse (warehouse keeper) within the meaning of the customs legislation shall be liable jointly and severally with the depositor of the goods for the excise duty due in the event of deviation of the goods from the customs regime during their storage in the warehouse.

Article 83. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The persons that have ordered excise labels for foreign goods shall provide a security to the customs authorities to the full amount of the excise duty before receipt of excise labels.

(2) The provision of Paragraph 1 shall not apply to licensed warehouse keepers.

(3) The security under Paragraph 1 may be created as cash deposit or bank guarantee. The security shall be accepted in Bulgarian lev.

(4) Where the security under Paragraph 1 is created by bank guarantee, the latter shall have validity of not less than 90 days effective from the date of receipt of excise labels.

(5) No interest shall accrue on the security provided in the form of cash deposit.

(6) After expiry of 60 days from the date of receipt of the excise labels under Paragraph 1 the customs authorities shall take actions for utilization of the security provided in the amount of the due excise duty.

(7) Within 30 days the security under Paragraph 1 shall be released upon payment of the full amount of the excise duty for the excise labels received.

(8) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The persons under Paragraph 1 shall have the right to pay the full amount of the excise duty due for the excise labels ordered before their receipt.

Section III

(New, SG No. 105/2006)

Security Provided by Registered Traders or Tax Representatives

Article 83a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) Tax representatives under Article 57b, Paragraph 3 and registered traders under Article 57c shall provide security to the customs authorities to secure the payment of the excise duty which may arise for the goods received by the non-resident person under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, item 4, the goods received under excise duty suspension arrangement respectively, from a tax warehouse on the territory of another Member State.

(2) The amount of the security shall be determined in a way so as to cover at any time the full amount of the excise duty on the goods received, which has arisen or might arise.

Article 83b. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The amount of the security under Article 83a shall be 150 per cent of the amount of the excise duty due for the average monthly quantity of received goods.

(2) The indicator "average monthly quantity" shall be calculated under a procedure laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(3) At the person's request a higher amount of the security than the one referred to in Paragraph 1 may be determined.

Article 83c. (New, SG No. 105/2006) In the event of a change in the circumstances instrumental to determining the amount of the security a new amount of the security may be determined.

Article 83d. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The security under Article 83a may be created by cash deposit or bank guarantee in accordance with the customs legislation.

(2) The security shall be accepted in Bulgarian lev.

(3) No interest shall accrue on the security created by cash deposit.

Article 83e. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The amount of the security shall be determined by a decision of the head of the competent customs authority by registration of the person.

(2) A change of the type or amount of the security shall be made by a decision of the authority under Paragraph 1.

(3) The decisions under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be issued within the time limits under Article 57b, Paragraph 6, Article 57c, Paragraphs 3 and 4 respectively, and shall be delivered to the persons.

(4) The decisions under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be an integral part of the issued certificate of registration.

(5) Within 30 days from delivery of the decision under Paragraph 2 the person shall provide the new security but not later than expiry of the validity of the previous security.

(6) The previous security shall be released by a decision of the head of the competent customs authority within 30 days, effective from the date of provision of the new security under Paragraph 5.

(7) In the cases of deregistration the security shall be released by a decision of the head of the competent customs authority after the liability for payment of excise duty has been discharged.

Section IV

(New, SG No. 105/2006)

Security Provided by Non-registered Traders or by Persons Receiving

Excisable Goods on the Territory of the Country, Released for

Consumption on the Territory of Another Member State

Article 83f. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) Non-registered traders under Article 58a and the persons under Article 76c, Paragraph 4 shall provide security to the customs authorities or shall pay the full amount of the excise duty due for the goods which are released for consumption on the territory of another Member State and which will be received on the territory of the country.

(2) The security under Paragraph 1 shall be created by cash deposit in accordance with customs legislation.

(3) The security shall be accepted in Bulgarian lev and no interest shall be due on it.

Article 83g. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The amount of the security as well as the amount of the excise duty that shall be paid shall be determined by a decision of the head of the competent customs authority within the time limits of Article 58a, Paragraph 3, Article 76c, Paragraph 6.

(2) The decisions under Paragraph 1 may be appealed under the Administrative Procedure Code.

Article 83h. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) After provision of the security or payment of the excise duty the head of the competent customs authority shall issue a document to the person, certifying that the excise duty on the goods to be received has been paid, secured or that the goods are exempt from payment of excise duty.

(2) The mandatory requisites of the document under Paragraph 1 shall be laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 83i. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) The security shall be released by a decision of the head of the competent customs authority within 30 days, effective from the date on which the liability for payment of excise duty has been discharged.

(2) Where the amount of the excise duty for the goods received is lower than the amount of the excise duty paid under Article 83h, the unduly paid excise duty shall be refunded under the terms of Article 27.

Chapter Six

DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

Section I

Tax Documents

Article 84. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Tax documents within the meaning of this Act shall be:

1. an excise tax document;
2. a note of an excise tax document.

(2) (Supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) An excise tax document shall be issued on the date on which the excise duty becomes due within the meaning of Article 20, Paragraph 1, except in the cases under Article 20, Paragraph 2, items 5, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) In the cases of release for consumption under Article 20, items 15 - 18 an excise tax document shall be issued for total sales effected, total quantity of coke, coal, electricity or natural gas used respectively, on the 10th day of the month following the month in which the sales/use is effected.

(4) (Renumbered from 3, SG No. 105/2006) Tax documents shall be issued in at least two copies.

(5) (Renumbered from 4, SG No. 105/2006) Tax documents issued shall be recorded in the accounting system and the register of the issuer for the tax period in which they have been issued.

(6) (Renumbered from 5, SG No. 105/2006) Tax documents may not be amended or supplemented. Incorrectly drawn up or corrected tax documents shall be cancelled. Said documents shall not be destroyed and all copies of them shall be kept by the person that has issued the document.

(7) (Renumbered from 6, amended, SG No. 105/2006) In the cases under Paragraph 6 new documents shall be issued.

(8) (Renumbered from 7, SG No. 105/2006) Tax documents issued under the procedure of this Act shall be stored for a period of 5 years after expiry of the tax period for which they refer.

(9) (Renumbered from 8, SG No. 105/2006) In the event of stolen, lost, damaged or destroyed tax documents, the person shall notify forthwith in writing the relevant competent customs authority of the circumstances.

(10) (Renumbered from 9, SG No. 105/2006) Issuance of tax documents may be manual and automated.

Article 85. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Tax documents shall be private written documents issued by a licensed warehouse keeper or a person registered under this Act for certifying incurrence of an obligation for payment and charge of excise duty.

(2) In addition to the requisites under Article 7 of the Accountancy Act the tax documents shall contain:

1. a ten-digit number of the document including only Arabic figures;
2. the stamp "original" on the first copy;
3. the type of the excisable goods, quantity, excise tax base and excise rate;
4. the amount of excise duty charged - on a separate line;
5. grounds for incurrence of the liability for excise duty charge.

Article 86. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Modification of the amount of excise duty charged in an excise tax document issued shall be documented by a note to the document, specifying the grounds for modification. A note shall be given only to an excise tax document issued.

(2) The note shall be:

1. excise debit note - a tax document reflecting the increase of the excise duty charged in an excise tax document issued;

2. excise credit note - a tax document reflecting the decrease of the excise duty charged in an excise tax document issued.

(3) The requisites of the tax note shall be:

1. all mandatory requisites for the excise tax document;
2. additional indication "excise debit note" or "excise credit note";
3. grounds for modification as well as the number and date of the excise tax document for which the note is issued.

Section II

Other Documents

Article 87. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) The excise declaration is a document in which the licensed warehouse keeper or the registered person declares for every tax period specific information relating to his business, which is a ground for incurrence of rights and obligations.

(2) The declaration under Paragraph 1 shall be submitted for every tax warehouse, specialized small distillery or a small producer of wine to the competent customs authority by location of the warehouse or unit within 14 days from expiry of the tax period for which it refers.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The declaration under Paragraph 1 for the registered persons under Article 57a and Article 57c shall be filed to the competent customs authority by registration of the persons within 14 days from expiry of the tax period for which it refers.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 105/2006) Licensed warehouse keepers and registered persons shall file furthermore an excise declaration in the cases where no excise duty has been charged for the tax period.

(5) (Renumbered from Paragraph 4, SG No. 105/2006) In the presence of force majeure or at the request of the licensed warehouse keeper or registered person the competent customs authority may extend the term for filing the excise declaration until expiry of the next tax period.

Article 88. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) The licensed warehouse keeper shall keep a "Warehouse Stocks Log" register.

(2) In the register under Paragraph 1 shall be recorded excisable goods produced and/or stored, goods moving under excise duty suspension arrangement and goods released for consumption.

(3) Together with the excise declaration for the tax period the licensed warehouse keeper shall submit the information from the register under Paragraph 2 on a magnetic carrier according to parameters set out in the implementing regulation to this Act as well as a copy of the register under Paragraph 1, except in the cases provided for in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) The licensed warehouse keeper may furthermore submit electronically the excise declaration and the information under Paragraph 2 under the terms and according to the procedure laid down in the Tax and Social-Insurance Procedure Code . In this case Paragraph 3 shall not apply.

(5) Data from the Warehouse Stocks Log shall be accounted for in accordance with the established procedure in the accounting system of the persons under Paragraph 1.

(6) New, SG No. 105/2006) The persons registered under this Act shall keep reporting for the excisable goods, as laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 89. (1) (Effective 1.07.2006, SG No. 91/2005, renumbered from Article 89, No. 105/2006) The certificate of excise exemption is a document issued by the competent customs authority, certifying that a particular person is an excise-exempt end user.

(2) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The certificate of registration is a document issued by the competent customs authority,

certifying that a specific person is registered under this Act.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The permit for incidental receipt of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement shall be a document issued by the competent customs authority, certifying that a non-registered trader has the right to receive incidentally a specific type and quantity of excisable goods under excise duty suspension arrangement from a licensed warehouse keeper in another Member State.

Article 90. (Effective 1.07.2006) The sample, format and requisites under this Chapter shall be set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Chapter Seven

RESTRICTIONS AND PROHIBITIONS

Article 91. (Effective 1.07.2006) Production of excisable goods under Article 2, items 1, 2 and 3 outside a tax warehouse shall be prohibited, unless otherwise provided for by this Act.

Article 92. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Retail sale of excisable goods from a tax warehouse shall be prohibited.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) Paragraph 1 shall not apply to licensed warehouse keepers which feed in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in bottles other than bottles for gas equipment of automobiles, nor to licensed warehouse keepers which feed in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in gas equipment and heating systems and facilities in public, administrative, residential and office buildings fed in by containers of liquefied hydrocarbon gases with volume of up to 10m³.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) Paragraph 1 shall not apply to licensed warehouse keepers who provide wine and/or ethyl alcohol (rakiya) to persons registered as producers of wine grapes, wine and grape products and wine for family consumption, who have provided the grapes for processing to the licensed warehouse keeper.

Article 93. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Licensed warehouse keepers of energy products shall mark all types of gas oil falling within CN codes 2710 19 41 0 through 2710 19 49 0 and kerosene falling within CN codes 2710 19 21 0 and 2710 19 25 0, which shall be charged at a lower excise rate than the excise rate on motor fuel.

(2) Marking under Paragraph 1 on the customs territory of the country shall be carried out only in a tax warehouse in the presence of a customs authority under the terms and procedure laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 94. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Fuel oils and marked gas oil and kerosene shall not be fed in:

1. the fuel tank of motor vehicles, private vessels and private aircrafts;
2. tanks of fuel filling stations, pumps for filling motor vehicles or private vessels and private aircrafts.

(2) (Repealed, SG No. 63/2006) .

Article 95. (Effective 1.07.2006 r.) (1) Feeding liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in bottles other than liquefied petroleum gas bottles in motor vehicle petrol stations shall be prohibited.

(2) Sale and storage of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in bottles other than the liquefied petroleum gas bottles in motor vehicle petrol stations shall be allowed only where the bottles have been fed in the relevant bottle filling plants and/or in independent authorized outlets for feeding liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) bottles outside the territory of motor vehicle petrol stations. The bottles shall be secured by thermo-shrinkable caps which shall be destroyed before use and shall have the brand name of the producer.

Article 96. (Effective 1.07.2006) Any actions resulting in reduction or destruction of the effect of the marker shall be prohibited.

Article 97. (Effective 1.07.2006 - SG No. 91/2005) (1) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) Complete denaturing of ethyl alcohol on the customs territory of the country shall be carried out only in a tax warehouse.

(2) Denaturing under Paragraph 1 shall be carried out in the presence of customs authorities under the terms and procedure set out in the implementing regulation to this Act.

(3) The type and quantity of the substances for denaturing shall be laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

Article 98. (Effective 1.07.2006) Extraction in whole or in part of denaturing substances as well as any other actions resulting in reduction or destruction of the effect of denaturing substances shall be prohibited.

Article 99. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Excise labels may not be affixed on bottled alcoholic beverages falling within CN 2208 where the designated volume of hectoliters of pure alcohol measured at a temperature of 20 °C is lower than the

actual volume of hectoliters of pure alcohol measured at a temperature of 20 °C in the respective bottle.

(2) Sale of tobacco products at a price other than the selling price written on the excise label shall be prohibited.

(3) Labeling of beer with labels indicating lower initial extract content measured in Plato degrees than the actual one shall be prohibited.

Article 100. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Bottled alcoholic beverages falling under CN code 2208 and with alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 15% vol and tobacco products intended for the domestic market shall be sold only with excise label affixed.

(2) The procedure and manner of introducing excise labels shall be established by the Council of Ministers.

Article 101. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Sale of draft (unbottled) alcoholic beverages falling within CN code 2208 and with alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 15% vol shall be prohibited.

(2) The provision of Paragraph 1 shall not apply to sale of alcoholic beverages among licensed warehouse keepers.

(3) Sale of alcoholic beverages falling within CN code 2208 and with alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 15% vol in plastic packages (bottles) shall be prohibited.

(4) The provision of Paragraph 3 shall not apply to sale of alcoholic beverages in packages (bottles) of up to 0.5 litres.

Chapter Eight

CONTROL

Article 102. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Control on excisable goods, including goods under excise duty suspension arrangement, shall be exercised by customs authorities.

(2) Control shall include inspections of licensed warehouse keepers, persons registered under this Act, excise-exempt end users as well as all other persons dealing with excisable goods.

(3) Customs authorities may install technical devices to control movement and use of excisable goods.

(4) Customs authorities may take fuel samples from fuel tanks of motor vehicles.

Article 103. (Effective 1.07.2006) Control shall be exercised by means of physical inspection of the quantity and other data and indicators concerning excise taxation as well as the accounting and commercial documentation of the inspected persons.

Article 104. (Effective 1.07.2006, amended, SG No. 105/2005) (1) The proceedings for establishing, securing and collecting excise duty liabilities shall be governed by the Tax and Social Insurance Procedure Code unless provided otherwise in this Act. Customs authorities shall have the powers of revenue authorities and in the cases of Article 121 of the Tax and Social Insurance Procedure Code, of public enforcement authority.

(2) For the purposes of Paragraph 1 customs authorities stipulated in the Customs Act shall have the competencies of territorial directorates of the National Revenue Agency, the Director of the Customs Agency shall have the powers of executive director of the National Revenue Agency and heads of customs offices shall have the powers of territorial directors.

(3) The powers under Article 112, Paragraph 2, item 1 of the Tax and Social Insurance Code shall be exercised by the head of the competent territorial customs agency.

(4) The powers of a decision-making body within the meaning of Article 152, Paragraph 2 of the Tax and Social Insurance Code shall be exercised by the director of the relevant regional customs directorate.

Article 105. (Effective 1.07.2006) Government and local authorities shall, at the request of a customs administration authority, provide timely assistance in the inspection and investigation of circumstances or establishing of facts directly related to the rights and obligations of the persons subject to tax duty under this Act.

Article 106. (Effective 1.07.2006 - SG No. 91/2005) (1) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) The customs administration may use information from a revenue or customs administration of another country received in response to an official enquiry in determining the liabilities of persons dealing with excise goods as well as use this information as evidence in administrative and court proceedings.

(2) (Amended, SG 105/2005) The information collected under Paragraph 1 shall be considered a new circumstance in determining the rights and obligations of persons subject to excise duty under this Act and may be used in revising effective excise tax liabilities where the time limits for initiation of proceedings for issuance of a certificate of audit have not expired, provided for in the Tax and Social Insurance Code .

Article 107. (Effective 1.07.2006) The Minister of Finance shall issue an ordinance on sampling and analysis methods for the purposes of control on excisable goods.

Chapter Nine

ADMINISTRATIVE PENAL PROVISIONS

Article 108. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Where a person subject to excise duty fails to register under this Act, he shall be subject to property sanction ranging from BGN 500 to BGN 3,000.

(2) In the cases under Paragraph 1 in addition to the penalty the person shall owe the amount of the uncharged excise duty on the excisable goods produced until the date of establishing the violation.

Article 109. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who violates the provision of Article 60 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 1,000 to BGN 3,000 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 2,000 to BGN 6,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation the fine shall range from BGN 2,000 to BGN 6,000 and the property sanction, from BGN 4,000 to BGN 12,000.

(3) In the cases of Paragraphs 1 and 2 in addition to the penalty the person shall owe the amount of the uncharged excise duty on the excisable goods produced until the date of establishing the violation.

Article 110. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who fails to file an excise declaration within the time limit under Article 87, Paragraph 2, shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 500 to BGN 2,500.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the property sanction shall range from BGN 1,000 to BGN 5,000.

(3) A person who fails to observe the time limit for notification under Article 57, Paragraph 5 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 300 to BGN 2,000.

(4) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 3 the property sanction shall range from BGN 600 to BGN 4,000.

Article 111. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) A person who fails to observe the time limit for notification in the event of changes in the circumstances shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 500 to BGN 2,500.

(2) A person who fails to observe the time limit under Article 73 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 500 to BGN 2,500.

(3) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraphs 1 and 2 the property sanction shall range from BGN 1,000 to BGN 5,000.

Article 112. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Where a person subject to excise duty fails to charge it, he shall be subject to a property sanction to the double amount of the uncharged excise duty but not less than BGN 500.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the property sanction shall be to the double amount of the uncharged excise duty but not less than BGN 1,000.

(3) In the event of violation under Paragraphs 1 and 2, where the person has charged the excise duty in the period following the period in which the excise duty should have been charged, the property sanction shall be 25 per cent of the excise duty but not less than BGN 200.

Article 112a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) Where a person subject to excise duty fails to issue a simplified accompanying document, he shall be subject to a fine, property sanction, respectively, in the amount of BGN 100.

(2) Upon a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the amount of the fine/sanction shall be BGN 300.

Article 113. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who fails to account for or record a tax document or an accompanying administrative document in his books or in the Warehouse Stocks Log or in the excise declaration for the relevant tax period, or uses documents with incorrect content, forged or false documents in his accounting which result in determination of a lower excise duty due or higher refundable excise duty, shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 200 to BGN 10,000.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the property sanction shall range from BGN 500 to BGN 20,000.

Article 114. (Effective 1.07.2006) A person who violates the provision of Article 61 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 5,000 to BGN 10,000 and in the event of a repeated violation, from BGN 10,000 to BGN 50,000.

Article 115. (Effective 1.07.2006) A person who violates the provision of Article 92 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 2,000 to BGN 5,000 and in the event of a repeated violation, from BGN 4,000 to BGN 10,000.

Article 116. (Effective 1.07.2006) A person who violates the provision of Article 93 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 5,000 to BGN 10,000 and in the event of a repeated violation, from BGN 10,000 to BGN 50,000.

Article 117. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who violates the provision of Article 94 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 100 to BGN 300 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 3,000 to BGN 10,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the fine shall range from BGN 200 to BGN 600, and the property sanction, from BGN 6,000 to BGN 20,000.

Article 118. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who violates the provision of Article 95 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 1,000 to BGN 3,000 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 3,000 to BGN 10,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the fine shall range from BGN 2,000 to BGN 6,000, and the property sanction, from BGN 6,000 to BGN 20,000.

Article 119. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who violates the provisions of Articles 96, 97 and 98 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 100 to BGN 300 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 3,000 to BGN 10,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the fine shall range from BGN 200 to BGN 600, and the property sanction, from BGN 6,000 to BGN 20,000.

Article 120. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who violates the provision of Article 99, Paragraph 1 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 5,000 to BGN 10,000, and in the event of a repeated violation - from BGN 10,000 to BGN 20,000.

(2) A person who violates the provision of Article 99, Paragraph 2 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 100 to BGN 300 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 3,000 to BGN 10,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2006) A person who violates the provision of Article 99, Paragraph 3 shall be subject to a property sanction ranging from BGN 2,000 to BGN 5,000, and in the event of a repeated violation - from BGN 5,000 to BGN 10,000.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 105/2006) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 2 the fine shall range from BGN 200 to BGN 600, and the property sanction, from BGN 6,000 to BGN 20,000.

Article 121. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) A person who violates the provision of Article 64, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 1,000 to BGN 3,000 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 2,000 to BGN 6,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the fine shall range from BGN 2,000 to BGN 6,000, and the property sanction, from BGN 4,000 to BGN 12,000.

(3) A person who produces or imports excisable goods and affixes on them false or forged excise labels or excise

labels with expired validity shall be subject to a property sanction to the double amount of the excise duty due, but not less than BGN 5,000, and in the event of a repeated violation - not less than BGN 10,000.

(4) A person who violates the procedure and manner of introducing excise labels shall be subject to a property sanction of BGN 2,000 and in the event of a repeated violation - BGN 4,000.

Article 122. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A person who violates the provision of Article 101 shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 100 to BGN 300 - for natural persons, and a property sanction ranging from BGN 3,000 to BGN 10,000 - for legal entities and sole traders.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the fine shall range from BGN 200 to BGN 600, and the property sanction, from BGN 6,000 to BGN 20,000.

Article 123. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A natural person who keeps in a warehouse or a retail outlet or in a vehicle, offers, sells or transports excisable goods without excise label where such excise label is mandatory, or excisable goods with affixed false or forged excise labels or excise labels with expired validity shall be subject to a fine to the double amount of the excise duty due but not less than BGN 1,000, and in the event of a repeated violation - not less than BGN 2,000.

(2) A legal entity or a sole trader who keeps in a warehouse or a retail outlet or in a vehicle, offers, sells or transports excisable goods without excise label where such excise label is mandatory, or excisable goods with affixed false or forged excise labels or excise labels with expired validity shall be subject to a property sanction to the double amount of the excise duty due but not less than BGN 2,000, and in the event of a repeated violation - not less than BGN 4,000.

(3) Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to excisable goods without affixed excise labels or with affixed excise labels with expired validity moving under excise duty suspension arrangement.

(4) Where a legal entity or a sole trader keeping, offering, selling or transporting excisable goods establishes upon receipt of the delivery excisable goods without excise label where such excise label is mandatory, or excisable goods with affixed false or forged excise labels or excise labels with expired validity, he shall take inventory of the goods according to a sample approved by the Minister of Finance and shall notify in writing within three days from the day of acceptance or receipt of the goods the competent customs authority by location of the unit. In this case no sanction under Paragraph 2 shall be imposed on the person who has notified the customs authority.

(5) The sanctions under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be imposed on the person who keeps in a warehouse or transports excisable goods without excise labels where such are mandatory, or excisable goods with affixed false or forged excise labels or excise labels with expired validity in the cases where the owner cannot be found.

(6) A person who sells or stores in retail premises other than duty-free retail outlets alcoholic beverages and tobacco products affixed with the excise label DUTY FREE, with an inscription which obligatorily contains the words DUTY FREE respectively, shall be subject to a fine - for natural persons other than traders, or a property sanction - for legal entities and sole traders, to the double amount of the excise duty due but not less than BGN 1,000 and in the event of a repeated violation - not less than BGN 2,000.

(7) Upon establishing tobacco products without excise labels or with affixed false or forged excise labels or with excise labels with expired validity or with excise labels with the inscription under Paragraph 6 in vending machines for sale of tobacco products, the sanctions under Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be imposed on the person who has been licensed for trade in tobacco products from such vending machines in accordance with the Bulgarian legislation.

Article 123a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) (1) A person who evades full or partial payment or security of the excise duty due under this Act shall be subject to a fine in the double amount of the evaded excise duty but not less than BGN 1,000, and a property sanction shall be imposed on legal persons and sole traders in the double amount of the evaded excise duty, but not less than BGN 2,000.

(2) Upon a repeated violation under Paragraph 1 the fine shall be in the triple amount of the evaded excise duty but not less than BGN 2,000 and the property sanction shall be in the triple amount of the evaded excise duty but not less than BGN 4,000.

Article 124. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Amended, SG No. 105/2006) In the event of violations under Articles 115, 116, 117 and Article 120, Paragraph 1, Article 121, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, Articles 122 and 123 the goods subject of the breach shall be confiscated in favour of the State, regardless of their ownership.

(2) (New, SG No. 105/2006) The funds owned by the perpetrator, which have been used for deliberate violation of this Act, shall be confiscated in favour of the State unless their value does not correspond visibly to the gravity of the violation.

(3) (Renumbered from 2, SG No. 105/2006) The Minister of Finance shall issue an ordinance stipulating the terms and procedure for disposal with excisable goods confiscated in favour of the State.

Article 125. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 105/2006) An excise-exempt end user who has received energy products and has used them for purposes other than those stipulated in the certificate of excise exemption and who has not paid the excise duty due under this Act shall be subject to a property sanction to the double amount of the excise duty due on motor fuels of the relevant type, but not less than BGN 5,000.

(2) In the event of a repeated violation, the certificate shall be revoked and the property sanction under Paragraph 1 shall not be less than BGN 10,000.

(3) In the cases under Paragraph 2 the person shall pay the amount of the excise duty due on motor fuel of the respective type for the quantities available at the time of revocation of the certificate.

(4) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The sanctions referred to in Paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) shall furthermore be imposed on any agricultural producer which uses motor fuel at reduced rates in violation of Article 32 herein.

Article 126. (Effective 1.07.2006) A legal entity who produces, keeps in a warehouse or a retail outlet or in a vehicle, offers, sells or transports excisable goods without an excise document under this Act or an invoice or a customs declaration or an accompanying administrative document certifying the payment, charge or security of the excise duty shall be subject to a fine to the double amount of the excise duty due but not less than BGN 1,000, and in the event of a repeated violation - not less than BGN 2,000.

Article 126a. (New, SG No. 105/2006) Any violation of the provisions of this Act established by the customs authorities, unless provided otherwise, shall be subject to a fine ranging from BGN 200 to BGN 1,000 or to a property sanction ranging from BGN 500 to BGN 2,000.

Article 126b. (New, SG No. 105/2006) For minor cases of violation of articles 118, 122 and 123, established upon their commitment, the customs authorities may impose a fine by issuing a ticket under the procedure and in the amounts set out in Article 39, Paragraph 2 of the Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act.

Article 127. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) A customs authority that fails to issue within 7 days a certificate of presence or absence of liabilities under this Act, shall be subject to a fine of up to BGN 250, and in the event of a repeated violation - up to BGN 500.

(2) Statements of violations shall be drawn up by officials in the inspectorate to the Minister of Finance and penalty enactments shall be issued by the Minister of Finance.

Article 128. (Effective 1.07.2006) (1) Establishment of violations, issuance, appeal and enforcement of penalty enactments shall be subject to the terms and procedures of the Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act.

(2) The statements of violations shall be drawn up by the customs authorities and the penalty enactments shall be issued by the Director of the Customs Agency or an official authorized by him.

TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

§ 1. (1) (Effective 1.07.2006) This Act shall repeal the Excise Tax Act (promulgated State Gazette No. 19/1994.; amended SG Nos. 58/1995 and 70/1995, Nos. 21, 56 and 107/1996, No. 51/1997, Nos.15, 89 and 153/1998, No. 103/1999, No. 102/2000, No. 110/2001, Nos. 45 and 118/2002; corrected, No. 9/2003; amended, Nos. 37, 103 and 112/2003, Nos. 53 and 113/2004), except for Article 11, Paragraphs 9 and 10, Article 12c, Article 17a, Paragraph 10, § 2, item 25 of the additional provisions, § 26 of the transitional and concluding provisions of the Act Amending and Supplementing the Excise Tax Act (SG, No. 110/2001) and § 20 of the transitional and concluding provisions of the Act Amending and Supplementing the Excise Tax Act (SG, No. 118/2002) which shall apply until adoption of a duty-free trade act.

(2) (Effective 15.11.2005) The persons under § 20, Paragraph 2 of the transitional and concluding provisions of the Act Amending and Supplementing the Excise Tax Act (SG, No. 118/2002) the validity of whose permits has expired after 31 July 2005 shall continue to operate as duty-free operators until adoption of a duty-free trade act.

(3) (Effective 1.07.2006, - SG, No. 91/2005, repealed, SG No. 105/2006, effective as from the date of entry into force of the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union - 1.01.2007).

§ 2. (1) (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) Any proceedings for the establishment and collection of excise duty liabilities, initiated on or before the 30th day of June 2006, as well any proceedings for reimbursement of excise duty initiated until the said date, shall be completed by the National Revenue Agency authorities.

(2) (Amended, SG, No. 105/2005, SG No. 63/2006) The excise duty charged on or before the 30th day of June 2006 shall be declared and remitted according to the procedure and within the time limits established by the Excise Tax Act and the Regulations for Application thereof.

(3) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The provisions of the Excise Tax Act shall apply to any excise duty liabilities which have arisen on or before the 30th day of June 2006, and the said liabilities shall be established, secured and collected by the National Revenue Agency authorities according to the procedure established by the Tax and Social-Insurance Procedure Code .

(4) (New, SG No. 63/2006) The security furnished under the Excise Tax Act, furnished on or before the 30th day of June 2006, shall be released or utilized by the National Revenue Agency according to the procedure and under the terms established by the Excise Tax Act and the Regulations for Application thereof.

§ 2a. (New, SG No. 63/2006) (1) Authorized warehousekeepers shall have the right to reimbursement of the excise duty paid until the 30th day of June 2006 on:

1. ethyl alcohol (alcohol-containing raw materials) used in the production of alcoholic beverages;
2. gases intended for processing, falling within CN codes 2901 24 100, 2711 14 000, 2901 22 000 and 2901 21 000, which have undergone specific or chemical processing into excisable finished products;
3. heavy oils intended for processing, falling within CN codes 2710 19 710 and 2710 19 750, and for heavy fuel oils, falling within CN codes 2710 19 510 and 2710 19 550, which have under undergone specific or chemical processing into excisable finished products;
4. naphtha used in the production of ethylene;
5. ethylene used in the production of ethylene dichloride.

(2) Reimbursement shall be effected after release for consumption of the excisable goods in which the goods covered under Paragraph (1) are used or, respectively, after the sale of the ethylene dichloride, but not later than the 1st day of July 2007.

§ 2b. (New, SG No. 63/2006) The annual fuel consumption rate, referred to in Article 32 (3) herein, for 2006, shall be 44 litres per hectare of registered arable agricultural land.

§ 3. The documents in respect of which a sample is required under this Act shall be laid down in the implementing regulation to this Act.

§ 4. (Effective 15.11.2005) The Minister of Finance shall issue an implementing regulation to this Act within 6 months from its promulgation in the State Gazette.

§ 5. (Amended, SG No. 63/2006) The ordinances under Article 21, Paragraph 3, Article 25, Paragraph 2, Article 107 and Article 124, Paragraph 2 shall be issued within three months from entry into force of this Act.

§ 6. The Minister of Finance:

1. shall determine by an order the information in the registers under Article 24, Paragraph 5, Article 54, Paragraph 1 and Article 56, Paragraph 2, which shall be public;

2. may determine jointly with the Governor of the Bulgarian National Bank a special procedure for the tax payment.

§ 7. The Corporate Income Tax Act (promulgated SG, No. 115/1997; amended, No. 19/1998; amended, Nos. 21 and 153/1998, Nos. 12, 50, 51, 64, 81, 103, 110 and 111/1999, Nos. 105 and 108/2000, Nos. 34 and 110/2001, Nos. 45, 61, 62 and 119/2002, Nos. 42 and 109/2003, Nos. 18, 53 and 107/2004, No. 39/2005) shall be supplemented as follows:

1. Article 2d shall be created:

"Article 2d. (1) Persons organizing games of chance with gambling slot machines, bookmaking facilities for betting on

horse or dog-racing results, roulette and other gaming equipment in gaming casinos, instead of the corporate profit tax and/or final tax under Article 2a on games of chance with gaming slot machines, bookmaking facilities for betting on horse or dog-racing results, roulette and other gaming equipment in gaming casinos, shall be charged with a final tax on the respective facility.

(2) The persons under Paragraph 1 shall accrue and pay the tax in the respective territorial tax directorate by place of its tax registration in advance quarterly installments and shall send a copy of the payment order to the territorial tax directorate by location of the gambling hall, bookmaking facilities or the casino and to the gambling supervision authority. The installments shall be paid for every object of gambling with a separate payment order specifying the location and address of the object. The persons under Paragraph 1 shall file a declaration for the respective quarter according to a sample approved by the Minister of Finance within the time limits for payment of the tax.

(3) The tax under Paragraph 1 shall be paid by 3 January for the first quarter of the calendar year, by 1 April - for the second quarter, by 1 July - for the third quarter, and by 1 October - for the fourth quarter of the calendar year.

(4) For any other activities taxation of the persons under Paragraph 1 shall be in accordance with the general procedure."

2. Article 46d shall be created:

"Article 46d. The amount of the tax under Article 2d shall be as follows:

1. for gambling slot machines or bookmaking facilities for betting on horse or dog-racing results -BGN 300 per quarter per facility;

2. for roulette in a casino for gaming table - BGN 18,000 per quarter per facility;

3. for other gaming facility in a casino - BGN 3,000 per quarter per facility."

3. Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 are created in Article 67a:

"(7) A person who runs games of chance or uses gaming slot machines and gaming facilities under Article 2d without having paid the tax due shall be subject to a fine - for natural persons other than traders or to a property sanction - for legal persons and sole traders, to the double amount of the tax due but not less than BGN 3,000.

(8) In the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph 7 the amount of the fine or the property sanction shall be to the amount of the double tax due but not less than BGN 5,000.

(9) The sanctions under Paragraphs 7 and 8 shall apply regardless of the sanctions provided for in other acts and the gambling supervision authorities under the Gambling Act shall be notified within three days of establishing the violation."

§ 8. The Customs Act (promulgated SG, No. 15/1998; amended, Nos. 89 and 153/1998, Nos. 30 and 83/1999, No. 63/2000, No. 110/2001, No. 76/2002, Nos. 37 and 95/2003, No. 38/2004, Nos. 45 and 86/2005) shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

1. In Article 7 , Paragraph 8 a second sentence shall be inserted: "Officials from the inspectorate to the Minister of Finance shall be entitled to access to any data and documents in the customs administration in connection with the inspections conducted by them."

2. In Article 17 , Paragraph 1, item 6, first sentence, after the wording "provided for by law" shall be added "at the request of the officials from the inspectorate to the Minister of Finance ".

§ 9. Until entry into force of the statement of issuance of a license for management of a tax warehouse or refusal for its issuance existing producers of excisable goods at 1 January 2006 who file an application for license by 1 March 2006 shall continue their activity as licensed warehouse keepers under the procedure of this Act.

§ 10. The Tobacco and Tobacco Products Act (promulgated SG, No. 101/1993; amended, No. 19/1994, No. 110/1996, No. 153/1998, No. 113/1999, Nos. 33 and 102/2000, No. 110/2001, No. 20/2003, Nos. 57 and 70/2004) shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

1. Article 29 shall be amended as follows:

"Article 29. (1) Domestically produced or imported cigarettes shall be sold on the domestic market at prices, under terms and according to a procedure as laid down by the Council of Ministers.

(2) The terms and procedure for registration of prices of tobacco products, except those under Paragraph 1, domestically produced and imported, the trade in tobacco products and control on them shall be stipulated in a regulation of the Council of Ministers."

2. (Effective 15.11.2005) § 3a shall be created in the transitional and concluding provisions:

"§ 3a. By 1 January 2006 the Council of Ministers shall adopt the necessary amendments and supplements to the implementing regulations to this Act."

§ 11. Enforcement of this Act is assigned to the Minister of Finance.

§ 12. The Act enters into force on 1 January 2006 except for:

1. (amended, SG No. 63/2006) the provisions of Articles 1 to 31, Article 32, Items 2, 4, 5 and 6 of Article 33 (1) and Article 33 (2), Articles 34 to 46, Articles 59 to 128, § 1 (1) regarding the repeal of the Excise Tax Act , as well as § 1 (3), which shall enter into force as from the 1st day of July 2006;

2. the provisions of § 1, Paragraph 2 , § 4 and § 10, item 2, which shall enter into force on the date of promulgation of this Act in the State Gazette.

3. (new, SG No. 63/2006, amended, SG No. 108/2006) the provisions of Items 1 and 3 of Article 33 (1), which shall enter into force as from the 1st day of January 2008.

The Act was passed by the 40th National Assembly on 2 November 2005 and the Official Seal of the National Assembly has been affixed to it.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

of the Administrative Procedure Code

(SG, No. 30/2006, effective 12.07.2006)

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§ 21. Everywhere in the Excise Duties and Tax Warehouses Act (Promulgated State Gazette No. 91/2005, amended SG No. 105/2005) the words "the Administrative Procedure Act" and shall be replaced by "the Administrative Procedure Code".

(*) Act to Amend the Commercial Register Act

(SG No. 80/2006, effective 3.10.2006)

§ 1. In § 56 of the Transitional and Final Provisions the words "1 October 2006" shall be replaced by "1 July 2007"

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Act to Amend the Excise Duties and Tax Warehouses Act

(SG No. 105/2006, effective 1.01.2007)

§ 77. (1) The persons under Article 57a, Paragraph 1, items 1, 2 and 3 who carry out activity at the date of entry into force of this Act shall file an application for registration within 14 days from its entry into force.

(2) Until delivery of the certificate of registration the persons under Paragraph 1 shall have all the rights and obligations of registered persons under this Act.

§ 78. For goods to which the circumstances under Appendix V, Chapter IV "Customs Union" of the Protocol to the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union the provision of Article 19, Paragraph 1, item 3 shall apply at the date of completion of customs formalities.

§ 79. State aids referred to in Article 32, Paragraph 1, item 7, Paragraph 2, item 4, and Article 33, Paragraph 1, item 6 shall be provided after the European Commission issues a positive decision on their compatibility with the Common Market.

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