UNION OF THE COMOROS Unity - Solidarity - Development

ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION

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*LAW No. 06* Establishing the Finance Law of the Union of the Comoros for 2006 Article 1: Taxes and charges, as well as other proceeds and revenue, apply throughout the

<u>Article 6</u>: The revenue to be shared is determined at KMF 23,128.66 million, to be assigned to charges as follows:

non-budgeted resources: KMF 1,717 million; public debt and international contributions: KMF 3,703.29 million; pensions: KMF 1,163.89 million; supply of services: KMF 550.20 million; funds paid into the Comorian Pension Fund: KMF 250 million; highway maintenance fund: KMF 220 million; and fund for new drilling and water supply: KMF 100 million.

After deduction of the above charges, the remaining amount shall be divided as follows, pursuant to the organic law determining shares:

 Union:
 KMF 5,904.10 million or 37.5%;

 Ngazidja:
 KMF 4,313.93 million or 27.4%;

 Anjouan:
 KMF 4,046.28 million or 25.7%;

 Mwali:
 KMF 1,479.96 million or 9.4%.

<u>Article 7</u>: Before the revenue is shared among the aforementioned accounts, the following levies shall be deducted from the special account of revenue to be shared in order to finance the expenditure below:

external debt and contributions: 17.5%; 17.3%; pensions: 5.5%; supply of services: 2.6%; 2.8%.

While awaiting adoption of the law on collection and securitization of customs revenue, the provider responsible for inspecting goods shall be present throughout the territory.

<u>Article 8</u>: The remaining revenue to be shared shall be divided between the Union and the autonomous islands on a daily basis according to the following breakdown:

Entity	Share	Amount in KMF millions
Union	37.5%	5,904.10
Ngazidja	27.4%	4,313.93
Anjouan	25.7%	4,046.28
Mwali	9.40%	1,479.96

The Treasury's pension fund account shall be credited with an amount of KMF 250 million.

<u>Article 9</u>: An account for the operations of the Assembly of the Union of the Comoros shall be opened in the Central Bank's books. It shall be credited from the account of the Union of the Comoros. An order by the Minister of Finance and Budget, following consultation with the bureau of the Assembly of the Union, shall determine the terms of implementation for this Article.

Article 10: Primary current expenditure shall amount to KMF 21,399.00 million.

<u>Article 11</u>: Interest and amortization of the external debit are estimated at KMF 1,095 million and KMF 2,367 million, respectively, in accordance with Annex 3. Interest and amortization of the statutory advances of the Central Bank of the Comoros are estimated at KMF 95 million and KMF 150 million, respectively.

<u>Article 12</u>: The external revenue for the budget already identified amounts to KMF 10,816.9 million, broken down as follows:

Grants:	KMF 7,714.50 million
Loans:	KMF 3,102.40 million

An estimated amount of KMF 1,200 million of these resources shall be earmarked for externally financed projects and technical assistance.

Article 13: E

Article 20: Taxation of grouped containers is determined as follows:

PRODUCTS	AMOUNT
20-ft container	1,800,000
Customs fee	1,450,000
Chamber of Commerce fee	75,000
Administrative charge	
Import permit	
Pension fund	

The deduction for work-related expenses shall be calculated at a flat rate depending on the gross income, after subtracting the deductions or payments indicated in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above. It is fixed at 30% of the amount of the income.

Article 25: The tax on salaries shall be calculated by applying the following progressive rates to

3 - Wages and salaries of corporals, brigadiers and soldiers paid daily, as well as quartermasters and equivalent sailors called up for their period of legal service provided that they have no resources other than their pay.

4 - Taxpayers who have no income other than that liable for the tax on salaries."

The tax shall be levied at the Customs by the Directorate-

An internal tax on rice is hereby created in the Union of the Comoros at the following rates:

KMF 45 for ordinary rice; KMF 200 for superior quality rice.

The tax shall be levied at the Customs by the Directorate-General of Customs on behalf of the National Tax Directorate. At the domestic level, the tax is collected and transferred by the producer.

The criteria for declaration, control and collection of the tax, as well as the obligations and penalties, shall be those applicable to the consumption tax.

<u>Article 44</u>: Orders for rice are centralized in the ONICOR and fulfilled by means of invitations to tender, following consultation with the Ministers of the Union and the islands concerned.

#### LICENCE TO IMPORT SUPERIOR QUALITY RICE

<u>Article 45</u>: A licence to import superior quality rice is hereby created in the Union of the Comoros. Prior authorization from the competent authority is required before a licence can be issued.

Licences shall be valid for one year at a cost of KMF 2,000,000 per importer.

The licence fee shall be paid to the competent services before 31 March of the year in question.

Any licence holder who has not paid before 31 March shall be subject to a penalty corresponding to 200% of the fee.

# LICENCE TO IMPORT AND SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Article 46:

<u>Article 57</u>: Goods imported from COMESA member countries shall benefit from 0% tax on the basis of reciprocity if the goods meet the rules of origin criteria adopted by those countries.

<u>Article 58</u>: Exemption from customs duties and taxes applies to accompanied luggage of the diaspora provided that they are imports of no commercial value.

An order of the minister responsible for the budget shall establish the terms for implementation of this Article.

### PROTECTION MEASURE FOR TOBACCO AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

<u>Article 59</u>: Travellers are authorized to include a maximum of ten (10) packets of cigarettes and one (1) bottle of alcohol in their luggage.

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURE

<u>Article 60</u>: It is prohibited to import into the Union of the Comoros passenger or transport vehicles over seven (7) years old or trucks over 10 years old on 1 January of the year in question.

Failure to comply with the preceding paragraph shall entail a fine of KMF 200,000 per vehicle payable by the shipowner or shipping agency.

In addition to the foregoing fine, the shipowner shall re-export the vehicle at his own cost as soon as possible.

An order of the Minister of Finance and Budget shall establish the terms for implementation of this Article.

## RETI REMENT FUND

Article 61: A special trust fund called the "Pension Fund" is hereby established:

This fund is replenished daily by:

- 5% of the special tax on tobacco;
- 5% of the special tax on alcoholic beverages;
- 1% on the sale of air and maritime transport tickets.

<u>Article 62</u>: The Minister responsible for the budget is appointed chief authorizing office for the government budget. These provisions do not apply to credits earmarked for the expenditure of autonomous islands, the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court and the Assembly of the Union, which are authorized by their respective Presidents or by persons delegated for this purpose.

Discussed and adopted in plenary session of 5 January 2006

Secretaries

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