Anti-Foreign Sanctions Law of the People’s Republic of China

Dan Young Business Consultancy — www.danyoungcpa.com

Unofficial English translation prepared for reference only. The official Chinese text prevails.

Contents

Table of Contents 1

Chapter I — General Provisions 1

Chapter II — Countermeasures 1

Chapter III — Supplementary Provisions 2

Table of Contents

- Chapter I — General Provisions
- Chapter II — Countermeasures
- Chapter III — Supplementary Provisions

Chapter I — General Provisions

Article 1 — This Law is enacted for the purpose of safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests, and protecting the lawful rights and interests of citizens and legal persons of China.

Article 2 — This Law shall apply where a foreign state, in violation of international law and the basic norms governing international relations, suppresses or contains China by various pretexts or based on its own domestic laws, adopts discriminatory restrictive measures against Chinese citizens or organizations, and interferes in China’s internal affairs.

Article 3 — The People’s Republic of China shall adhere to the principle of equality and mutual benefit, respect international law and the basic norms governing international relations, and oppose hegemonism and power politics.

Article 4 — Where a foreign state adopts discriminatory restrictive measures against China, the relevant departments of the State Council may decide to include the foreign state, organization, or individual that directly or indirectly participated in the formulation, decision, or implementation of such measures in the countermeasure list.

Article 5 — The relevant departments of the State Council may, in accordance with their respective functions and duties, and based on actual circumstances, decide to take one or more countermeasures against the foreign state, organization, or individual included in the countermeasure list and against the foreign organizations or individuals associated therewith.

Chapter II — Countermeasures

Article 6 — The countermeasures that may be taken include: (1) denial of visa issuance, denial of entry, cancellation of visa, or deportation; (2) sealing up, distraining, or freezing of movable property, immovable property, and other types of property located within the territory of China; (3) prohibition or restriction of organizations and individuals within the territory of China from engaging in relevant transactions, cooperation, or other activities with the subject; and (4) other necessary measures.

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Article 7 — The relevant departments of the State Council may, in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Law, decide to take countermeasures against the following individuals: (1) individuals who are included in the countermeasure list; (2) senior management personnel or actual controllers of organizations included in the countermeasure list; (3) individuals who hold positions as directors, supervisors, or senior management in organizations included in the countermeasure list; and (4) other individuals as determined necessary by the relevant departments of the State Council.

Article 8 — Organizations and individuals within the territory of China shall implement the countermeasure decisions made by the relevant departments of the State Council. Where relevant organizations and individuals violate the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the relevant departments of the State Council shall deal with them in accordance with the law and may restrict or prohibit them from engaging in relevant activities.

Article 9 — The countermeasure list and countermeasure decisions shall be published.

Article 10 — Where the circumstances on which countermeasures are based change, the relevant departments of the State Council may suspend, modify, or cancel the relevant countermeasures.

Article 11 — Where an organization or individual within the territory of China suffers losses due to a foreign state's discriminatory restrictive measures, the said organization or individual may institute legal proceedings in the people's court in accordance with the law and claim compensation from the organization or individual that directly or indirectly participated in the formulation, decision, or implementation of such restrictive measures.

Article 12 — The Chinese Government shall encourage and support organizations and individuals within the territory of China to safeguard their lawful rights and interests through legal means, and to provide necessary assistance for such efforts.

Chapter III — Supplementary Provisions

Article 13 — The State shall take necessary countermeasures against acts that endanger China's national sovereignty, security, or development interests, other than those provided for in this Law, in accordance with the provisions of this Law and relevant laws and regulations.

Article 14 — Where foreign states, organizations, or individuals commit, assist, or support acts that endanger China's national sovereignty, security, or development interests, necessary measures may be taken with reference to the relevant provisions of this Law.

Article 15 — Where the provisions of international treaties or agreements concluded or acceded to by the People's Republic of China differ from the provisions of this Law, the provisions of the international treaties or agreements shall apply, except for those provisions on which the People's Republic of China has declared reservations.

Article 16 — This Law shall come into force on the date of its promulgation.

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