EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO THE LEBANON (TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FINANCING AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE)(PENALTIES AND LICENCES) REGULATIONS 2006

2006 No. 2681

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Trade & Industry and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

2.1. These Regulations makes provision with regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1412/2006 of 25 September 2006 ('the 2006 Regulation') imposing certain restrictions measures in respect of Lebanon.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

3.1. The Department is today laying before Parliament these Regulations. The Department considers that in order to give effect to our European obligations, in respect of the Lebanon embargo, it is necessary for these Regulations to come into force as soon as possible.

4. Legislative Background

4.1 Articles 2 to 5 of the Regulations provides for national offences, penalties and licensing provisions with regard to the prohibitions in the 2006 Regulation. These prohibitions are on the;

- a) The provision of technical assistance related to military activities and to the provision, manufacture, maintenance, and use of arms and related material of all types directly or indirectly to any person, entity or body in, or for use in Lebanon; or
- b) the provision of financing or financial assistance related to military activities, for any sale, supply, transfer or export of arms or related material, or for any provision of related technical assistance, directly or indirectly to any person, entity or body in, or for use in, Lebanon; or
- c) the participation, knowingly or intentionally, in activities the object or effect of which is, directly or indirectly, to circumvent the prohibitions referred to in (a), (b)above.

5. Extent

5.1. This instrument applies to all of the United Kingdom.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

6.1 As this instrument is subject to negative instrument resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy Background

7.1 The Government policy is to support EU Legislation concerning restrictive measures imposed on Lebanon, which is in accordance with a UNSCR.

7.2. It is also in line with policy to implement EU Legislation in a timely and appropriate manner.

7.3. These Regulations provides for national offences, penalties and licensing provisions as required in the directly applicable 2006 Regulation which introduced prohibitions on certain services related to arms and military equipment to Lebanon in accordance with UNSCR 1701 (2006).

8. Impact

8.1. A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

8.2. The impact on the public sector is minimal.

9. Contact

9.1. Jim Bouttell at the Department of Trade and Industry, Tel: 020 7215 4648, or email: jim.bouttell@dti.gsi.gov.uk can answer any queries regarding this instrument.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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