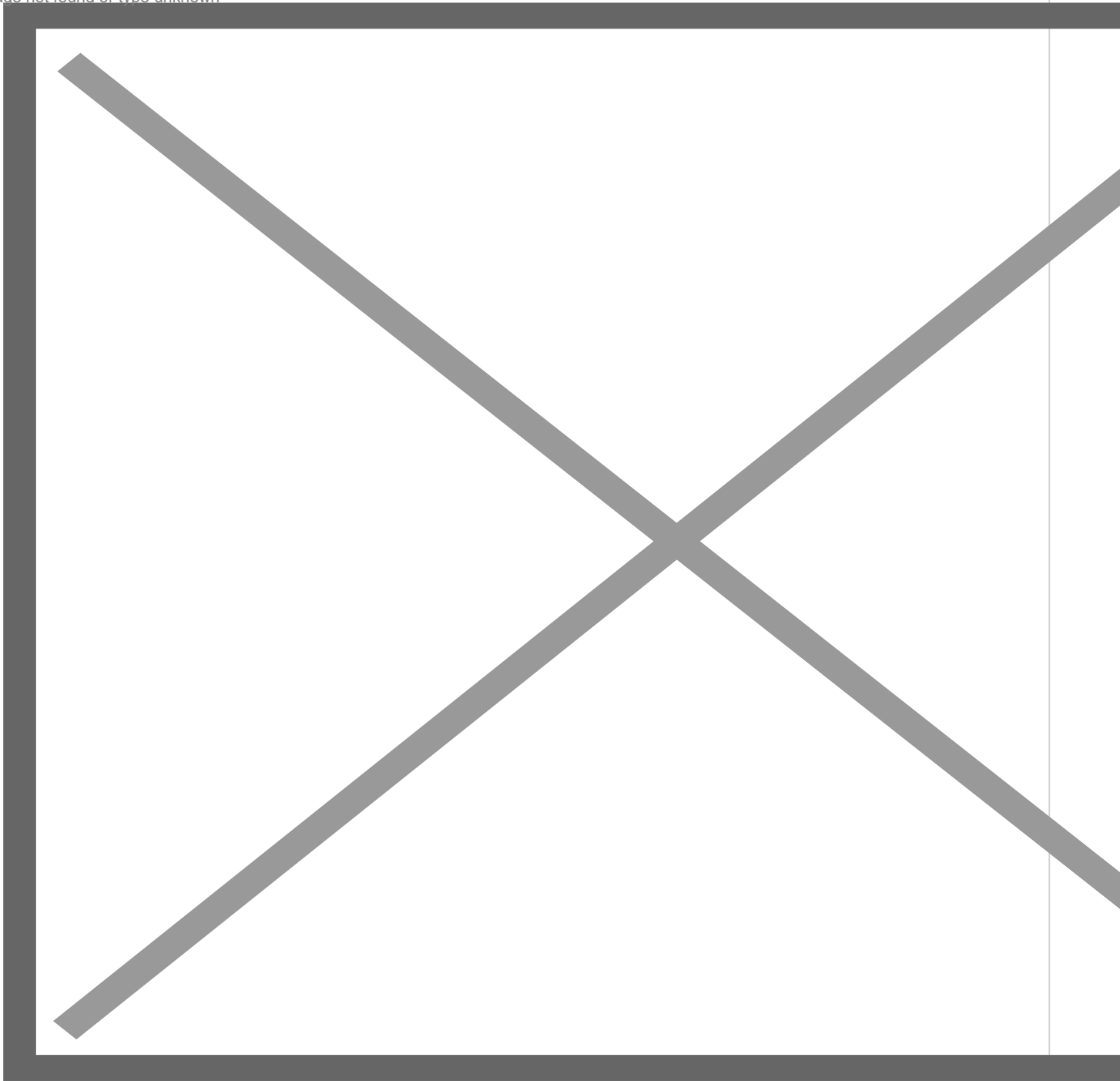


*Cuba issues regulations for the
exercise of MSMEs, non-
agricultural cooperatives, and
private work*

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RHC

Havana, Aug 20 (RHC) Cuba issued regulations related to the activities that micro, small and medium-sized private enterprises, non-agricultural cooperatives and self-employed workers can carry out.

The Official Gazette published Thursday includes, among other regulations, Decree-Law 46 signed by the president of the National Assembly of People's Power, Juan Esteban Lazo Hernández, which regulates the creation and operation of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

The law states that MSMEs are those companies or economic units with legal personality, which have their dimensions and characteristics, and whose purpose is to develop the production of goods and the rendering of services that satisfy the needs of society.

They may be state-owned, private, or mixed and are classified according to the number of people employed as Micro enterprises, which range from one to 10 people; Small enterprises, from 11 to 35; and Medium enterprises, from 36 to 100 people.

It emphasizes that MSMEs have entrepreneurial autonomy; they contract goods and services with the other subjects recognized in the current legislation with equal conditions and render statistical information as provided by law.

Regarding the activities to be carried out by the MSME companies, non-agricultural cooperatives, and self-employed workers, Decree 49 states that they are those considered lawful, except for those regulated in the list of unauthorized activities annexed to this regulation.

Among the unauthorized activities are pest control, except for domestic pests; ordinary hunting and trapping for commercial purposes, and the exploitation of mines and quarries.

Within the manufacturing industry, the manufacture of sugar, natural mineral waters, and tobacco; the printing of newspapers, magazines, tabloids, books, maps, atlases, postage stamps, tax stamps, documents of title, checks and other guarantee documents, except for products associated with the promotion of commercial activity, are not authorized.

The creation of record labels, music publishing companies, and entities for the commercialization of records and other phonographic supports is also not authorized, except for recording and post-production of sound.

Radio broadcasts, television programming, and transmissions, on cultural programming of music, performing arts, books, plastic arts, cinema, heritage, and community cultural work, and wired, wireless, and satellite telecommunications activities, including public Internet access service, are not authorized either.

The annex to the regulations includes other unauthorized activities in activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies; services; artistic, entertainment, and recreational activities; human health care and social assistance; education; real estate; professional, scientific, and technical activities; as well as administrative and support services, among others.

All the regulations will become effective on September 20.

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