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NOTICE

THE TURKEY (SANCTIONS) (UNAUTHORISED DRILLING ACTIVITIES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN) (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES) ORDER 2020

SI 2020 NO. 283

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NOTICE is hereby given that the Turkey (Sanctions) (Unauthorised Drilling Activities in the Eastern Mediterranean) (Overseas Territories) Order 2020 SI 2020 No. 283, was made on 11th March, 2020, was laid before Parliament on 18th March 2020 and comes into force on 8th April 2020.

The full text of the Order can be viewed via the following link:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/283/contents/made

The Explanatory Note of the Turkey (Sanctions) (Unauthorised Drilling Activities in the Eastern Mediterranean) (Overseas Territories) Order 2020 SI 2020 No. 283 is as follows:

"EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect in all Overseas Territories except Bermuda and Gibraltar (which implement sanctions through their own domestic legislation) to the sanctions regime created by the European Union in Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/1894 of 11th November 2019 concerning restrictive measures in view of Turkey's unauthorised drilling activities in the Eastern Mediterranean and in Council Regulation (EU) 2019/1890 of 11th November 2019 concerning restrictive measures in view of Turkey's unauthorised drilling activities in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The sanctions imposed include an asset-freeze on persons designated by the Council of the European Union. The designation criteria include: being responsible for or involved in drilling activities in relation to hydrocarbon exploration and production, or hydrocarbon extraction resulting from such activities, which have not been authorised by the Republic of Cyprus, within its territorial sea or in its exclusive economic zone or on its continental shelf, including, in cases where the exclusive economic zone or continental shelf has not been delimited in accordance with international law with a State having an opposite coast, activities which may jeopardise or hamper the reaching of a

delimitation agreement; providing financial, technical or material support for such activities; or being associated with such persons.

The Order provides for certain exceptions to the sanctions regime, for example to allow for frozen accounts to be credited with interest or other earnings. It also makes provision for the Governor of the relevant Overseas Territory to license certain activities that would otherwise be prohibited under the financial sanctions in line with exemptions and derogations under the sanctions regime.

The Order makes it a criminal offence to contravene, or circumvent, the financial sanctions imposed and prescribes the modes of trial and penalties that apply to such offences. The Order also confers powers on authorised officers in relation to the enforcement of the sanctions imposed.

An Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument because there is no, or no significant, impact on business in the United Kingdom.".