

COSTA RICA BAN

ADDITION OF ARTICLE 26 BIS TO THE COSTA RICAN ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES LAW OF JULY 1995

Article 26 bis – Uranium Ban

The use, trade, transfer, transit, production, distribution or storage of uranium, enriched or depleted, as well as any other industrial uranium or other radioactive materials where uranium is part of the compound is prohibited. This applies when its end is for weapons, war or military use, or for use to the detriment of human life, society and the environment in national territory in accordance with Articles 5 and 6 of the Constitution.

The competent national authorities responsible for authorizing and monitoring the entry and use made of these materials, when informed or provided evidence relating to illegal entry or upon detecting presence of materials containing uranium enriched or depleted, or any other type of industrial uranium in the country, or existing suspicion that the end given to these materials is prohibited within the terms of the previous paragraph, will proceed to confiscate them and inform the Centre for Research in Atomic, Molecular and Nuclear Science (CICANUM) of the University of Costa Rica.

CICANUM will carry out in situ or in laboratory analysis and transmit a technical-scientific report concerning its content and composition. In any case, compliance with security, transport, treatment, storage and waste management protocols for such materials must be followed, as established by the laws of the Republic, international agreements ratified by Costa Rica, as well as regulations issued by the Executive.

The keeper, owner or operator of the uranium-containing materials found have the burden of proof as to the purposes planned for such materials.

Those who violate the provisions in this ruling will be applied the full penalty of the law under Article 91 of this law and be subject to payment of all corresponding civil reparations, as to the costs of technical and scientific analysis as well as expenses of shipping and storage of the hazardous material.

In force as of its publication.

Signed by President Laura Chinchilla and published in La Gazeta No. 111, June 9, 2011

(translated from the Spanish by Isabel Macdonald)