
REGULATIONS ON THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE MT. KUMGANG SPECIAL ZONE FOR INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

Adopted by Resolution No. 75 of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly on November 29, 2011

Chapter 1 Generals

Article 1 (Objective)

These Regulations are formulated for the purpose of providing strict guidelines for the conservation and promotion of natural environment, and prevention of environmental pollution in the Mt. Kumgang Special Zone for International Tourism, thereby contributing to protecting the natural ecological environment thereof.

Article 2 (Applicability)

These Regulations shall be applicable to the businesses and individuals carrying on business in the Mt. Kumgang Special Zone for International Tourism (the SZIT).

Businesses shall include businesses, branches, offices and agencies conducting tourist business in the SZIT, and individuals include foreigners, south Koreans and overseas Koreans and other tourists.

Article 3 (Institution charged with environmental protection)

Administration of the environmental protection shall be undertaken by the management committee of the Mt. Kumgang Special Zone for International Tourism (the SZIT management committee).

The SZIT management committee shall undertake the work of environmental protection on a long-term and planned basis.

Article 4 (Establishment of criteria of environmental protection)

The environmental protection criteria in the SZIT shall be established by the guidance organ of the Mt. Kumgang Special Zone for International Tourism (the SZIT guidance organ) through consultation with the land and environmental protection organ.

Article 5 (Observance of environmental protection criteria)

Businesses that wish to undertake construction, production or service business in the SZIT shall strictly observe the environmental protection criteria.

Article 6 (Acts restricted or prohibited in the SZIT)

Prospecting and developing of natural resources in the SZIT shall be prohibited.

Buildings, facilities and roads shall not be built nor the structures of rivers, lakes and marshes changed without the approval of the SZIT management committee.

Chapter 2 Conservation and Promotion of the Natural Environment

Article 7 (Basic requirements of conservation and creation of natural environment)

The SZIT management committee shall conserve the natural environment of the SZIT and create an environment helpful to the health and cultural and emotional life of people.

Article 8 (Designation of nature reserves)

The SZIT management committee may designate nature reserves for the purpose of protecting animals and plants of unique, endangered or rare species, scenic spots, natural monuments and striking natural landscape. In this case approval thereof shall be obtained from the Cabinet.

Article 9 (Afforestation)

The SZIT management committee shall ensure that forest-covered area is increased and trees of good species are planted on a planned basis.

Article 10 (Protection of forests)

Businesses and individuals shall not commit such acts as cutting down trees, clearing forestland for cultivation or exploiting soil or stones in the SZIT.

Article 11 (Extermination of harmful insects)

The SZIT management committee shall establish a proper system of preliminary observation and quarantine of harmful forest insects for the extermination thereof in good time.

Article 12 (Prevention of forest fire)

The SZIT management committee shall set up a system of monitoring forest fires and regularly watch out for any outbreak of forest fires.

There should be provided fire extinguishers and created fire belts in the forest area.

Where fire breaks out, required personnel, equipment and facilities shall be mobilized to put it out in good time.

Article 13 (Rules to be observed when entering a mountain and working therein)

No one shall take matches, lighters and the like to mountains or build a fire or smoke therein.

Article 14 (Preservation of animals and plants)

Businesses and individuals shall not commit such acts as hampering the growth of animals and plants in the SZIT.

No one shall, without permission, kill or catch animals or collect plants in the SZIT.

Article 15 (Conservation of scenic spots, natural monuments and historic sites)

The SZIT management committee shall conserve in the original state the scenic spots, natural monuments and historic sites, and the surrounding natural ecological environment.

Businesses and individuals shall not set up facilities that are detrimental to the conservation of the scenic spots, natural monuments and historic sites.

Article 16 (Landscape architecture)

The SZIT management committee shall work out a long-term plan for landscape architecture of an area concerned and have a lot of trees, turf and flowers that have both ornamental value and are environment-friendly planted.

Chapter 3 Prevention of Environmental Pollution

Article 17 (Checking of status of environmental pollution prevention, taking relevant measures)

The SZIT management committee shall regularly check whether the businesses are furnished with adequate facilities for the environmental protection and the status of their operation, and take necessary steps.

Article 18 (Preparation of statement of environmental impact assessment)

Businesses that wish to set up buildings and facilities shall prepare a statement of environmental impact assessment for submission to the SZIT management committee.

The statement shall clearly specify the features of the given construction project, forecasts of the impact of the construction project on the environment and measures for the prevention of environmental pollution.

Article 19 (Hygienic rules of service businesses)

Businesses that are engaged in service business shall strictly abide by the prescribed rules concerning hygiene so that environmental pollution may not be caused.

The hygienic rules concerning provision of service shall be laid down by the SZIT management committee.

Article 20 (Construction of sewage purifying stations, depositing basins and waste treatment stations)

The SZIT management committee and businesses shall build sewage purifying stations, depositing basins and waste treatment stations in the places free from danger of contaminating the sea, rivers, lakes, reservoirs and sources of drinking water.

Article 21 (Disposal of garbage)

Businesses and individuals shall dump garbage in the designated places and shall not burn them without permission.

Garbage shall not be kept piled up but disposed of in good time.

Article 22 (Setting up of facilities for pollutant discharge and pollution prevention)

Businesses shall set up facilities for pollutant discharge and pollution prevention and obtain approval thereof from the SZIT management committee.

Facilities for pollutant discharge and pollution prevention shall not be relocated or withdrawn without the permission of the SZIT management committee.

Article 23 (Report on discharge of pollutant materials)

A business shall, in case of discharging pollutant materials, report to the SZIT management committee the description, quantity and density thereof.

Where there is any change in the description, quantity and concentration of pollutant materials, report thereon shall be submitted again.

Article 24 (Operation, repair and maintenance of facilities for pollutant discharge and pollution prevention)

Businesses shall regularly operate, repair and maintain the facilities for pollutant discharge and pollution prevention and ensure that pollutant materials are not discharged beyond the prescribed criteria.

Where the facilities break down or the operation thereof is stopped due to an accident, production or operation shall be suspended.

Article 25 (Prevention of noise and vibration)

Businesses shall ensure that noise and vibration are not caused during the operation of the equipment.

Equipment that violates the prescribed noise or vibration criteria shall not be used.

Article 26 (Prohibition of operation of vehicles)

Businesses and individuals shall not operate the vehicles that violate the exhaust fume criteria.

Article 27 (Prevention of bad odour)

Businesses shall ensure that bad odour is not emitted in the course of business operation.

Substances such as rubber, vinyl and refuse that may give out bad odour shall not be burnt.

Article 28 (Acts prohibited in water area)

Businesses and individuals shall not clean their vehicles in the sea, river, lake or reservoir, nor dump garbage, wastes, oil and the like therein.

Article 29 (Purification of sewage and waste water)

Businesses shall purify sewage and waste water before discharging them.

Such acts as lowering the pollution level of the sewage and waste water by diluting them with fresh water shall not be committed.

Article 30 (Prevention of contamination and loss of land)

Businesses shall take physicochemical and biological measures to prevent the contamination of land.

Loss of earth and sand due to cut and fill shall be prevented, and measures shall be taken to ensure that heavy rain does not entail the earth and sand flowing into the rivers, lakes and waterway.

Article 31 (Prevention of contamination of underground water)

Businesses shall identify the source of the materials contaminating the underground water and properly maintain the water drawing structure so that contamination of underground water may be prevented.

Article 32 (Prevention of ground subsidence)

Businesses shall ensure that ground subsidence is not caused in the course of setting up buildings and facilities, and using the underground water.

Buildings shall not be set up nor underground water drawn from the places that are likely to cave in.

Article 33 (Prohibition of use of toxic materials)

Businesses and individuals shall neither bring in nor use toxic materials in the SZIT.

Article 34 (Storage of wastes)

Businesses that wish to keep wastes shall be furnished with the necessary storage and equipment, which should be enclosed with a fence, and warning signs shall be put up in required places.

The container shall be marked with the description of the wastes.

Article 35 (Conveyance of wastes)

Businesses that wish to convey wastes shall obtain the approval thereof from the SZIT management committee and take measures to ensure that they are not discharged or blown away while being conveyed.

Article 36 (Treatment of wastes)

Businesses that wish to treat wastes shall file an application to that effect to the SZIT management committee.

The application shall specify the description, analytical data of the ingredients and quantity of the wastes, statements of environmental impact assessment and guaranty of environmental protection.

Article 37 (Time limit for treatment of wastes)

Businesses shall treat the wastes within the prescribed period of time.

The period of time for the waste treatment shall be determined by the SZIT management committee.

Article 38 (Warning of environmental pollution)

Where it is deemed that abnormal meteorological phenomena may cause a serious pollution of the environment, resulting in affecting the health and living of people, the SZIT management committee shall give a signal warning an environmental pollution.

Article 39 (Surveying, measuring and analyzing environmental state)

The SZIT management committee shall regularly have the environmental state of the SZIT surveyed, measured and analyzed.

The method of surveying, measuring and analyzing shall be determined by the SZIT management committee.

Article 40 (Recording of data)

Businesses shall regularly record in the ledger the operation of the facilities for discharge of pollutants and prevention of pollution, and the storage and disposal of the wastes, which shall be maintained until the period of time prescribed by the SZIT management committee.

Article 41 (Report on the work of environmental protection)

The SZIT management committee shall submit to the SZIT guidance organ a quarterly report on the implementation of the plan for environmental protection.

Chapter 4 Supervision and Control

Article 42 (Supervisory and control organ)

Supervision and control of the work related to environment protection in the SZIT shall be undertaken by the SZIT management committee under the guidance of the SZIT guidance organ.

Article 43 (Establishment of environmental observation system)

The SZIT management committee shall establish a system of environmental observation for the surveying and controlling of the environmental condition and regularly provide the businesses with the necessary environmental information.

Article 44 (Maintenance of facilities for environmental protection)

The SZIT management committee shall ensure that businesses regularly operate the environmental protection facilities and strictly observe the maintenance cycle.

Article 45 (Sanction)

Businesses and individuals that caused pollution or destruction of the environment of the SZIT or damaged the facilities for the pollution prevention shall be liable to restoration to the original state or due compensation.

Fines may be imposed or business concerned suspended depending on the gravity of the acts committed.