

New laws to amend the Petroleum Activities

Law no. 5/19 was published and came into force on 18 April 2019, which amended the Petroleum Activities Law (Law no. 10/04 of 12 November 2004) and readjusted the organisation of the Angolan oil sector as follows:

- The National Agency for Oil and Gas (ANPG) is formally established as the National Concessionaire as the holder of mining rights;
- SONANGOL E.P. is granted the following statutory pre-emption rights:
 - i. in case of transfers of participating interests by IOCs, except when the transfer is made to a group company of the transferor;
 - ii. when production periods are extended in oil field concessions that reached the end of the original production period, (i) in the award of participating interests of up to 20% and (ii) in the right to act as operator; and
 - iii. in any new oil concessions, directly or through an affiliate, (i) in the award of participating interests of up to 20% in new oil concessions and (ii) in the right to act as operator (provided that it shows that it has the appropriate technical and financial capacity);
- SONAGOL E.P. is also granted the right to be financed, directly or through an affiliate, in up to 20% in exploration operations by the IOCs where it is not the operator.

Law no. 6/19 of 18 April 2019 was published on the same day to amend the Law on Taxation of Petroleum Activities (Law no. 13/04 of 24 December 2004) specifically to establish ANPG as the National Concessionaire.

These laws were enacted following the publication earlier this year of <u>Presidential Decree No.</u> 49/19 of 6 February 2019, which had created the ANPG and defined its powers as the National Concessionaire.