

September 9, 2008 FECI Circular No. 002-2008

General Manager Panama City

Ref. Interest rate discount in loans for the production of sorgho and kidney beans. Executive Decree No. 87 of July 19, 2008; FECI Resolution No. 071-2008 of September 9, 2008.

Dear General Manager:

We hereby advise you that, heeding the provisions of Executive Decree No. 87 of July 19, 2008, this Superintendency has enacted FECI Resolution No. 071-2008 of September 9, 2008, which sets to 4% the interest rate discount for loans that are granted, starting on August 20, 2008, for the production of the following food products: sorgho and kidney beans; increases to one (1) year the productive and marketing cycle of the farming products described in clause 4, Article 6 of Executive Decree 29 of August 8, 1996, and authorizes the banks and financial entities to deduct from the sum of the withholdings that they must send to the Superintendency of Banks, the amounts that they request as settlement or reimbursement, except in cases of claims.

The interest rate discount, set by way of FECI Resolution No. 2-2002 of February 21, 2002, for loans granted and that will be granted to the skilled farming and stockbreeding sector and to the industrial farming sector that exports non-traditional products, that do not fall under the activities and ends mentioned by Executive Decree No. 74 of May 27, 2008, remains at 3.5%.

We are pleased to attach a copy of <u>FECI Resolution No. 071-2008</u> and to advise you that you may consult Executive Decree No. 87 of July 19, 2008 at the following link: http://www.gacetaoficial.gob.pa/pdfTemp/26108/12734.pdf.

Attentively,

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/cga