



COVID-19 – Measures aiming to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic

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Tax Alert



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COVID-19 – Measures aiming to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic

Extension of the deadline for filing VAT, CIT, WHT and other taxes returns

According to the recent Decisions issued by the Governor of the Independent Authority for Public Revenue, an extension until October 7, 2020 has been provided for filing VAT, residence tax, corporate income tax (CIT), WHT, duties and other tax returns with deadlines expiring on 30.9.2020.

To be noted that businesses with registered seats in regions of Greece that have been declared by the General Secretariat of Civil Protection in a state of emergency on 20.9.2020 may benefit from an extension of the deadline for filing the above returns until October 26, 2020.

In particular:

01 Extension of VAT returns.

Pursuant to the Decision with ref.no. A.1218/2020, the extension of the deadline is provided for filing VAT returns with deadlines for filing expiring on 30.9.2020 and for payment of any VAT debts (lump-sum payment or in two instalments) on 30.10.2020; the said extension shall last until 7.10.2020.

By way of exception, the above deadline for filing VAT returns is extended until October 26, 2020 for businesses with registered seat in regions of Greece that have been declared by the General Secretariat of Civil Protection in a state of emergency on 20.9.2020; to be noted that the deadline for payment of VAT debts is extended until 17.3.2021 or 18.3.2021, depending on the region where the business has its seat.

02 Extension of the deadline for filing CIT and WHT returns.

As per the provisions of the Decision with ref.no. A.1219/2020, it is regulated that the deadline for filing CIT returns (regarding legal entities either active or winding-up or even under liquidation) for FY 2019, which originally expired on 30.9.2020, is extended until 7.10.2020.

More specifically, legal entities with their registered seats in certain regions of Greece that have been declared by the General Secretariat of Civil Protection to be in a state of emergency, the aforementioned returns may be filed until 26.10.2020.

It is further provided that initial tax returns regarding:

- withholding tax and special solidarity contribution on employment income and pensions and
- withholding tax on dividends, interest, royalties and other payments, as well as lawyers' fees (as provided in art. 64 (a) and (c) and 64(5) of L.4172/2013, the Greek Income Tax Code, "GITC") in case the relevant income has been received or the payments have been made on July 2020 and the relevant initial return shall be filed until 30.9.2020,

may be submitted until 7.10.2020, while for affected areas (as those are explicitly mentioned in the said Decision) the deadline for submission is extended until 26.10.2020.

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03

Extension of the deadline for filing duties and other tax returns.

According to the Decision with ref.no. A.1220/2020, the deadline for the electronic submission of residence tax and environmental levy which expires on 30.9.2020 is extended until 7.10.2020.

Moreover, the deadline for filing residence tax, environmental levy, stamp duty and capital accumulation tax, which expires on 30.9.2020, is extended until 26.10.2020 for taxpayers that have their registered seat in certain affected regions of Greece that have been declared to be in a state of emergency.

B. Provision of an extension of the deadline for payment of social security contributions owed by businesses and employers, self-employed persons and free lancers that have already benefited from an extension of the payment deadline

As per the recently issued Decisions by the Ministry of Labour (with ref.no. Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.37618/1492/25-9-2020 and Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.37620/1493/24.9.2020) it is provided inter alia:

- Businesses and employers that have been granted an extension of the deadline for payment of social security contributions for employment periods from February until April 2020 in the context of measures addressing the adverse effects of COVID-19 (according to the provisions of the Decision with ref.no. Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.13226/325/26-3-2020, Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.18044/575/25-5-2020, Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.16484/499/7-5-2020 respectively) may benefit from an extra extension of the said deadline for the above payment until 30.04.2021.
- An extension of the deadline for payment of social security contributions owed by self-employed persons and free lancers for employment periods from February until May 2020, along with any debt instalments due from additional assessment of social security contributions for previous years, is provided until 30.04.2021; to be noted that the said deadlines have already been extended in the context of measures addressing the adverse effects of COVID-19 (according to the provisions of the Decision with ref.no. Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.13412/327/27-3-2020, Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.18269/584/3-6-2020, Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.16486/500/7-5-2020 και Δ.15/Δ'/οικ.21552/681/26-6-2020 respectively).

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