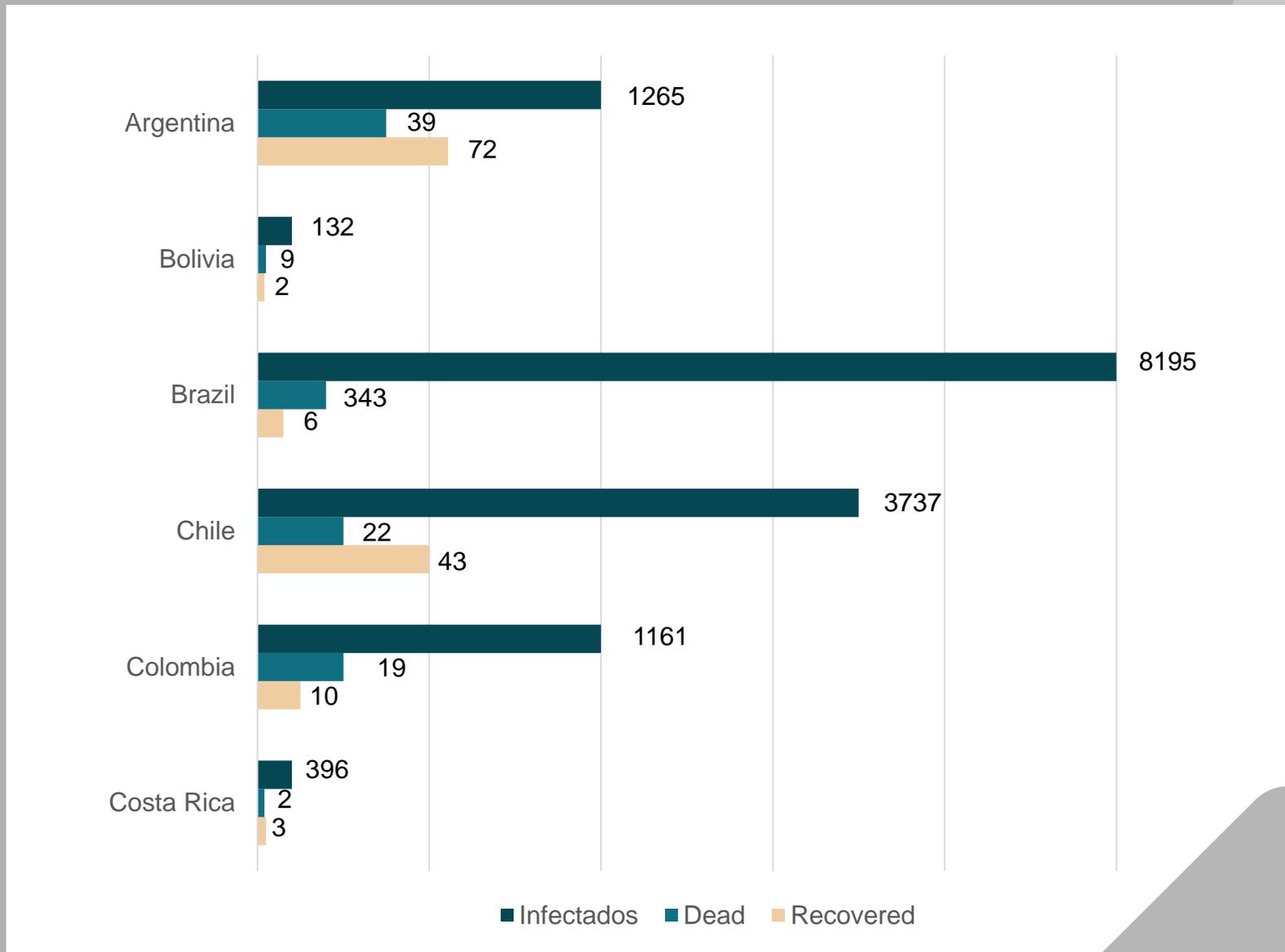


# COVID-19 REGIONAL TAX ENVIRONMENT

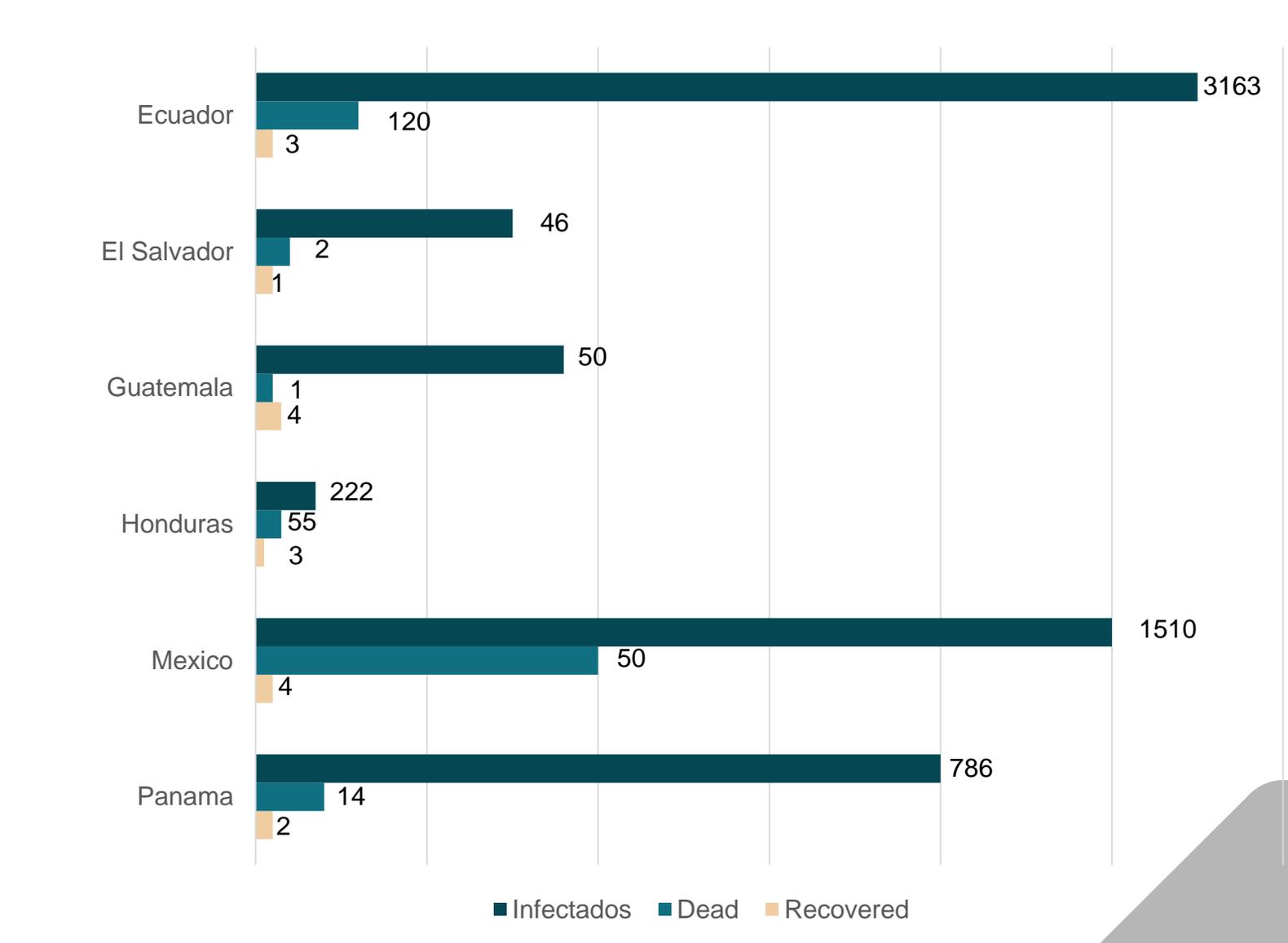
*LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN*

## COVID-19

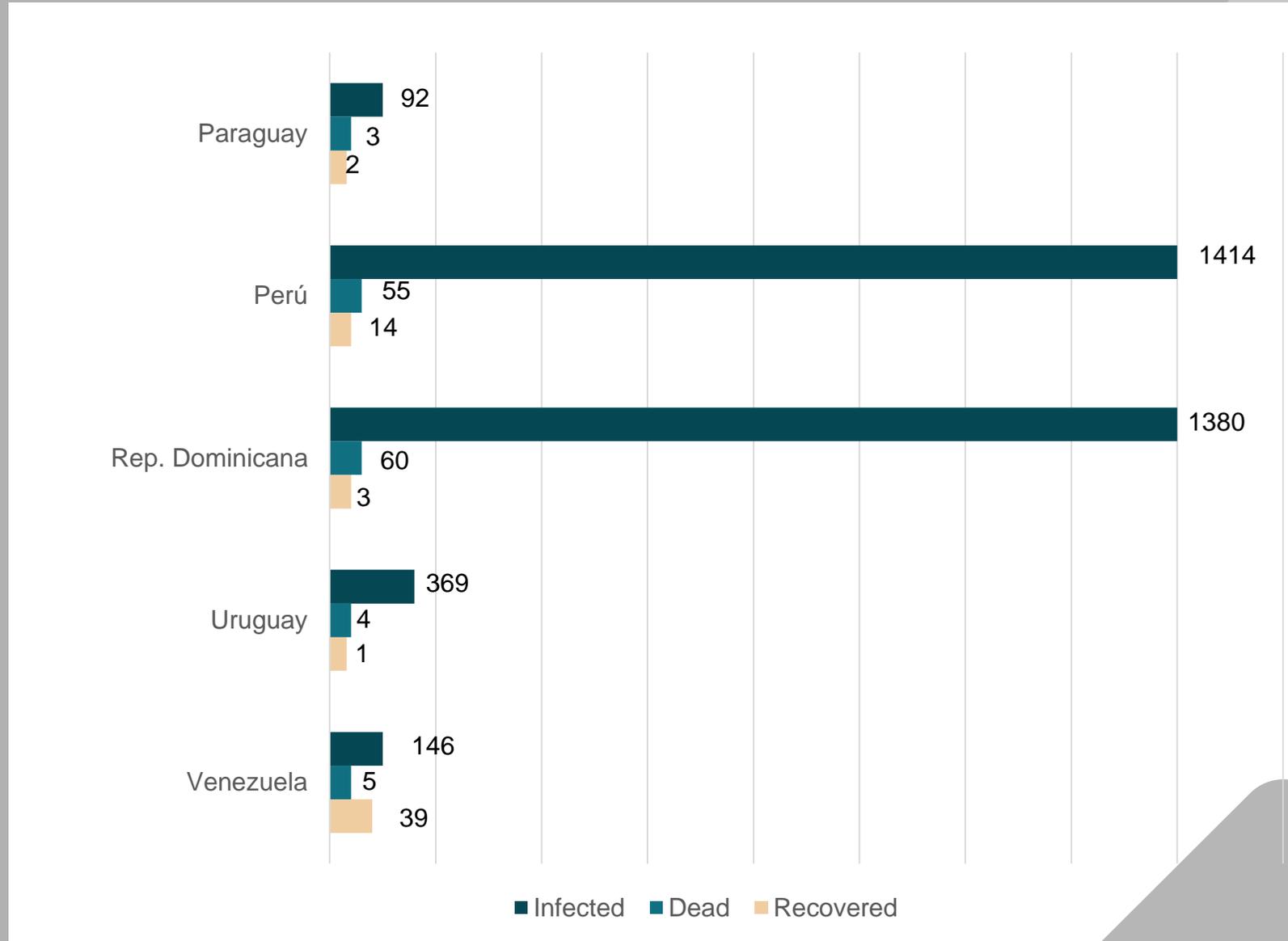
*In December 2019, an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus (popularly known as “coronavirus” or “COVID-19”) lash out the health of the Chinese population of Wuhan (Hubei province) threatening with being easily spread around the world due to its simple method of contagion by droplets of saliva or Flüge microdroplets. On March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). To date, there are approximately **1.097.909** cases worldwide, representing one of the greatest diseases in history.*



According to OECD statistics, by April 4, 2020, the level of impact in Latin America and the Caribbean exceeded **25.000** people infected.



Being Brazil the most affected country so far, where numbers exceeded more than **8.000** people infected and at least **343** deaths.



The urgent adoption of appropriate policies and contingency measures is urgently necessary in order to neutralize the **COVID-19** spread across the region.

# CONTINGENCY MEASURES

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The declared-purpose of these so-called 'states of exception' is to allow emergency measures to be enacted, even restricting or limiting **constitutional guarantees and rights** (such as free transit) in order to avoid or reduce a **massive outbreak** among their citizens.

The local authorities and governments of the different **countries** of the region have chosen to make use of the legal and/or constitutional powers provided in its respective Law that allow them to decree **national states of emergency** and **special contingency measures**, all with different names but with similar purposes, including: those called "**State of Alarm**", "**Public Calamity**" or simply "**National Emergency**"

The Government of Bolivia, for example, declared a National Sanitary Emergency and Total Quarantine throughout the territory, until April 15. The same occurred in El Salvador as well as in many other countries of the region in which domicile quarantines, closure of borders (air, sea and land), and suspension of national flights, have been adopted.

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

Issues and complications are extending far beyond the very serious global medical emergency, which side effects are impacting on the other fundamental sectors of society.

Even though some measures aimed at avoiding and/or preventing a disproportionate outbreak of the virus, such as social quarantines, the suspension of flights and interruption of commercial traffic, including the closure of borders between countries throughout the region and the world, have allowed mitigating the impacts of the virus, at the same time, such measures have slowed down the world productive apparatus, redirecting it to a unified effort to produce medical and key supplies to face the Pandemic. However, this abrupt change of direction in world economic policies introduces an enormous challenge for the economic participants –in each level- of our globalized economy, precisely in preventing the world and regional economy from turning on the ever-eluded terrain of the economic, financial and fiscal deficits.

The humanitarian crisis anticipates a sharp slowdown in the region's economic and social **growth for the next 5-10 years**, if a collective effective response is not adequately taken against the **COVID-19** Pandemic soon; a response that must include decisive measures for each of the sectors: health, economic, political and social.

In this sense, the response analysis should not disregard important macroeconomic indicators and statistics, as well as other important numbers such as poverty levels, in which almost 30.2% of the population (ECLAC) is found, and our highest unemployment rate (UNDCO).



# TAX RELIEF MEASURES



Extensions, postponements and deferrals of deadlines for filing and payment of taxes.



Tax base reductions, Tax credits and Tax Refunds.



Granting of Tax Benefits (Tax Holidays, Tax Breaks and Exemptions).



Suspension of Computations of Tax Proceedings Terms (Judicial and Administrative).



Suspensions and waiver on the imposition of Penalties, Fines or Interests.



Other tax relief measures.

In order to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19 across the region, some States have chosen to adopt certain tax relief measures, granting certain tax benefits and incentives.

# TAX RELIEF MEASURES

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## LATAXNET® LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN TAX MEASURES TRACKER (COVID-19)

- *The following is a detailed review of the different tax measures (consisting in truly tax relief packages) adopted by each of the countries of the region in which the different member firms of **LATAXNET Latin American Tax & Legal Network®** have a legal presence, which are implemented as a local response to mitigate the aforementioned economic impacts that COVID-19 leaves behind in the region*





# ARGENTINA



- Resolution No. 4609/2020 has granted a 3-month deadline extension (up to June 30) to enter the regime for the regularization of tax and customs debts and for social security resources.
- Resolution No. 4691/2020 (AFIP) has extended, until May 6, 2020, the following terms:
  - Advanced payment of the Personal Assets Tax (for property located abroad), corresponding to fiscal period 2019.
  - The request for exemption to the aforementioned advanced payment may be filed until May 6, 2020.
- It should be recalled that Decree 330/2020 granted a 4-week (up to April 30) deadline extension to repatriate foreign funds, or gains derived from the disposal of financial assets located abroad, representing at least 5% of the whole value of the assets located abroad, in order to be exempted from the increased rates of the Personal Assets Tax, established for the aforementioned assets.



- City of Buenos Aires: Resolution No. 165/2020 (AGIP) has extended, until April 27, 2020 and May 4, 2020, the deadline for filing Gross Income Tax Return and Down Payment No. 3/2020.
- Postponement or reduction up to 95%, of payment of employer contributions to the Argentine Integrated Social Security System (SIPA).
- According to art. 6 of Decree No. 332/2020, the persons that meet the requirements to be considered as “beneficiaries” of Assistance Program for Work and Production will be able to access one of the following benefits:
  - Deadline extension for payment of employer contributions.
  - Up to 95% reduction of employer contributions to SIPA accrued during April 2020.
- Late in March, the ARS issued resolution 4689 to postpone the deadlines for filing the 2018 and 2019 transfer-pricing studies until May 18th thru 20th.



- Compensatory Salary<sup>1</sup>. Paid by the State, for all private sector workers, included in the Collective Negotiation Regime under terms of Law No. 14,250, for companies with up to 100 workers. The part of the salary payable by the government to those companies experiencing an economic downturn due to COVID-19 could be up to 41.5% of the gross salaries, with a cap of two minimum salaries.
- REPRO Health Emergency Assistance. Paid by the State, under the same conditions as the Compensatory Salary. The benefit will have a minimum, per worker, of AR\$ 6,000 and a maximum of AR\$ 10,000.



**More information:**

<http://www.rafyalaw.com/>



# ARGENTINA



- Supreme Court Agreement No. 10/2020 has established a new extraordinary judicial recess with respect to all Federal and National Courts and other agencies that are part of the Judicial Power, from April 13 to 26, 2020.
- Concerning the Argentine Revenue Service, General Resolution No. 4695/2020 has established a new extraordinary tax recess with the scope of the provisions of General Resolution No. 1983, from April 13 to 26, 2020.



- The Regime for the Regularization of Fiscal Debts (Resolution No. 4609/2020) includes the pardoning of fines and interest exclusively for those taxpayers that are registered as Small or Medium-Sized Enterprises (“MiPyME”, after its Spanish acronym).



- Unemployment Payment. Workers who meet the requirements provided in Laws 24,013 and 25,371 will access to an unemployment payment. The minimum amount of economic unemployment benefits will be AR\$ 6,000, and the maximum AR\$ 10,000.
- Financial institutions and exchange house can operate remotely among themselves and with their clients in the FX market.
- Central Bank admits the remote operation of the stock exchanges and futures markets authorized by the Argentine Securities Commission (CNV), *Caja de Valores S.A.* and the capital market agents registered with the CNV.



**More information:**

<http://www.rafyalaw.com/>



# BOLIVIA



- Payment facilities and deferral of the Corporate Income Tax (“IUE”, by its acronym in Spanish) of the fiscal year closed as of December 31, 2019, including payment facilities of three (3) monthly installments, without the application of maintenance of value and interests, nor the constitution of securities.
- The National Tax Administration extended the filing and/or payment of monthly tax obligations for the February and March 2020 tax periods.
- Tax Affidavit submission, tax payment and formal obligations fulfillment of the Integrated Tax System (“STI” in Spanish) and of the Complementary Regime to the Value Added Tax – Direct Taxpayer (“RC-IVA CD” in Spanish) for trimester between January, February and March 2020 were deferred up to May 29, 2020.
- Tax Affidavit submission (Form 500, 510 and 501) for the Business Profit Tax (“IUE”) for the companies with year closure on December 31, 2019 was also extended up to May 29, 2020.



- Installment payment of payment facilities plans that have expired on February 28, 2020, and the ones that will end on March 31, 2020 was extended up to April 30, 2020.
- Tax Refund Requests (“CEDEIM”, by its acronym in Spanish) submissions ending in March 2020 were extended up to April 30, 2020.
- Tax Credit Notes Certificates (“CENOCREF”, by its acronym in Spanish) submissions pursuant to Law No. 1886, ending in March 2020 were also extended up to April 30, 2020.
- Simplified Tax Regime Obligations for the January and February 2020, bimester may be fulfilled up to May 11, 2020.



- IUE cash payment – Whoever, until May 15, 2020, pays in cash the IUE for the year closed as of December 31, 2019, will be able to deduct this as part payment of the Transactions Tax (“IT”).
- Cash donations made until December 31, 2020, in favor of public and/or private Health Hospital Centers, authorized by the Health Ministry (provided they are intended for prevention, diagnosis, control, care and treatment of patients in front of the COVID-19 emergency throughout national territory) will be deductible for the 2020 tax period IUE assessment, as long as they do not exceed ten percent (10%) of the net taxable income obtained from January 1, until December 31, 2020.
- Tax credit for the Value Added Tax (“IVA” in Spanish) for Independent Professionals.
- During a three (3) month period, for qualified Taxpayers, and during a six (6) month period for the taxpayers of the Rest category, the effectively paid IVA will not be a part of the gross income that constitutes the IT Taxable Base.



# BOLIVIA



GUEVARA & GUTIÉRREZ S.C.  
Servicios Legales



- The term computation for the submission and processing of tax proceedings substantiated in the administrative courts (before the General and Regional Tax Challenge Authorities), as well as judicial proceedings (Tax Court Judges), is suspended
- Similarly, the term computation for the initiation and processing of determinative and sanctioning proceedings under the control of National Tax Administration and the National Customs Administration is suspended, the terms for notifications of Determinative, Sanctioning, Administrative Resolutions and other challengeable final acts, are specifically suspended
- The computation for suspended terms will restart automatically on the next business day after the Health Emergency Declaration is abolished.



- The inspections and verifications scheduled by the tax administrations are exempted from the scope of the suspension on initiation and processing of determinative and sanctioning proceedings under the control of National Tax Administration and the National Customs Administration.



- Formal obligations fulfillments such as submitting the IVA Purchase and Sales Book, Information Agents and others established on the specific regulation, ending during the months of March and April 2020, were extended up to May 11, 2020.



## More information:

<https://www.gg-lex.com/index.php/noticias-y-publicaciones/381-dr-mauricio-dalman>



# BRASIL



- Postponement of the payment of federal taxes and ancillary tax obligations: Obligations which have been postponed include the;
  - Payment deadlines of the social contributions on payroll (CPP) and on revenues (PIS and COFINS) related to March and April 2020, to be paid along with such taxes related to the months of July and September (Ministry of Economy's Ordinance No. 139/2020);
  - Payment deadlines of the federal taxes levied under the Simples Nacional (special tax regime applicable for small companies) for six months (CGSN Resolution No. 154/2020);
  - Delivery deadlines of the federal tax credits and debts return (DCTF) and of the social contributions tax calculation return (EFD-Contribuições), which should be delivered in April, May and June 2020 to July 2020 (RFB Normative Instruction No. 1932/2020); and the
  - Delivery deadline to file the annual individual income tax returns relating to calendar year 2019, from April 30 to June 30 2020.



- Tax on financial transactions (IOF): The reduction to zero of the rate of the tax on financial transactions (IOF-credit) applicable to credit transactions contracted between April 3 and July 3, 2020 (Federal Decree No. 10305/2020).
- Import duty and federal excise tax (IPI): The reduction to zero of the tax rates applicable to the import duty and federal excise tax (IPI) on transactions involving several antiseptic products, medical protective clothing and equipment, medical equipment for blood transfusion, oxygen therapy, automatic respirators, among other medical and pharmaceutical products, up until September 30 2020 (CAMEX Resolutions No. 17/2020 and No. 22/2020 and Decrees No. 10285/2020 and No. 10302/2020).



- Social contributions for third party entities ("S" system): The reduction by 50% of the rates of the social contributions for third party entities (Provisional Measure No. 932/2020), resulting in the following rates: (a) 1.25% on the payroll for SESCOOP; (b) 0.75% on the payroll for SESI, SESC, and SEST; (c) 0.5% on the payroll for SENAI, SENAC, and SENAT; (d) 1.25% for rural producers that chose to calculate the contribution on its payroll, for SENAR; (e) 0.125%, on the sales revenues of agricultural products from legal entity rural producer or agroindustry, for SENAR; and (f) 0.10% on the sales revenues of agricultural products from individual rural producer for SENAR.



# BRASIL



- Suspension of deadlines: The tax authorities, administrative courts and judicial courts have suspended several legal deadlines and measures to collect tax debts.



- Customs clearance: The facilitation of the customs clearance of several medical and pharmaceutical goods for combating COVID-19, while the state of public health emergency continues, according to Normative Instruction No. 1927/2020 of the Federal Revenue Service (RFB). The instruction also allows for the advance delivery of the goods before the conclusion of the customs audit.
- Tax regularities certificates: Extensions of the validity of tax regularity certificates with clearance effects have been granted by the federal government and by some states and municipalities, including the state and municipality of São Paulo.



- State and municipal tax measures: Some states and municipalities have also taken individual tax measures, such as:
  - (a) Rio de Janeiro has granted a state VAT (ICMS) taxable basis reduction for transactions with hydrated ethyl alcohol;
  - (a) Santa Catarina has postponed the deadline for filing some state tax returns; and
  - (b) Paraná has postponed the payment deadline for small businesses in relation to the ICMS levied on the tax substitution regime.

 **More information:**  
[https://www.machadoassociados.com.br/pt/publicacoes\\_coronavirus/](https://www.machadoassociados.com.br/pt/publicacoes_coronavirus/)



# CHILE



- There will be a suspension of the monthly provisional payments (PPM) of corporate income tax for the next 3 months.
- Postponement of VAT payment for April, May and June for all companies with sales of less than UF 350,000 (approximately €10.010.350.000) during 2019. As an option, taxpayers can pay in 6 or 12 monthly installments at zero actual interest rate, depending on their size.
- Postponement until July 31st, 2020 of the payment of income tax for SMEs according to what is declared in the income tax return for next April.
- Postponement of April's property tax payment for companies with sales of less than 350,000 UF (approximately €10.010.350.000) and for taxpayers of the global complementary tax or second category tax, that are owners of real state with a tax assessment of less than CLP \$133 million. The deferred tax will be paid in three installments, along with the following three property tax installments, with actual interest rate of 0%.



- Income tax refund will be paid anticipated for SMEs: SME companies will receive their refund in April.
- As of April, a transitory release of stamp duty will start. The rate will be a 0% for all credit operations during the next 6 months.
- All the expenses of the companies associated with facing the health contingency will be accepted as a tax expense.



- Executive collection actions and auctions at jurisdictional Courts were temporary suspended during the national health emergency.



- Relief measures entered in force for the treatment of tax debts with the 'Tesorería General de la República' ('TGR' – General Treasury of the Republic), focused on SMEs and people with lower incomes. There will be flexibility to celebrate tax debt payment agreements with the 'TGR', without interests or fines as of April.



- Greater flexibilities will be granted in the deadlines to present Affidavits associated with this year's income tax return.
- Postponement until July 31st, 2020 to chose between the tax regimes established in article 14 letters A) and D), according to law 21.210.



## More information:

<http://egybabogados.com/releas-e/situacion-chilena-ante-la-pandemia-del-covid-19/>



# COLOMBIA



- The deadlines for filing income tax and foreign held assets returns have been extended by 1-week (i) until May 5<sup>th</sup> for grand taxpayers, and (ii) until May 19 for other corporate taxpayers. These new deadlines also apply to the first income tax payment installment for corporate taxpayers, and to the second income tax payment installment for grand taxpayers.
- Grand taxpayers in commercial passenger air transportation, hotel services, theaters and live entertainment, were also granted an extended deadline to pay the second and third income tax payment installments, through July 31 and August 31, 2020, respectively.
- The payment deadline for the Bogota city real estate tax has been extended through June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, with a 10% discount, and through June 26, 2020, without a discount.



- The payment deadline of the bimonthly March-April and 4-month January-April returns, for VAT and/or Consumption Tax taxpayers in commercial passenger air transportation, hotel services, theaters and live entertainment, food and alcoholic beverage retail, travel agencies and tour operators, was extended through June 30, 2020, without triggering lateness interest.
- The payment deadline for the Bogota city motor vehicles tax has been extended through July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, with a 10% discount, and through July 24, 2020, without a discount.



- The commissions for guarantees granted by the National Guarantee Fund ("FNG") on credit facilities destined to deal with the impacts of Covid-19, were qualified as not subject to VAT.
- The backup-withholding rate on payments to the "FNG," with respect to guarantees on credit facilities destined to deal with the impacts of Covid-19, was reduced to 4%
- The Tax Administration was authorized to temporarily expedite balance in favor refunds to commercial air services companies, reducing the refund term to a 30 calendar days maximum, as of the corresponding petition filing (the regular term is 50 business days).



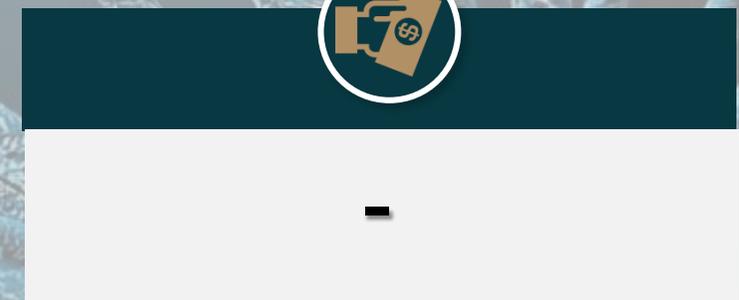
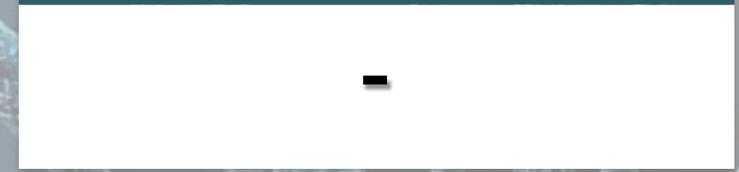
# COLOMBIA



- Tax Administration (DIAN): Terms in administrative processes and actions in Tax, customs, and foreign exchange matters, were suspended, beginning March 19 through the end of the health emergency, except for the terms in refunds and compensation of balances in favor. Additionally, a mailbox devoted to serve electronic notifications was enabled.
- Finance Office of the City of Bogota (“Secretaria De Hacienda Distrital” or “SHD”): For both the City’s Tax Administration and taxpayers, the terms in all administrative and collection processes, were suspended beginning March 20 through May 4, 2020.
- Courts System: All judicial terms were suspended throughout the country, beginning March 16 through April 12, 2020. There are exceptions for certain functions carried out by civil rights control criminal court judges, the highest court for Administration action control affairs (“Consejo de Estado”) and other Administration Action Control Affairs Courts and the Constitutional Affairs Court.



- A mailbox devoted to serve electronic notifications was enabled.
- The new deadlines for submitting annual external information for Grand Taxpayers expire between May 15 and 29, 2020, and for other taxpayers subject to reporting, between June 1 and July 1, 2020.
- The external tax information reporting filing term to the City of Bogota Tax Administration was extended and they now lapses between July 1st and July 14th, 2020.
- The new deadline to carry out the annual update process of these entities before DIAN and to hold the meeting that approves the destination of the surplus, expires on June 30, 2020.



### More information:

<http://lewinwills.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/LEWINWILLSboletinocovid19-abril-def.pdf>



# COSTA RICA



- April, May and June 2020 Tax Returns (corresponding to the operations of the months of March, April and May) are filed on the corresponding date, but can be paid December 31 of this year, without fines nor interest.
- The VAT taxpayer-declarant may also file a "payment arrangement" with the Tax Administration, without fines nor interest. The facilities request must be filed before October 15, 2020.
- A moratorium is granted to those who nationalize merchandise in April, May and June of this year, who would be able to do so without paying the tariffs with the Single Customs Declaration, but may postpone the payment until December 31 of this year, or well make a payment arrangement. In both cases, without fines nor interest. Likewise, those who have not paid or have approved a payment arrangement as of January 1, 2021, will be subject to the applicable interest, fines and penalties.



- The partial payment on account of the income tax to be paid in April, May or June are eliminated. The final payment corresponding to those months is not eliminated.
- In other words, it does not contemplate any relief to capital income tax (dividends, interest, rent, income from intellectual property), capital gains tax, wages tax, or when the income recipient is a non-domiciled in Costa Rica.
- The exemption of advance payment does not reduce the total tax payable, which for most taxpayers will correspond on March 15, 2021.



- The leases for commercial activity of April, May and June 2020 are exempt from VAT, without sum limit. The ruling, in addition to restrict the exemption to "the place where commercial activities are carried out", specifies some formal duties (registration, declaration and billing).



# COSTA RICA



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- The accrue of interest and the imposition of penalties for taxpayers who took advantage of the differential or the use of a payment arrangement of VAT and Consumption Tax were suspended.
- Those who do not make the payment or do not have a payment arrangement for the months covered by the moratorium no later than December 31, will incur in interest, fines and penalties. Both interest and the default penalty will begin on January 1, 2020.



- The Executive Branch may extend the tax moratorium for a month, by duly reasoned Executive Decree. That delegation has a limit: "without this modifying the term and the form of payment." This could mean that the final payment of income tax cannot be decreased, but it could eliminate the partial payment of income tax for July, and / or postpone the payment of VAT, selective consumption and tariffs corresponding to July of this year.



**More information:**

[www.fayca.com](http://www.fayca.com)



# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



- The deadline for the filing and payment of the Transfer of Industrialized Goods and Services Tax ("ITBIS" or Value Added Tax "VAT"), that was due for the February 2020 fiscal period, is extended to March 30, 2020 (deadline was originally on March 20, 2020). Additionally, the VAT due may be paid in up to 4 consecutive, monthly and equal payment installments, free of the compensatory interests (1.10% monthly) that could result from the formalization of the payment agreement.
- An extension is established for the deadline for the filing and payment of the Corporate Income Tax Returns (IR-2) for the fiscal period ended in December 31, 2019. The new filing and payment deadline is May 29, 2020 (originally April 29, 2020).
- Likewise, this deadline extension applies to:
  - Income Tax Returns for Individuals with Sole Business Ownership ("SBO").  
(...) Keep going...



- 1st. installment of the Asset Tax payment for Individuals SBO.
- 1st. installment of the Asset Tax payment for juridical persons with year-end 12/31/19.
- Informative Income Tax Return for Non-for-Profit Institutions with year-end 12/31/19.
- From the above, in case income taxes are due, its payment may be extended up to 4 equal, consecutive and monthly installments, free of compensatory interests (1.10% per month).
- An extension to the filing and payment, for the next 3 fiscal periods (March, April and May 2020), has been granted to the following tax obligations:
  - Tax on Casinos
  - Tax on Slot Machines
  - Single Tax on Sports Betting Agencies
  - Single Tax on Lottery Agencies

(...) Keep going...



- Taxpayers with payment agreements in force as of April 1, 2020, are granted an automatic 3-month extension to the payments of fees that are due in April, May, and June 2020. The facilities established in Notice No. 23-20 of March 19, 2019 regarding the 50% reduction of the current value of the installments related to all the payment agreements.



- Current taxes due, related to all and any payment agreement in force up to March 19, 2020, are reduced to 50% and, at the same time, the payment period of these tax debts is doubled in order to regularize taxpayers.



# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



- Payment exemption has been granted to all entities regarding the Income Tax Advance quote for March 2020, initially due on April 15, 2020. Only the following Large Taxpayers may benefit from this exoneration, considering that these are prohibited from operating as established in Decree No. 134-20 issued on March 19, 2020:
  - a. Airports, Airlines, Travel Agencies;
  - b. Construction and related,
  - c. Hotels, tour operators, passenger transportation services and related;
  - d. Gambling;
  - e. Vehicle sale and repair,
  - f. Household appliances, clothes, shoes, beauty, toys, furniture;
  - g. Entertainment services, malls, movies, gyms, and fast foods.
- Large taxpayers, not included in the list above, that are unable to satisfy the payment requirement of the Income Tax Advance quote for March 2020, may request the total or partial exemption.



- Penalties on outstanding tax debts are eliminated. It is recommended to request the applicability of this measure during the state of emergency.



- When filing the VAT return (Form IT-1) by March 30, 2020, within 10 minutes 4 payment authorizations will be automatically generated by DGII's Virtual Office, each for 25% of the total to be paid. This novelty enables the taxpayer to make the filing and obtain the authorization for payment of the 4 installments virtually, rather than having to approach DGII's offices as in the recent past.
- DGII has enabled its digital platform for the requests of new Tax ID's, previously made through the filing of the request in hardcopy.



**More information:**  
[www.phlaw.com](http://www.phlaw.com)



# ECUADOR



➤ Taxpayers will be able to differ without interest the 2019 Income Tax Return and the VAT tax for the months of March, April, and May of 2020. Such payments must then be paid during April, May, and June respectively. Taxpayers that can take advantage of deferment are;

- Microenterprises.
- Taxpayers with principal tax residency in the Galapagos.
- Taxpayers operating airline carriers.
- Taxpayers within the tourism sector, specifically those that concern with food and lodging services.
- Taxpayers within the agriculture sector.
- Regular exporters of goods.
- Taxpayers who receive 50% of their income from the exportation of goods.

➤ Additionally, said deferral of the payment of the mentioned taxes will allow the payment in 6 monthly installments during the year 2020;



➤ Self-withholding at source on taxable income obtained within the respective month is allowed for taxpayers such as: Financial institutions subject to the control of the Superintendency of Banks, Private companies that provide mobile telephone services, Companies that have agreed upon with the State certain public interest contracts. In this sense:

- Self-withholding values are an income tax credit
- Self-withholding will be filed within the next month.
- The withholding form must be issued in the name of the withholding agent.



➤ The Committee of External Commerce, by means of Resolution 004-2020, issued on March 22, 2020: established the temporary custom duty of 0% for the import of medical consumption items for sanitary protection, as well as the raw materials for antibacterial manufacturing, purifying appliances such as oxygen tanks or aerosols, appliances for respiratory resuscitation, respiratory therapy, amongst others.



# ECUADOR



- Resolution NAC-DGERCGC20-00000022 issued March 16, 2020: provides for the suspension of all deadlines and terms of all tax administrative processes and the status of limitation from March 16 to March 31.
- Resolution SENAE-SENAE-2020-0017-RE, issued on March 17, 2020: provides for the suspension of all deadlines and terms of all tax administrative processes and the status of limitation, this regulation will be valid until March 31, 2020.



- Tax payments that may be deferred will not be subject to fines, penalties or interest.



**More information:**  
[www.legaladvisors-ec.com](http://www.legaladvisors-ec.com)



- Resolution SRI-SRI-2020-0002-R issued on March 20, 2020 in which provides for this occasion only, an extension of terms in the following returns:
  - Annex Report of Operations and Financial Economic Transactions (ROTEF)
  - Information Annex for Recorded and Related Operations with the Redeemable Tax on Non-Recyclable Plastics (IBP)
  - ICE Annex (Luxury Tax)
  - Annex for the International Foreign Exchange Movement (MID)
  - Annex for Notaries, Property Registrars, and Trade Registrars
  - Annex for Shareholders, Stakeholders, Partners, Board Members and Administrators (APS) – Monthly
  - Annex for Trade Trusts, Investment Funds, and Complementary Funds (AFIC)- Monthly.
- In summary, the terms change according to the ninth digit of the taxpayer's RUC and range from August 3 until August 7, 2020.



# EL SALVADOR



- Extension of term for payment to pay Income Taxes: until May 31st 2020, exempt from interests, surcharges and fines, of Income Tax for 2019.
  - Tourism sector: Declaration of Income Tax must be filed before April 30 th 2020 ( Tax due is no more than \$25,000).
  - General population: When the tax due is less than \$10,000. (Declaration of Income Tax must be filed before April 30 th 2020).
  - Benefits regarding, electricity, telephone, subscription, television, commercial and residential internet services: Extension of term for payment of Income Tax for 2019.
- Extension of term for carrying out Advance Payment, exempt from interests, surcharges and fines for Income Tax 2020 of electric energy, telephone, subscription television, commercial and residential internet services.



- Extension of term for payment may be granted for general population and taxpayers dedicated to the generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization of electric energy, telephone, subscription television, commercial and residential internet services under the following limitations:
  - Authorization from DGT must be requested for payment by installments.
  - To be paid in a maximum of 8 installments, the first payable in May 2020.
- Extension of term for carrying out Advance Payment, exempt from interests, surcharges and fines for Income Tax 2020, corresponding to the months of March, April and May, to all taxpayers dedicated to the generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization of electric energy, telephone, subscription television, commercial and residential internet services with authorization from DGT must be requested for payment by installments, to be paid in a maximum of 6 installments, the first payable in July 2020 for 10% of the total.



- Payment of the special contribution for promotion of tourism is exempted for a term of three-months.
- An exemption from payment of import duties and any other applicable fiscal or municipal encumbrances to goods imported under the Industrial and Commercial Free Trade Zones Act, with the purpose of being donated to the Government, Municipal Councils and private and public non-profit institutions, or delivered to entities providing public assistance, as long as they are distributed to affected population. In every case, the Ministry of the Economy must issue a donation certificate in favor of the benefited entity and the voucher which will be the merchandise declaration.



# EL SALVADOR



- According to the Decree N° 599 all persons with impossibility of fulfilling obligations due to being affected by the measures implemented in application of the Decree, shall not incur in default of obligations, civil or commercial penalties.
- Suspension of terms and hearings in the common criminal jurisdiction, as well as in the specialized criminal jurisdictions, and those carried out before administrative authorities, including those programmed by the Institute of Access to Public Information.
- **NOTE:** This legislative decree only references suspension of terms in administrative and judicial proceedings pending a ruling or in development, but the suspension does not apply in the same way to Tax, Customs and Fiscal matters. Therefore, all natural or legal taxpayers are under obligation to pay taxes such as the monthly Tax on Transfer of Moveable Goods and Provision of Services (VAT).



- All tax payments within the granted extension will be exempt from interest, surcharges and fines of the 2019 Income Tax, regardless of the type of taxpayer in question.



**More information:**  
[www.mayora-mayora.com](http://www.mayora-mayora.com)



- Sole Identification Documents whose date of expiration falls during the effect of the Decree may be used.
- Even if a taxpayer is not obligated to pay a specific tax, this does not exonerate them from the formal obligation of declarations and filings, as a natural or legal person.
- The filing and payment of the monthly declaration for VAT has not been extended in its term neither for its presentation nor its payment. Therefore, these obligations must be fulfilled in accordance with article 97 of the VAT Act, within the first ten working days of the month following the corresponding tax period.



# GUATEMALA



- The Guatemalan Institute of Social Security (*Instituto Guatemalteco de Seguridad Social – IGSS*) deferred payment of the employers' fees for the private sector for March, April and May. Employers will have the option to: (i) Continue ordinary payment if they are able to do so; (ii) Begin payment of deferred fees starting July, paying in July, August and September the fee corresponding to each month and the deferred one; (iii) If they do not communicate their selection to the Institute, or default on payment of the months deferred, charges will automatically be deferred starting July, distributed pro rata for eighteen months, without interest, moratorium or administrative charges. Employees' fees must continue to be deducted as usual, and comply with the other requirements established by IGSS in order to be eligible for the benefits.
- The Institute of Recreation for Workers of Private Enterprise in Guatemala (*Instituto de Recreación de los Trabajadores de la Empresa Privada de Guatemala – IRTRA*) and the Technical Institute of Training and (...)



- Productivity (*Instituto Técnico de Capacitación y Productividad – INTECAP*), both financed through a tax and fee paid by employers affiliated to the Social Security System, suspended payment of their respective fees for March, April and May, deferring their payments to the second semester of the year.
- Congress approved the Emergency Act contained in Decree 12-2020 (as of today pending sanction, promulgation and publication in the Official Bulletin), which includes the possibility, for taxpayers subject to the Solidarity Tax (*Impuesto de Solidaridad – ISO*), to defer payment corresponding to the second trimester of 2020, paying it until September 30th 2020 without sanction, fine or surcharge. Those who opt for this benefit may not terminate any employee until they have finished paying the deferred tax, except terminations for just cause.



- Decree 12-2020 exempts all import taxes and Value Added Tax (VAT) over all donations in favor of the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (*Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres – CONRED*), churches, charitable organizations and associations legally operating, during the effect of the State of Public Calamity, as long as they are used for non-lucrative and charitable purposes.



# GUATEMALA



- The Tax Authority (*Superintendencia de Administración Tributaria – SAT*) has declared as non-working days: the 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 30th and 31st of March 2020, and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th, 8th, 13th and 14th of April 2020. As a consequence, the calculation of terms established in tax legislation and internal administrative procedures has been deferred.
- During this time, SAT may not carry out audit and verification procedures, nor require from the taxpayer fulfillment of tax obligations, evacuation of hearings, appearance for summons or presentation of information.
- In addition, the deadline to file appeals is deferred.
- Decree 12-2020 also establishes a three months deferral on the calculation of terms in all administrative procedures.



- Also, the term for filing defenses is deferred, and the calculation of terms, interest and sanctions is adjusted.
- Those taxpayers who take advantage of the deferral of the payment of the Solidarity Tax (ISO), corresponding to the second trimester of 2020, may pay it until September 30th 2020 without sanction, fine or surcharge.



**More information:**

<http://www.mayora-mayora.com>



# HONDURAS



- Postponement until June 30th, 2020 of the submission and payment obligation of the following declarations corresponding to the fiscal period of the year 2019 for the small and medium taxpayers, individuals and independent professionals:
  1. Income, Net Assets and Supportive Contribution Tax;
  2. Economy social sector contribution;
  3. Leasing or Rental of Homes or Apartment Buildings Specific Single Income Tax;
  4. Operating Surpluses obtained by Private Universities, Schools and Institutes of Preschool, Primary and Middle Education Special Contribution; and,
  5. Cooperative sector social contribution.
- Incomes from horizontal property rentals is excepted from the postponement to the Leasing or Rental of Homes or Apartment Buildings Specific Single Income Tax therefore, the obligation has to be fulfilled no later than April 30th, 2020.



- For big taxpayers the submission and payment income tax obligation must be presented before April 30th, 2020.
- Transfer Pricing annual information Declaration submission is postponed until July, 31st, 2020.
- To the taxpayers who do not operate during the period the COVID-19 State of emergency Decree remains in force, the Sales Tax Declaration submission and payment is postponed to be presented within the following 10 labor days after the State of Emergency is ended.
- Those taxpayers who are operating must submit and pay the Sales Tax Declaration within the established legal deadlines.



- For the Taxpayers who maintain all their employees within the Covid-19 State of emergency period until December 2020, respecting the payment of wages and labor rights and also did not carried out suspensions or dismissals of employment contracts, an additional deduction equivalent to 10% will be recognized from their gross income. This additional deduction will be calculated on the payment of wages and salaries made in the months of the decreed state of emergency, which may be accounted for as a deductible expense for the 2020 fiscal period Income Tax.
- This benefit will be lost if the taxpayers dismiss or suspend their employees.
- Small and Medium taxpayers that submit Declaration and payment before April 30th, 2020, will be able to enjoy 8.5% discount of the Income tax to pay for the fiscal period 2019;



# HONDURAS



- Natural and legal persons, including those incorporated in the free zone regime, are not subject to the Sales Tax or customs duties payment on the import or local purchase of raw materials, machinery, supplies, equipment, spare parts, accessories and packaging material necessary for the manufacture of medical supplies, as well as antiseptics and sanitizers that serve as protection to attend the health emergency by COVID-19.
- This exemption will be in force until December 31st, 2020.



- The Honduran Tax Authority established in the March 16th, 23rd and 30th statements the legal deadlines interruptions from Monday March 16th until Monday April 13th, 2020. The aforementioned means that all legal deadlines that would have started to take effect before Monday, March 16th, are suspended until the resumption of activities is decreed.
- Article 5 of the aforementioned Decree 33-2020 establishes as non-working days the period in which the emergency declaration originated by COVID-19 is in force.
- Temporary cessation of worker-employer contributions payments corresponding to the individual capitalization accounts derived from the Social Security Insurance Regime and the Labor Coverage Insurance Regime, for a period of up to 3 months from March 2020;



- The official statements issued on March 16th, 23rd and 30th by the Honduran Tax Authority informed the issuance deadline extension to April 13th, 2020 of tax documents under the printing by printshop modality, whose expiration date is within March 16th until April 12th, 2020.
- Temporary suspension of the provisions related to funding through contributions and compulsory worker-employer contributions derived from the Social Security Insurance Regime (Individual Accounts Complementary Pillar) and the Labor Coverage Insurance Regime; for a period of 3 months, from March 2020;



**More information:**

<http://www.mayora-mayora.com>



# MEXICO



- To date (April / 15/2020), no tax relief measures have been adopted in Mexico related to COVID-19 economic impacts.



**More information:**  
<https://www.turanzas.com.mx/>



# PANAMA



- Extension of the term of the agreed payment arrangements: taxpayers who have outstanding balances with the General Revenue Directorate (DGI) may set up a payment arrangement until June 30th, 2020, after paying 25% of the nominal amount owed. The term for full compliance of said payment arrangements will be until December 31st, 2020.
- Decree No. 251 authorizes a term of 120 calendar days is granted, for the payment of taxes that are due or that would be due within said period that are within the competence of the Tax Authority (i.e the DGI) , which it would not generate surcharges, interest and fines
- Presentation of Income Statements for individuals and legal entities: would be able to submit their income tax return for the fiscal year 2019, until May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.



- Modification in income tariffs in the national import tariff and other provisions, such as face masks, gloves and robes and aprons for medical or surgical use, valid for 6 months
  - It is important to note that this measure does not change the percentage corresponding to the ITBMS (VAT).



- Exemption for micro, small and medium enterprises is extended for one year, provided that the 2 years of exemption from income tax for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises have expired in the 2019 or 2020 fiscal period, such exemption will be extended for an additional year.



# PANAMA



-



- Law No. 134 extends the tax amnesty period until June 30th, 2020, therefore, up to 85% of all interest, surcharges and fines of the payments made up to said date will be forgiven
- Late tax return filing of improved real estate structures: it is e **wts global** it will not cause a fine for the declarations of late improvements, new improvements and additional improvements, made by taxpayers from the effective date of Law 99 of 2019, extending this term until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.
- The estimated tax to be paid for the fiscal year 2020 may be not less than 70% of that generated for the fiscal year 2019, and this won't be subject to investigation or verification by the Tax Authority.



- Entry into force of some articles of the Tax Procedure Code, such as articles 19 and 78:
  - Article 9: deals with the exception to the principle of legality, which gives the Executive Branch the ability to suspend, in whole or in part, the application of taxes of any type or species, differing its payment on a temporary basis throughout the national territory or in certain regions, in cases of legally declared state of emergency.
  - Article 78: regulate extensions or installments, granting the President of the Republic, with the intervention of the Minister of Economy and Finance, the ability to grant, by Executive Decree, extensions, installments and deadlines for the payment of tax obligations either if they are past due or not, if the normal compliance by taxpayers subject to the tax obligation is impeded by virtue of exceptional circumstances of fortuitous event or force majeure.



**More information:**  
[www.rbc.com.pa/](http://www.rbc.com.pa/)



# PARAGUAY



- The submission of the external audit report is postponed until December 31st, 2020, for those taxpayers who close the fiscal year on December 31st, 2019.
- The due dates for the determinative and informative returns and for the payment of tax obligations that were due on March, shall expire in April, according to the last number of the RUC.
- The due date for payment of the current eases of payment, and the third and fourth installments of advances in the income of business, industrial or services activities (*Impuesto a la Renta de Actividades Comerciales, Industriales o de Servicios* or “*IRACIS*”) that expire between 23 and 25 March 2020, will be due on April 1st.
- Extension of tax maturity periods: Extension of tax maturity periods corresponding to sworn declarations and total and partial payments of all taxes that are settled according to Law 6380/19, from January 1, 2020, and all those taxes of the fiscal year 2019 pending settlement.



- • An exceptional and transitory regime for payment of personal income tax payment (*Impuesto a la Renta Personal* or “*IRP*”) is set forth, as well as a regularization period for complying with tax obligations of previous fiscal years (2019 or earlier). Hence, the following rules shall apply:
  - Minimum initial payment of an equivalent to 20% of the debt, which must be made within 2 days from the day of filing the request for ease of payment.
  - Annual financing interest rate of 0%.
  - Up to 5 monthly installments.
- Suspension of new filings: new filings for tax credit returns and resolutions that in process are suspended, except for the accelerated regime, during the validity of the state of emergency (for this year fiscal).



- Decree 3477/20 Provides a special Value Added Tax (“VAT”) regime for the import and sell of basic products set forth in the COVID 19 prevention protocols.
- Importers of the aforementioned products will pay VAT at the National Customs Office (“DNA”) applying the 10% rate on the customs value of the product. This represents a direct tax cost of VAT of 5% in the case of imports.
- Those who sell the products on the local market will apply the 10% rate on a taxable basis of 50% of the value of the product, representing a direct tax cost of 5%.



# PARAGUAY



- Suspension of administrative deadlines that begin or expire during the period from March 12 to March 26, relating to the processes of determination, application of sanctions, administrative summaries related to tax return and appeals.
- All deadlines for the administrative processes and procedures carried out by the SET were subsequently suspended from March 23 to March 31.
- According to (General Resolution No. 47/20) The issuance of debt certificates in the ongoing procedures for collection of tax debts is suspended, as well as the initiation of new collection processes. These measures will be in force until June 30.



- Decree No. 3457/20 established that until June 30, no penalty shall be applied for non-complying with formal obligations. Furthermore, until said date, the fines provided for in General Resolution No. 13/19 shall not apply to taxpayers who comply lately with their tax obligations.
- Both for those taxpayers who enjoy payment facilities of the Personal Income Tax ("IRP") as well as the exceptional and transitory regime of payment facilities for the 2019 fiscal year so that the taxpayers of IRACIS and IRAGRO will benefit from a rate annual financing interest of 0% (zero percent), with only a minimum initial installment equivalent to 20% of the debt and considering that the initial payments must be paid within 2 (two) calendar days from day after submission of the application.



- The office of the Paraguayan tax authority (*Subsecretaria de Estado de Tributacion* or "SET") is closed to the general public until March 26, except for exceptional cases. To this end, they enabled the following electronic procedures from March 11 to March 26: obtaining or cancelling a taxpayer number (*Registro Unico de Contribuyente* or "RUC"), data updates, consults, initial required documentation (*Documentacion Inicial Requerida* or "DIR"), enforcement of bank guarantees, among others.
- The validity periods of the Tax Compliance Certificates ("CCT") issued between March 18 and June 30, are extended for a period of 90 days.
- The deadlines for submitting the Purchase and Sales Books through the "Hechauka" system for the months of March, April and May were also postponed.



**More information:**  
[www.ferrere.com](http://www.ferrere.com)



# PERÚ



- Superintendent's Resolution No. 061-2020/SUNAT: The dates for declaration and payment of the annual Income Tax 2019 are extended for two months for individuals with business, and legal entities with net income of up to 5,000 UITs (S/.21, 000,000); and, for individuals for capital income, work income and income from foreign sources which together, in 2019, do not exceed 5,000 UITs (S/.21, 000,000).
- The deadline for certain taxpayers to continue issuing authorized documents without using the Electronic Issuance System was postponed until May 31st 2020 (before March 31st).
- Declaration and payment of monthly tax obligations for February 2020 was extended until April for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.
- The obligation to present books (inventory and balance book, fixed assets records, cost records, among others) was extended, for an additional month.



- Decree 031 – 2020: establishes the automatic refund to individuals of taxes paid or withheld in excess of earned income received in 2019.
- Supreme Decree No. 056 – 2020 – EF specifies that the net income and ITU from the previous taxable year should be taken into account for the deduction of expenses on research and technology projects.
- Alternative channels for the ex officio refund of taxes paid or withheld in excess to individuals when their credit accounts are not valid for SUNAT were also established.
- Superintendency Resolution No. 058-2020/SUNAT: establishes the possibility of releasing the accumulated funds in the drawdown account in advance until March 15. It also establishes a relaxation in the payment of the March instalment and current deferrals.





# PERÚ



- The deadlines for customs procedures, audits and summonses are suspended, as well as the deadlines for administrative procedures initiated before March 16th.



- National Deputy Superintendency of Internal Taxes Resolution No. 008-2020-SUNAT/700000 provides for no tax violations during the State of National Emergency including those committed or detected since March 16, 2020. Applicable to all taxpayers and to any type of infraction.
- Resolution of the Deputy National Superintendent of Customs No. 006- 2020-SUNAT/300000: provides for the non-application of infringements of the General Customs Law committed during the Emergency period.



- Superintendent's Resolution No. 059 – 2020/SUNAT: establishes the formats that certain taxpayers will use to submit the Communications to access the deduction of the tax paid or withheld abroad for dividends or profits.
- Maximum delay of the Registry of Sales and Income and the Registry of Electronic Purchases corresponding to February 2020.



**More information:**

<https://rubio.pe/publicacionescont/coronavirusinperu-fines-suspended-during-emergency-state-and-more/>



# URUGUAY



- The General Tax Office (DGI) deferred the payment of the "Minimum VAT" for the months of February and March. Such payments can be advanced from the month of May, in six (6) equal, consecutive and monthly installments (without interest). This "minimum VAT" payment applies to companies of the so-called "Paragraph E companies", whose income does not exceed UYU 1,331,600 and who pay UYU 3,980 monthly.
- All other DGI due dates set for the coming days of March are postponed until March 27, 2020 (except for government corporations).



- As for Social Security (BPS) contributions, the beneficiaries will be:
  - Single-tax payers ("*monotributistas*") (these are economically small companies that sell goods and services exclusively to end consumers, whose annual billings cannot exceed UYU 798,960 for sole proprietorships and UYU 1,331,600 for de facto companies ("*sociedad de hecho*"). sole proprietorships; and
  - Partnerships ("*sociedades personales*") with up to 10 employees, who contribute to the "Industry and Commerce" system. Single-tax payers make a single payment to BPS that ranges from UYU 1,717 to UYU 6,449 per month.
- The Executive Branch announced that the State will subsidize payment of 40% of contributions of single-tax payers and of owners and partners of such partnerships for tax months March and April of this year. The remaining 60% payment is postponed until the month of June and will be payable in six equal, consecutive, monthly installments (without surcharges).



- The "Solidarity Fund COVID-19" is created. This instrument will be financed, among other items, by the collection of the "Sanitary Emergency Tax COVID-19" on those who receive income from the public sector, including non-state public persons and private law companies whose majority shareholder is the State and an additional to the IASS, which will tax the liabilities that exceed the nominal UYU 120,000 monthly.
- An "Emergency Health Tax COVID-19" was created, which must be paid by public officers and those who, without being, provide personal services to governmental agencies, non-state public persons or companies in which the majority shareholder is the State, who have higher nominal income at UYU 120,000 per month (without reaching the Christmas bonus or vacation salary), was created.



# URUGUAY



- Health personnel who participate directly or indirectly in the healthcare process (medical and non-medical workers) who, due to the tasks they perform are exposed to the contagion of Covid-19, will not pay the tax.
- The Emergency Health Tax COVID-19 will be applied by rates of 5% to 20%, and the liquid amount to be collected may not be less than UYU 80,000 (after deducting the contribution to the corresponding health system, the Labor Reconversion Fund, the Tax to the Income of Physical Persons and this new tax). In other words, if a person has a nominal salary of UYU 125,000, the Emergency Health Tax COVID-19 will be applied at the rate of 5% on the total remuneration, but with the limit that the liquid to be collected -summarized all the established discounts in law- it cannot be less than UYU 80,000.



- The Emergency Health COVID-19 tax that is established will not be deductible in the assessment of the Personal Income Tax.
- An additional tax to the Social Security Assistance Tax is created on the income corresponding to retirements, pensions and similar passivity benefits, served by public and private institutions, residents in the Republic.
- The additional IASS specifically provides that the liquid amount to be collected may not be less than UYU 100,000 (after deducting the contribution to the corresponding health system, the IASS and the tax recently created).
- All the taxes created will be applied to the accrued income corresponding to the months of April and May 2020, empowering the Executive Power to extend its application for a maximum period of 2 months, with prior notice to the General Assembly.



## More information:

<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/?e=&u=8abbf98d173b1697776ee76cf&id=6e20c85256>



# VENEZUELA



- Definitive imports of personal movable goods (masks, face masks, and other related supplies) needed to prevent the expansion of COVID-19 spread, made by National Public Entities and Governmental Bodies were benefited with a tax holidays from the payment of Value-Added-Tax (VAT), Import Tax and custom duties (*Tasa por Determinación del Régimen Aduanero*).
- After the period for the filing Income Tax (CIT and PIT) return expired (March 30, 2020), the annual revenues of territorial source corresponding to the fiscal year 2019 obtained by natural persons residing in the country, whose normal salary or income from the exercise of its activity has been less than three (3) minimum wages in force as of December 31, 2019 were benefited with a tax holiday over the Income Tax payment. However, such benefit is more similar - in nature - to a “payment forgiveness” than to a tax holidays as characterized by the National Executive.



- For those taxpayers (natural persons) with incomes less than three (3) minimum wages and benefited with the tax holidays that have declared and paid the Income Tax, the amount paid for the territorial source tax will be recognized as a tax credit of said tax that may be used in the future, by virtue of the tax holidays granted to said taxpayers on April 2, 2020.



**More information:**

[www.tpa.com.ve](http://www.tpa.com.ve)



# For more information, contact us:

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**+(598) 99609139**



**[contact@lataxnet.net](mailto:contact@lataxnet.net)**



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