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International Trade and Customs Practice and Tax Practice Group Joint Newsletter



Federal Court of Administrative Justice sets out the dates and plan for its return

On May 26, 2020, Agreement SS/13/2020 was published on the website of the Federal Court of Administrative Justice ("Court"), extending the suspension of jurisdictional activities until June 15, 2020, and setting out the strategy for its return.

The Agreement establishes:

<u>TERMS</u>

- » The suspension of judicial activities at the Court is extended from 1 to 15 June 2020, and is considered as a non-working day period.
- » 16 June 2020 is set as the date for the return of the Court to their normal activities.
- » The first holiday period for the Court, from 15 to 31 July 2020, except for Saturdays and Sundays in that period, is declared to be a working period.
- » During the period of suspension, until 15 June 2020, remote sessions will continue with temporary facilities to deal with urgent cases.
- » The hours, days and terms for carrying out

notifications through the jurisdictional bulletin or in person at the Court's facilities may be enabled, which will take effect as of the first working day, that is, June 16, 2020.

- » As of June 1, the suspension of terms and deadlines is lifted for cases being processed by online trial, as long as they fall within one of the following categories:
 - 1. That the initial complaint was filed through the Online Justice System before March 18, 2020;
 - 2. That the defendant authority is carrying out its normal activity, that is, it is not in suspension of activities due to the health emergency;
 - 3. That there is no other legal cause preventing the continuation of a particular trial.

RETURN TO ACTIVITIES AND STAGES

The Court will issue guidelines and the corresponding action protocol, taking into consideration the following guidelines. They consist of these three stages, which are of indefinite duration, and which will coincide with the Traffic Light System of Epidemiological Risk Assessment of the Ministry of Health.

» First Stage (red and orange):

- 1. Return to administrative and jurisdictional activities and lifting of the suspension of deadlines and terms.
- 2. In case of saturation of the official site, a special protocol will be used for the filing of documents.
- 3. Promotions may be filed physically and electronically.
- The public officials of the Court who are in a special stage of vulnerability shall remain at home.
- 5. Working groups will be designated to attend work alternately, with limited working hours and flexible schedules.
- 6. Authorization to give reports on trials through official telephone lines or the media designated for this purpose.
- 7. Access to the court facilities will be limited, except for appointments on urgent matters.
- 8. Notifications shall be made by court bulletin.
- » Second Stage (yellow):
 - 1. Incorporation of all public officials working in the court on a regular schedule, except those in a special stage of vulnerability.
- » Third Stage (green):
 - 1. Return to the new normality. When there are no health restrictions, all public servants may be incorporated into their daily work and on a regular schedule.

It is important to mention that the plenary session may advance stages or suspend work in the different regions to coincide with what is determined by the Epidemiological Risk Assessment Light in that Region.

Attached you may find this document for your knowledge. We remain at your service in case you require any information or specific analysis in relation to it.

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