

PETERKA PARTNERS

THE CEE LAW FIRM

COVID-19 IN BELARUS: EXTENSION OF BUSINESS TRIPS AND RULES FOR THEIR PAYMENT

Due to many countries having closed their borders due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on 3 April 2020, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus adopted Resolution № 194/6 in respect of employees who were sent on business trips abroad and who now cannot return to the Republic of Belarus.

If it is impossible for an employee to return to Belarus from a business trip (including internships, seminars, conferences and other events related to professional development activities) from a country where cases of COVID-19 are being recorded, the Resolution prescribes to:

- prolong the period of the official business trip of such employee up to the day of his/her arrival in the Republic of Belarus inclusively (“extension period”);
- preserve the employee’s working place and position;
- reimburse the employee for expenses incurred on the business trip abroad in accordance with the applicable laws;
- pay to the employee a salary in the amount of no less than 2/3 (two-thirds) of his/her regular salary (unless otherwise provided for in a collective, or other, agreement or the company’s internal policies), during the extension period, and also during the period of mandatory self-isolation upon arrival in Belarus if the employee cannot perform work under the employment contract after a business trip;
- provide the employee staying abroad on a business trip during the extension period with all mandatory payments and guarantees as provided by applicable laws if the employer assigns the performance of additional tasks during this period.

The Resolution shall be applied retrospectively to the relations that have arisen since March 12, 2020.

For any further information and assistance with respect to the above and any other COVID-19 related legal matters, please do not hesitate to contact our COVID-19 Held desk at covidhelpdesk@peterkapartners.com.