



Dear readers,

We offer you an overview of the recent additional measures that the state authorities in Kazakhstan introduced in connection with the COVID-19 to ensure socio-economic stability in the country.

Indexation of Pensions and Social Allowances



A Presidential Decree *On the Revised State Budget for 2020* changed the following indexes effective from 1 April 2020:¹

- The minimum state basic pension is 17,641 tenge (previously 16,839 tenge);
- The minimum pension is 40,441 tenge (previously 38,636 tenge);
- Monthly index factor - KZT 2,778 (previously KZT 2,651);

- The cost of living for the calculation of basic social benefits is 32,668 tenge (previously 31,183 tenge).

The minimum monthly salary remained unchanged at 42,500 tenge. The state authorities recalculate pensions and social allowance payment based on the indexed indicators and the updated payments will start in May 2020. Recipients are not required to submit any applications for the recalculations.

Exemption from Payroll Taxes



To extend tax support measures for small and medium-sized businesses, the President announced the exemption from payroll taxes and payments for 6 months from 1 April to 1 October 2020 for the most affected sectors of the economy. Preliminary list of the most affected sectors includes public catering, some trade spheres, transportation, advisory services, IT sector, hotel business and tourism.

The final list of industries qualifying for the tax exemption will be approved by the State Emergency Commission.

¹ Decree No. 299 *On the Revised State Budget for 2020*, dated 8 April 2020

Nil Export Duties for Petroleum Products



An order of the Minister of Trade and Integration established nil customs duties for export of all types of oil products (gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, liquefied gas, etc.) from 1 April to 31 December 2020.²

EEU Stabilization Measures



On 8 April 2020, the Eurasian Economic Commission published on its official website³ the Decisions of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission of 3 April 2020 with measures in response to the COVID-19:

- The Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission approved the list of goods exempt from import customs duties for the EEU member states for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2020. The list includes certain agricultural and food products, as well as certain finished medicines and medical goods.
- The Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission expanded the list of goods used to produce medicines and medical goods that qualify for exemption from import duties for the period from 16 March to 30 September 2020.
- The Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission temporarily simplified the current procedure for providing certificates of origin issued by developing and least developed countries. Applicants would be able to provide certificates in hard or electronic copy during six months and with no need to submit originals of certificates for customs declaration. These benefits will be effective for the period from 18 April to 30 September 2020.

² Order No. 64-ОД of the Minister of Trade and Integration of the Republic of Kazakhstan *On Changes of Customs Duties on Oil Products Exported from Kazakhstan*, dated 3 April 2020

³ <http://www.eurasiancommission.org/>

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