Information as of 3/31/20

On Tuesday, March 31, 2020, the Mexican Ministry of Health issued an agreement suspending all non-essential activities in Mexico until April 30, 2020, to decrease the spread of COVID-19. The agreement follows a declaration of a health emergency on Monday, March 30, 2020, giving the federal Health Ministry authority to take any actions necessary to combat the virus.

Under the agreement, essential activities include:

a) Those that are directly necessary to attend to the health emergency, such as the work activities of the medical, paramedical, administrative and support branches throughout the National Health System. Also, those who participate in the system's supply and other services, among which the pharmaceutical sector stands out; the manufacture of supplies, medical equipment and technologies for health care; those involved in the proper disposal of infectious biological hazardous waste (RPBI), as well as cleaning and sanitizing medical units at different levels of attention;

b) Those involved in public safety and citizen protection; the defense of the integrity and national sovereignty; the procurement and impartation of justice; as well as legislative activity at the federal and state levels;

c) Those of the fundamental sectors of the economy: financial, tax collection, distribution and sale of energy, gas and gas stations, generation and distribution of drinking water, food and beverage industry (non-alcoholic), food markets, supermarkets, self-service stores, grocery and prepared food sales; transportation services for passengers and cargo; agricultural, fishing and livestock production, agroindustry, chemical industry, cleaning products; hardware stores, courier services, guards in private security tasks; nurseries and daycares, nursing homes and elderly homes, shelters and care centers for victims of violence against women, their daughters and sons; telecommunications and media information; private emergency services, funeral and burial services, storage services and cold chain of essential supplies; logistics (airports, ports and railways), as well as activities whose suspension may have effects irreversible for their continuation;

d) Those directly related to the operation of government social programs; and

e) Those necessary for the conservation, maintenance and repair of the critical infrastructure that ensures the production and distribution of essential services, namely: drinking water, electricity, gas, oil, gasoline, jet fuel, basic sanitation, public transport, hospital and medical infrastructure, among others that could be listed in this category.

Mexican Foreign Affairs Minister Marcelo Ebrard said that non-essential businesses that don’t comply with the order to close, or refuse to continue to pay their employees during the one-month suspension of activities, could face sanctions or be forcibly closed.

All essential businesses that remain open must adhere to social-distancing measures including the gathering of no more than 50 people at one time.

Please feel free to reach out to us at any time with questions.