

## SECOND NOTICE TO REGISTRANTS

## LIMITED COVID-19 FILING MORATORIUM AND EXTENSION OF CERTAIN REGISTRATIONS

Pursuant to provisions of the Securities Act Chapter 83:02 of the Laws of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (the "Act") and the Securities (General) By-Laws 2015 (the "By-Laws"), Registrants of the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") and some non-Registrants are required to make various types of filings with the Commission, within certain prescribed timeframes.

The Commission notes the recent decisions of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (the "*Government*") and the decisions of other countries globally, in response to the novel coronavirus ("*COVID-19*") pandemic.

Further, the Commission is aware that COVID-19 and said recent decisions by the Government may present certain challenges for some Registrants/non-Registrants in meeting certain obligations to the Commission within the prescribed timeframes.

In light of the above, the Commission by Order dated  $25^{\text{th}}$  March 2020 provided a moratorium, such that the Commission will not pursue enforcement action against Registrants or non-Registrants for a period of thirty (30) days after the due date for meeting any statutory filing obligation under the Act and the By-laws where the due date for that filing fell within the period  $16^{\text{th}}$  March 2020 to  $20^{\text{th}}$  April 2020. This moratorium was provided on the condition that a Form 6 - Notification or written notification is filed with the Commission:

- forthwith, where the relevant statutory filing obligation became due between 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and the date of the publication of the Commission's Order (25<sup>th</sup> March 2020); or
- before the due date for the relevant statutory obligation where that obligation will become due on or after the date of publication of the Commission's Order (25<sup>th</sup> March 2020).

The Commission has taken cognizance of further developments with regard to COVID-19 and the additional measures and restrictions implemented by the Government. The Commission has therefore reviewed the scope and conditions outlined in its aforementioned original Order and wishes to advise as follows.

That -

i. It will extend the moratorium, which was granted by way of the Order dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020, such that the Commission will not pursue enforcement action against Registrants or non-Registrants for up to a sixty (60) day period after the due date for complying with any

statutory filing obligation, where those instances of non-submission are in respect of documents which were due to be filed with the Commission during the period **16<sup>th</sup> March**, **2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2020** (the "*Relevant Period*"). This moratorium on enforcement action will be granted provided that the Registrant or non-Registrant files, with the Commission, a Form 6 (<u>http://ttsec.org.tt/wp-content/uploads/Form6-working.pdf</u>) or other written notification:

- a) forthwith, where the relevant document became due between 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and the date of the publication of this Second Notice; or
- b) before the due date of the required document where that document will become due after the date of publication of this Second Notice.
- ii. It will extend the registrations of Broker-Dealers, Investment Advisers, Underwriters, Registered Representatives (the "*Relevant Registrants*") and Self-Regulatory Organizations ("*SROs*") by sixty (60) days, where such Relevant Registrants or SROs are unable to submit an application for the renewal of their registration before the due date for submitting such an application. This extension will apply to registrations that will become due for renewal during the period 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 and will be granted provided that the Relevant Registrant or SRO submits to the Commission, written notification:
  - a) forthwith, where its registration became due for renewal between 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and the date of the publication of this Second Notice; or
  - b) before the due date for the renewal of the registration where that registration will become due for renewal after the date of publication of this Second Notice.

All affected persons who wish to benefit from the dispensations outlined in this Second Notice should detail, in their Form 6 or other written notification, the circumstances that have led to the inability to meet the statutory obligations or to submit the application for renewal.

Please note that the above dispensations do not absolve a Registrant/non-Registrant from its statutory obligations to file certain documents with the Commission or to submit an application for the renewal of its registration as soon as possible. Further the dispensations granted do not apply to those statutory obligations or registrations which were due prior to the Relevant Period.

The Commission intends to monitor the current situation and may, if necessary, extend or vary the dispensations outlined above, with any additional conditions the Commission deems appropriate and/or issue other relief.

While the Commission believes it is in the public interest to provide relief from enforcement action in these circumstances, Registrants and non-Registrants are reminded to review their statutory filing obligations under the Act and the By-Laws and submit electronic filings where they are able.

If you require further guidance on this matter, please email us at ttsec@ttsec.org.tt.

Please be guided accordingly.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

GENERAL COUNSEL/CORPORATE SECRETARY Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission