# Coronavirus impacts and updates



Webcast



## PwC's COVID-19 website

#### pwc.nl/en/topics/covid-19

- Measures to mitigate the impact of coronavirus Tax, legal, financial and people points to consider for your organisation
- Questions & Answers about people and work
- Articles providing more detail
- Responding to the potential business impacts of COVID-19 with country information
   <u>pwc.com > issues > crisis-solutions > covid-19</u>









- 1. Introduction
- 2. Leadership in times of crisis
- 3 Manage your cash and stakeholders
- 4. Measures with regard to personnel
- 5. Governmental and fiscal measures
- 6. Conclusion



## Introduction

- Well-being and safety of people priority number one
- Disruptive effect of the coronavirus on our lives and times of economic uncertainty
- Especially in times like these we want to be there for our relations
- We do not know how long this situation will continue, but we are doing everything we can to endure this crisis together and to improve the chances of recovery





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## Key takeaways - Peter van Uhm

- Decisions, decisions!
- Be brave
- Unity of effort
- Emotions and facts
- Learn
- Stick to your values







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# Stress on businesses increasing rapidly – crucial to take control of your liquidity position







## **Objective:** ensure sufficient time to work on structural solution, without survival no revival

- High- (and later detailed) level assessment of liquidity runway (scenario's)
- Identify and take short-term actions (financial, operational and business critical)
- Establish trust and control through transparent communication (financiers, employees, clients)



# **Objective:** common information platform as basis for scenario planning and decision making for in- and external stakeholders

- Build flexible cash flow model for scenario planning
- Continuous focus (monitor) on cash preservation at all levels of the business
- True business impact of corona crisis translated into financial implications
- Keep key stakeholders informed on your plans and actions



#### **Objective:** prepare fully funded turnaround plan

- Prepare (qualitative and quantitative) turnaround plan to bridge crisis and return to positive cash flow and that supports increased debt levels
- Quantify funding need for plan under various scenarios
- Identify necessary stakeholder buy-in (works council, financier, shareholder)
- Option analysis including preparation of Plan B, C, D, etc.
- Obtain (new) stakeholder buy-in



#### **Objective:** implement turnaround plan

- Create ownership of plan in organization, strengthen team where necessary
- Monitor on all three levels (Plan, KPI's, financial results)
- Strategic communication around turnaround plan
- Execute on the plan (incl. M&A / disposals, new products / markets etc.)
- Keep stakeholders informed throughout execution phase



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## People - Short-term measurements

#### What measures are expected proactively from an employer?

- Hygiene measurements, working from home, cancelling business trips
- Instruction right is limited

#### What about the continued payment of the salary of employees?

- Working from home (100%)
- During sickness (at least 70%)
- Right to (paid) leave e.g. schools are closing or taking care of sick partner?

#### **Alternative solutions?**

## People - Mid-term measurements Emergency fund *NOW*

- Compensation of wages UWV:
  - ≥ 20% expected loss of turnover starting 1 March 2020
  - 100% turnover drop = 90% wages
  - Graduated depending on % turnover drop
  - 3 + 3 months
- Employers to continue payment of wages: fixed & flex
- No forced redundancies
- Actual loss determined afterwards: Auditor's opinion
- Fast and simple  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  how to prevent fraud?
- Practical implementation?



## People - Mid-term measurements new

#### **Pension premiums**

- Temporary stop of payments
- Postponement of payment

Industry wide pension funds having extended their payment terms:

- Catering sector
- Travel branch



## People - Long-term measurements

- Reorganisation
- Not possible during NOW compensation
- Poor financial situation, decrease in work
- Advice works council (if applicable)
- More than 20 employees, union involvement required
- Structural loss of jobs for at least 26 weeks
- If redundant position has become available again within 26 weeks, position must be offered to redundant employee



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Government measures - Focus on immediate liquidity relief



#### **Key measures introduced on March 17**

- Temporary wage payment compensation (90% total wage sum)
- Postponement of tax payments (corporate) income tax, wages tax and VAT
- Expansion 'Garantie Ondernemingsfinanciering':
  - Expansion Guarantee SME's
  - 50% state guarantee on bank loans / guarantees (GO scheme)
  - Ceiling increased from €400m to €1,500m
- Lump-sum compensation for selected sector
- Income support for self-employed with no personnel
  - A temporary provision, based on the Social Assistance (Self-Employed Persons)
     Decree. The implementation of this provision lies with the municipalities.

## Postponement of tax payments

#### For (corporate) income tax, wage tax and VAT

- Entrepreneurs who have or will run into liquidity problems as a result of Corona crisis
- Postponement for three months in any event
- Collection measures stopped upon receipt of the request
- Late payment penalties are remitted
- No third-party expert statement required for first 3 months

#### Longer period of postponement?

- For period after 3 months, additional info to be submitted
- Tax authorities will provide guidance on this information, e.g. if a third-party expert statement will be required



# Tax measures - Wide range of implications to consider



- VAT cash flow management:
  - Switch from monthly to quarterly payments
  - Timing of invoices (payments/receipts) to maximise VAT cash flow
  - VAT grouping to eliminate intra-group VAT payments
  - Reclaim VAT on unpaid invoices as well as foreign VAT
- Evaluate pre-payments of tax options to withdraw/amend?
- Consider foreign crisis measures generally deferral of tax payments possible
- Evaluate external and internal debt position
- Formation of tax provisions / devaluation of assets
- Transfer pricing implications

### Overview of selected support measures Netherlands and EU to date





Compensation scheme



Broadening of scope GO



Broadening of scope BMKB

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Freelancers and start-ups



Existing schemes



New aid schemes EU



Coronavirus Response



Constant update of new aid measures



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- Questions? Please contact your PwC advisor or fill in the form on our website: pwc.nl/en/topics/covid-19
- View this webinar on demand
- Evaluation form
- Stay up to date: register for our PwC Update newsletter on <u>pwc.nl</u> and receive our Coronavirus – impacts and updates newsletter

# Thank you Stay safe, stay connected

