

CORPORATE BRIEFING: Special Edition

Latest Developments in Corporate Legislation: Urgent Measures Relating to Covid-19 Pandemic

This Briefing provides an overview of changes introduced to company law by new legislation arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic

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A. Conduct of General Meetings by Teleconference

1. In accordance with Article 33, par. 2 of the Act of Legislative Content dated 20 March 2020, General Meetings of shareholders or partners of any legal entity may be conducted by way of a teleconference in respect to certain or all of its members.
2. Invitations addressed to the shareholders or partners must include all the necessary information and technical instructions for their participation in the Meeting.
3. This provision is valid until 30 June 2020.

B. Legal Validity of Electronic Signatures and Seals

1. According to Article 31 of the Act of Legislative Content dated 20 March 2020, electronic documents issued by a legal person or entity can be signed either:
 - a. by use of the approved electronic signature of their legal representative; or
 - b. by affixing the approved electronic seal of Article 33, par. 2 of EU Regulation 910/2014 where this is required.

2. The approved electronic signature of legal representatives and approved electronic seals are considered valid and equal to a handwritten signature and original seal respectively.
3. In cases where the law or the parties stipulate that a handwritten signature is required on every page of a document, it is sufficient for the electronic signature or seal to be placed at the beginning or end of the electronic document.
4. Where the law requires verification of the signature of a person, the approved electronic signature or approved electronic seal of this person is sufficient to the extent that the document is transferred electronically.

C. Issuance of Documents and Filing of Applications Through the Single Digital Gateway of the Public Administration

1. According to Articles 24 – 28 of the Act of Legislative Content dated 20 March 2020, any natural person acting for themselves or in the capacity of legal representative of a legal entity (user), may issue documents such as solemn declarations and authorizations bearing a data certa, through the electronic applications e-dilosi and e-exousiodotisi operated by the Single Digital Gateway of the Public Administration (*Ενιαία Ψηφιακή Πύλη - gov.gr*).
2. Any natural person acting for themselves or in the capacity of legal representative of a legal entity may file an application for the issuance of public documents either:
 - a. through ermis.gov.gr; or
 - b. through e-kep.gov.gr.
3. These public documents can be sent to the user either:
 - a. electronically to their email address; or
 - b. to their postal address by post or a courier service.

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4. The authentication of users by using their Taxisnet codes is required for access to the aforementioned services.
5. The Ministerial Decision No. 7335 EΞ2020/23.03.2020

issued by the Ministry of Digital Governance and Simplification of Procedures specifies the procedure users must follow to issue these documents.

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