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NEWS

Coronavirus: Moratorium on loan repayments

To mitigate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Bank of Angola has approved Instruction no. 4/2020 of 30 March 2020, which establishes a set of economic measures aimed at protecting borrowers in their credit obligations.

Financial institutions that carry out credit operations must allow their clients a 60-day moratorium on capital and interest repayments. Financial institutions must also ensure the moratorium does not change the amount of the instalments amounts. They must also temporarily suspend any default warnings, and any default and enforcement actions resulting from delays in payment by borrowers that cannot comply with their obligations due to the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Financial institutions that carry out credit operations must allow their clients a 60-day moratorium on capital and interest repayments."

The moratorium will be made available upon the client's express request made on paper or electronically. The moratorium must also be made available in credit operations with ongoing repayments or with repayment on or after 1 March 2020. If applicable, financial institutions must ensure the execution of any necessary addendum.

Financial institutions must provide all information on the moratorium to their clients, including the impact on the ongoing contractual obligations undertaken by those clients. The implementation of the moratorium must not give rise to any costs associated with expenses or commissions for the financial institutions.

All entities subject to the statute must ensure compliance within 2 months following the publication and entry into force of the Instruction (30 March 2020). ■

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