

COVID-19: Cambodia Urges Landlords and Banks to Assist Private Educational Institutions

On April 13, 2020, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MEYS) issued an Instruction on Enhancing Distance or E-Learning and Teaching by Private Institutions at All Levels.

While the main purpose of this instruction is to encourage private institutions to promote e-learning and teaching, so that students can receive an education while reducing the risk of COVID-19 infections, it also provides certain guidelines for property owners and commercial banks with regard to their relationships with educational institutions that face financial difficulties as a result of the outbreak.

First, the MEYS requested that property owners consider reducing rent for educational institutions in order to reduce their financial burden resulting from the outbreak.

Second, the MEYS requested that the National Bank of Cambodia collaborate with all commercial banks and financial institutions that provide loans to educational institutions, to jointly consider reducing interest rates and extending repayment dates.

As a result of this instruction, educational institutions in Cambodia facing financial difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic now have some legislative legal support in negotiating with landlords and commercial banks.

For more information on education related laws in Cambodia, or any aspect of COVID-19's impact on educational institutions, please contact Tilleke & Gibbins' Phnom Penh office at cambodia@tilleke.com +855 23 964 210.

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Our Commitment to Continuous Client Service

During the COVID-19 outbreak, we are focused on maintaining high-quality client services while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our team. Over the past several weeks, Tilleke & Gibbins has implemented our Business Continuity Plan across our offices in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. The vast majority of our team members are now working remotely, and based on our robust technology infrastructure, we are providing our full range of services as usual. We are now carrying out all client meetings through the use of technology, and, as many of you will have already experienced, this is proving to be a highly effective solution. By implementing a range of technology and agile working measures, we will ensure that you continue to receive the highest quality services with the fastest possible response times from our team. We know that you are facing complex business challenges during this crisis, and we have put together a bank of practical resources tracking the legal developments in the region as they happen—you can access them all at [this link](#). In addition, we want to assure you that our team will be continuously available to help you navigate these issues across Southeast Asia. If you have any queries about these measures, please contact your usual client service partner, or email communications@tilleke.com.

Stay well, safe, and healthy.