

COVID-19 Announcement, Derogation 2020-2

Date: 07nd April 2020

To: GSTC Accredited Certification Bodies

CC: Assurance Services International (ASI)

Given the further developments around the global outbreak of COVID-19 and considering that many businesses in travel and tourism are non-active and that remote audits will, therefore, be impossible, the GSTC hereby amends the derogation sent on 16 March 2020 which stated temporary allowance for scheduling and conducting of remote audits. Please find attached the previous derogation.

This derogation applies to all GSTC audits planned by accredited CBs and allows CBs unable to conduct audits due to the inactivity of their client to postpone the audit. This direction allows the CBs to postpone the audit for a period of six (6) months from the date of this amendment. Remote audits shall not be conducted in the event where the CB client is non-operational.


If a GSTC certificate is due to expire in 2020, it may be extended for up to twelve (12) months beyond its original expiry date. A recertification audit shall then be performed before the maximum 12-month extension expires in order to renew certification.

The CB shall retain documented evidence for each case where this derogation has been applied.

As soon as travel restrictions have been lifted, audits shall be conducted according to regular audit procedures.

The GSTC will continue to monitor the situation and provide any updates. For any other questions please contact GSTC Technical Team (td@gstccouncil.org).

Sincerely,



Randy Durband
GSTC CEO

