

Concerns: Compliance with deadlines during the period of public health restrictions caused by the corona virus.

Date: 16 March 2020

Following the restrictive measures announced by the Dutch Government in connection with the corona virus, BOIP will continue to operate with an extremely reduced staffing level. BOIP is aware that this also applies to all IP professionals and companies who currently have pending requests and procedures at BOIP. Under these circumstances, BOIP has decided the following:

1. From now until the end of the imposed public restrictions in the Benelux countries, BOIP will not withdraw any requests or procedures because a given deadline has not been met. This also applies to opposition proceedings not submitted on time or payments not received on time.
2. After this period has ended, an additional period of one month will be granted for all requests and proceedings for which the time limits have expired or which are less than one month at that time. This month will be counted from the moment that there are no longer any limitations in society in the Benelux countries. BOIP will set a date for this in due course and communicate it by means of a new communication from the Director General.
3. BOIP is not in a position to communicate on a case-by-case basis a new deadline for all requests and procedures. This communication therefore replaces such individual communications.