



IMPLEMENTATION OF ICT IN TAX REFORMS IN NICARAGUA

On February 28th, 2019, important tax and general reforms took effect in Nicaragua through Law No. 987, Law on Amendments and Additions to Law No. 822, Nicaraguan Tax Law (Ley de Concertación Tributaria). This new law has established certain novelties that seek the use and implementation of Information and Communication Technologies ("ICT") in the tax collection activity of the Tax Administration and the Customs Administration.

In that sense, the aforementioned Law No. 987 reformed the Tax Legislation to establish that the Tax Administration will be empowered to promote the use of ICT in the different processes and documents, including the interposition, processing and resolution of tax resources.

Likewise, the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit has been granted with the power to establish other forms of payment and issuance of the Tax for Fiscal Stamps (TFS), which affects certain legal acts established in Law No. 822 (Nicaraguan Tax Law) related to documents issued in Nicaragua or abroad, whenever these documents require to have effect in the country, including register certifications, trademark and patent registrations, as well as titles or concessions of natural wealth, among others.

In the same way, the Tax Administration and the Customs Administration were authorized to implement "Fiscal Stamps" to strengthen the control of assets over which there are risk and high levels of tax evasion or avoidance by verifying their payment through ICT. It is probable that this new definition of Fiscal Stamps, as well as their application, will be established later by means of the corresponding regulations, for which we will be giving more details in the future.

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Customs Services and Reform to the Creative Law of the General Directorate of Revenues, by which it was established that all the acts carried out by the Customs Administration through the ITC, including the attention of procedures related to customs regimes and operations, the processing of administrative resources, the actions of control, inspection and customs control over people, merchandise and means of transport, acts of authorization, registration, control and inspection of importers, and exporters and assistants of the customs public function, will be all legitimate. Also, electronic notifications were authorized, electronic files were created and electronic offices were enabled to carry out the actions of the Customs Administration. Consequently, all the data and documents that are transmitted by electronic means by the Customs Administration, among others, will be covered with the same legal and evidential validity as the original documents.

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Last but not least, an article 6 bis was added to the Law No. 339, Creative Law of the General Directorate of

