REGULATION No 20/2020

of 9 October 2020

amending Regulation No 8/2017 of 9 October 2017 on the reimbursement of travel expenses and the payment of flat-rate travel and meeting allowances for members and alternates of the European Committee of the Regions and Regulation No 2/2018 on the reimbursement of transport expenses and the payment of flat-rate travel and meeting allowances for rapporteurs’ experts and speakers who participate in the activities of the European Committee of the Regions

THE BUREAU OF THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS,

HAVING REGARD TO the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 305, 306 and 307 thereof,


HAVING REGARD TO the Rules of Procedure of the European Committee of the Regions, and in particular Rules 37, 39, 40, 63 and 71 thereof,

HAVING REGARD TO Bureau Decision No 0014/2018 on the internal financial rules for implementing the Committee of the Regions section of the general budget of the European Union,

HAVING REGARD TO Regulation No 8/2017 of the Bureau of the European Committee of the Regions of 9 October 2017, on the reimbursement of travel expenses and the payment of flat-rate travel and meeting allowances

for members and alternates of the European Committee of the Regions,

HAVING REGARD TO Regulation No 2/2018 of the Bureau of the European Committee of the Regions of 30 January 2018, on the reimbursement of transport expenses and the payment of flat-rate travel and meeting allowances for rapporteurs’ experts and speakers who participate in the activities of the European Committee of the Regions,

WHEREAS:

(1) the COVID-19 crisis has had an impact on the functioning of the European Committee of the Regions, in particular as regards the way in which it holds its meetings and as regards the means of transport that can be used by members, duly mandated alternates, rapporteurs’ experts and speakers to reach the CoR’s premises;

(2) in the light of the widespread increase in the use of private cars instead of public transport, it is appropriate to revise the current system of reimbursement, which is unfavourable to travel by private car for a return distance exceeding 2 000 km;

(3) Regulation No 8/2017 and Regulation No 2/2018 should, therefore, be amended accordingly.

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation No 8/2017 is amended as follows:

- in Article 3, paragraph 3.2 is replaced by the following:

‘3.2 Travel by car

In the case of travel by car, a member covered by these rules shall be reimbursed according to a flat rate per kilometre. The flat rate per kilometre shall be set by decision of the Bureau.

The distance in kilometres between the meeting venue and the officially declared place of residence shall be determined by the administration by means of a computer program.

Any request for reimbursement of the cost of travel by car for return distances exceeding 1 000 kilometres shall be accompanied by supporting documents for both the inbound and outbound journey.

If two or more persons covered by these rules travel in the same car, the person responsible for the vehicle shall be entitled to the above reimbursement, plus an additional payment of 20% in respect of each person accompanying him/her, provided he/she states their names in his/her claim for reimbursement. The persons mentioned thereby forfeit any right to reimbursement of travel expenses for the corresponding part of the journey.
Members using their private car for travel shall remain entirely liable for any accidental damage to their vehicle or to third-party vehicles.’

**Article 2**

Regulation No 2/2018 is amended as follows:

- in Article 3, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

‘2. **Travel by car**

In the case of travel by car, an expert/speaker covered by these rules shall be reimbursed according to a flat rate per kilometre. The flat rate per kilometre shall be set by decision of the Bureau.

The distance in kilometres between the meeting venue and the officially declared place of residence shall be determined by the administration by means of a computer program.

Any request for reimbursement of the cost of travel by car for return distances exceeding 1 000 kilometres shall be accompanied by supporting documents for both the inbound and outbound journey.

If two or more persons, duly invited to participate in a CoR meeting or activity, travel in the same car, the person responsible for the vehicle shall be entitled to the above reimbursement, plus an additional payment of 20% in respect of each person accompanying him/her, provided he/she states their names in his/her claim for reimbursement. The additional persons mentioned in the claim thereby forfeit any right to reimbursement of travel expenses for the corresponding part of the journey.

Experts/speakers using their private car for travel shall remain entirely liable for any accidental damage to their vehicle or to third-party vehicles.’

**Article 3**

The present Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 9 October 2020

For the Bureau of the European Committee of the Regions

signed
Apostolos Tzitzikostas
President

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