

Reference: C.N.131.2020.TREATIES-IV.4 (Depositary Notification)

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS
NEW YORK, 16 DECEMBER 1966

COLOMBIA: NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 4 (3)

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 25 March 2020.

(Translation) (Original: Spanish)

Nº 20-361-E

New York, 25 March 2020

His Excellency Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

Sir,

In compliance with article 16 of Act No. 137 of 1994, regulating states of emergency in Colombia, and article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by the Republic of Colombia through Act No. 74 of 1968, I have the honour to report on the issuance of the decrees listed below¹ in connection with the declaration of an economic, social and ecological emergency throughout the territory of the Republic of Colombia, of which you were informed through Diplomatic Note No. 20-351-E of 19 March 2020. As reported, the state of emergency to address the COVID-19 crisis shall be in effect for 30 days from 17 March to 16 April 2020.

The preamble to Decree No. 417 of 2020¹, declaring an economic, social and ecological emergency in Colombia, sets out the conditions necessary for the adoption of the extraordinary measure, namely:

- Paragraph 1 “Factual basis”.
- Paragraph 2 “Assessed basis”.
- Paragraph 3 “Justification for the declaration of a state of emergency”.

¹The text of Decree No. 417 of 2020 attached to the notification is on file with the Secretary-General and is available for consultation.

To date, the following decrees have been issued:

DECREES ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DECLARATION OF AN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY - DECREE NO. 417 OF 17 MARCH 2020

1. DECREE NO. 434 OF 19 MARCH 2020 – setting special deadlines for the renewal of commercial registration and registration with the Unified National Register of Payment Order Operators (RUNEOL) and other registers that make up the Single Business and Social Register (RUES), as well as for general meetings of stockholders and other collegiate bodies, to mitigate the economic effects of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the national territory.
2. DECREE NO. 438 OF 19 MARCH 2020 – setting out transitional tax measures under the state of economic, social and ecological emergency, in accordance with Decree No. 417 of 2020.
3. DECREE NO. 439 OF 20 MARCH 2020 – suspending the disembarkation for the purposes of entry or connection in Colombian territory of passengers coming from abroad, by air.
4. DECREE NO. 440 OF 20 MARCH 2020 – setting out emergency measures concerning public procurement, as a result of the state of economic, social and ecological emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. DECREE NO. 441 OF 20 MARCH 2020 – setting out provisions concerning water supply, sewerage and sanitation to address the state of economic, social and ecological emergency declared through Decree No. 417 of 2020.
6. DECREE NO. 444 OF 21 MARCH 2020 – creating the Emergency Mitigation Fund (FOME) and setting out provisions regarding resources, under the state of economic, social and ecological emergency.
7. DECREE NO. 458 OF 22 MARCH 2020 – setting out measures for poor households throughout the national territory, under the state of economic, social and ecological emergency.
8. DECREE NO. 460 OF 22 MARCH 2020 – setting out measures for the provision of services by family protection units, under the state of economic, social and ecological emergency.
9. DECREE NO. 461 OF 22 MARCH 2020 – temporarily authorizing governors and mayors to redirect income and reduce rates of territorial taxes, under the economic, social and ecological emergency declared by Decree No. 417 of 2020.
10. DECREE NO. 464 OF 23 MARCH 2020 – setting out measures to address the economic, social and ecological emergency situation declared through Decree No. 417 of 2020.
11. DECREE NO. 467 OF 23 MARCH 2020 – setting out emergency measures concerning aid for beneficiaries of the Colombian Institute of Educational Credit and Technical Studies Abroad (ICETEX), under the state of economic, social and ecological emergency.
12. DECREE NO. 468 OF 23 MARCH 2020 – authorizing new transactions for the *Financiera de Desarrollo Territorial S.A.* (Territorial Development Bank) (Findeter) and the *Banco de Comercio Exterior de Colombia S.A.* (Foreign Trade Bank of Colombia)

(Bancoldex), under the economic, social and ecological emergency declared through Decree No. 417 of 2020.

13. DECREE NO. 469 OF 23 MARCH 2020 – setting out a measure to ensure the continuation of the functions of the constitutional court, under the state of economic, social and ecological emergency.

In the light of the aforementioned decrees, I have the honour to report that the Government of Colombia has the power to temporarily suspend articles 12, 13, 19 and 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as permitted under article 4 and the aforementioned articles of the instrument.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)
Guillermo Fernández de Soto
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Subsequently, on 6 and 17 April 2020, the Government of Colombia provided further lists of decrees in connection with the declaration of the state of emergency throughout its territory².

20 April 2020



² Decrees No. 470 of 24 March 2020, 475 of 25 March 2020, 476 of 25 March 2020, 482 of 26 March 2020, 486 of 27 March 2020, 487 of 27 March 2020, 488 of 27 March 2020, 491 of 28 March 2020, 492 of 28 March 2020, 499 of 31 March 2020, 500 of 31 March 2020, 507 of 1 April 2020, 512 of 2 April 2020, 513 of 2 April 2020, 516 of 4 April 2020, 517 of 4 April 2020, 518 of 4 April 2020, 519 of 5 April 2020, 522 of 6 April 2020, 528 of 7 April 2020, 530 of 8 April 2020, 532 of 8 April 2020, 533 of 9 April 2020, 535 of 10 April 2020, 537 of 12 April 2020, 538 of 12 April 2020, 539 of 13 April 2020, 540 of 13 April 2020, 541 of 13 April 2020, 544 of 13 April 2020, 545 of 13 April 2020, 546 of 14 April 2020, 551 of 15 April 2020, 552 of 15 April 2020, 553 of 15 April 2020, 554 of 15 April 2020, 555 of 15 April 2020, 557 of 15 April 2020, 558 of 15 April 2020, 559 of 15 April 2020, 560 of 15 April 2020, 561 of 15 April 2020, 562 of 15 April 2020, 563 of 15 April 2020, 564 of 15 April 2020, 565 of 15 April 2020, 567 of 15 April 2020, 568 of 15 April 2020, 569 of 15 April 2020, 570 of 15 April 2020, 571 of 15 April 2020, 572 of 15 April 2020, 573 of 15 April 2020, 574 of 15 April 2020, 575 of 15 April 2020, 576 of 15 April 2020, 579 of 15 April 2020, 580 of 15 April 2020 and 581 of 15 April 2020.