

Reference: C.N.138.2020.TREATIES-IV.4 (Depositary Notification)

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

EL SALVADOR: NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 4 (3)<sup>1</sup>

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

The above action was effected on 16 April 2020.

(Translation) (Original: Spanish)

New York, 16 April 2020

Excellency,

I have the honour to write to you in reference to my letters dated 26 and 31 March and 14 April 2020, in which I notified you of the *national state of emergency, public calamity and natural disaster* that the Republic of El Salvador declared over its national territory, and of the corresponding measures limiting certain constitutional rights, in order to prevent, address and control the risk and imminent impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Republic of El Salvador hereby wishes to report that pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 622, dated 12 April 2020, published on the same date in Official Gazette No. 73, Volume No. 427, the validity of Decree No. 593, on the *national state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic*, has been extended. The extension was approved for a further four days; therefore, its legal effects shall expire on 16 April 2020.

In this regard, during the legally determined period indicated above, the restrictions on certain constitutional rights, such as: freedom of movement, the right to assemble peacefully without arms for lawful ends, and the right of not being forced to change domicile or residence, shall remain in force.

In addition, under Decree No. 19 emitted by the Ministry of Health on 13 April 2020, the *special prevention and containment measures taken to declare the national territory as an area subject to health control*, in order to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, are reinforced. The measures extended include the following:

- The declaration of the entire national territory as an epidemic area subject to health control in order to contain the impact and prevent the spread of COVID-19;

<sup>1</sup> The texts of Legislative Decree No. 622 and Executive Decrees Nos. 19 and 20 of the Ministry of Health, attached to the notification, are on file with the Secretary-General and available for consultation.

- A mandatory stay-at-home order for everybody except those defined in the aforementioned decree, such as: persons who need to buy groceries, who may only go out up to twice a week; persons going to work in the cases permitted under Decree No. 19, namely, *public employees* working in the health, economic, agricultural and livestock sectors, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Office of the President of the Republic, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, the Fire Department, the Solidarity Fund for Health, the Civil Aviation Authority, among others; employees in the transportation sector, companies in the food industry, the financial sector, and other bodies defined in the said decree.
- The prohibition of entry into the national territory of any person who visited or travelled from a foreign country during a period of thirty days prior to arrival in El Salvador, except for Salvadorans by birth or naturalization, resident aliens, members of a diplomatic mission and consular office accredited in the country, and their family members, who will be evaluated by the International Health Office to determine the health measures that should be taken, in accordance with the respective protocols.
- The mandatory use of masks for persons authorized to circulate within the national territory.

Furthermore, Executive Decree No. 20, dated 13 April 2020, was also approved, specifying the conditions, duration and manner of compliance for the quarantine, monitoring or observation of persons subject to such control measures, as determined by the Ministry of Health.

Excellency,

In view of the foregoing, and as provided in article 4, paragraph 3, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the State of El Salvador wishes to avail again itself of the right of derogation from its obligation under article 12 and 21 of the Covenant, due to the provisional measures adopted by the Government of El Salvador to prevent, address and control the risk and imminent impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, solely within the periods defined by law in the aforementioned decrees and always preserving the paramount interest of protecting human dignity and other guarantees.

For further information, I have the honour to attach the decrees containing the aforementioned measures.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Egriselda López  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the  
Republic of El Salvador to the United Nations

\*\*\*

24 April 2020

