

Reference: C.N.163.2020.TREATIES-IV.4 (Depositary Notification)

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

COLOMBIA: NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 4 (3)¹

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

The above action was effected on 7 May 2020.

(Translation) (Original: Spanish)

No. 20-497-E

New York, 7 May 2020

Excellency,

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 inform you that through Decree No. 637 of 6 May 2020, attached hereto, the Government of Colombia declared a state of economic, social and ecological emergency throughout the national territory for thirty (30) days, in order to address the COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, the state of emergency shall be in effect from 6 May to 4 June 2020.

The preamble to the above-mentioned decree sets out the conditions necessary for the adoption of the extraordinary measure, namely:

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

In the light of Decree No. 637 of 6 May 2020, 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.

¹ The texts of Decrees Nos. 636 and 637 of 6 May 2020 attached to the notification are on file with the Secretary-General and are available for consultation. Subsequently, by note verbale No. 20-508-E of 13 May 2020, also available for consultation, the Government of Colombia informed the Secretary-General of additional measures taken in connection with the state of emergency.

Furthermore, I have the honour to inform that the President of the Republic of Colombia issued Decree No. 636 of 6 May 2020, containing instructions related to the health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the maintenance of public order. The decree extends until 25 May 2020 the mandatory preventive stay-at-home order for all inhabitants of the national territory, previously regulated by Decrees No. 457 of 23 March 2020, No. 531 of 8 April 2020 and No. 593 of 24 April 2020, which issued the measure for the periods from 25 March to 13 April 2020, 13 to 27 April 2020 and 27 April 2020 to 11 May 2020, respectively. Decree No. 636 of 6 May 2020 is attached in order to notify you of the measures adopted in Colombia during the health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

(Signed) Guillermo Fernández de Soto
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

15 May 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials 'GN' with a horizontal line underneath.