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

PARAGUAY: 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 6 August 2020.

(Translation) (Original: Spanish)

MP/UN/NY/No.1129/2020

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Paraguay to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and refers to note MP/UN/NY/No. 1033/2020², concerning the notification of the measures taken by the Paraguayan State in the framework of the declaration of a health emergency to address the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

In this regard, the Permanente Mission reports that under the state of health emergency (declared pursuant to Decree No. 3456 of 16 March 2020), the President of the Republic, H.E. Mr. Mario Abdo Benítez, issued Decree No. 3835 of 18 July 2020 which provides for measures to implement phase 4 of the Plan for the gradual lifting of the general preventive confinement (smart quarantine), for the period from 20 July to 16 August 2020, with the exception of Asunción (the capital city), and the Alto Paraná and Central Departments, where the measures established for phase 3 remain in force until 16 August 2020, pursuant to Decree No. 3706 of 14 June 2020.

The Permanent Mission further informs that, within the framework of the state of health emergency, Decree No. 3526 of 9 April 2020 that authorised the establishment of temporary shelters for the supervised confinement of persons who have tested positive for COVID-19, is in effect. Additionally, Resolution SG No. 177/20 of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare provides that citizens travelling from other countries, for humanitarian reasons or situation of vulnerability, observe mandatory preventive confinement for 14 days in a shelter or other place designated for such purpose.

¹ The texts of Decree No. 3526 of 9 April 2020, Decree No. 3835 of 18 July 2020, Resolution SG No. 166/20 of 11 April 2020 and Resolution SG No. 177/20 of 20 April 2020 are on file with the Secretary-General and available for consultation.

² Refer to depositary notification C.N.318.2020.TREATIES-IV-4 of 24 July 2020 (Paraguay : Notification under article 4 (3))

In this regard, it is reiterated that these measures were issued in accordance with the exceptional powers invested in the State to protect the life and health of the entire population, which are fundamental public goods under articles 4 and 68 of the Constitution, and they temporarily limit the exercise of the individual rights protected under articles 9, 12 and 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in a reasonable and proportional manner, to serve the common interest by addressing the spread of the disease caused by the COVID-19.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Paraguay to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretariat of the United Nations the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 27 July 2020

18 August 2020