

Newsletter 13 COVID-19 March 31, 2020

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL HEALTH ACTIONS TO COMBAT THE COVID-19 VIRUS ARE DECLARED BY THE FEDERAL AND MEXICO CITY'S GOVERNMENT

A. Measures implemented at the Federal Level

By means of the Decree published last Friday, March 27 in the Federal Official Gazette (*Diario Oficial de la Federación*), the Ministry of Health (*Secretaría de Salud*) declared several extraordinary actions in the affected regions of the entire national territory in terms of health, to combat the serious disease of priority attention generated by the Covid-19 virus.

The specific extraordinary actions that the Ministry of Health shall implement immediately are:

- a) <u>Auxiliary elements</u>. Use as auxiliary elements all medical and social assistance resources from the public, social and private sectors existing in the affected regions and in the surrounding areas. It is not specified whether this implementation shall be by means of subcontracting services or by executing agreements with the Social and Private Sectors.
- b) <u>Direct Award</u>. Acquire all types of goods and services, nationally or internationally, including medical equipment, diagnostic agents, surgical and healing materials and hygienic products, as well as all types of goods and objects that are necessary to meet the contingency, <u>without having to carry out the public tender procedure</u>, for the amounts or concepts necessary to meet the contingency.
- c) <u>Administrative procedures</u>. Import and authorize the import, as well as the acquisition in the national territory of the goods and services mentioned in the previous paragraph b), <u>without the</u> <u>need to exhaust any administrative procedure</u>, for the amounts or concepts necessary to face the contingency.
- d) <u>Price speculation and stockpiling of inputs</u>. Carry out the necessary measures to avoid price speculation and the stockpiling of essential inputs for the goods and services referred to in point (b) above.

The measures imposed, by the Federation, entered into force on Friday 27 March and shall remain in force until the competent authority declares the conclusion of the health contingency that gave rise to them.

Additionally, several agreements have been published in the Federal Official Gazette, through which activities in federal public administration agencies and entities are temporarily suspended.

A. Measures implemented by the Mexico City's Government

By means of the Decree published on March 30 in the Official Gazette of Mexico City, Mexico City's Government authorizes the Ministry of Health and Mexico City's Water Service to implement, within the



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scope of their respective faculties, extraordinary actions in the area of health to prevent the contagion and spread of the Covid-19 virus in Mexico City.

In addition to the extraordinary actions established by the Federation (see section A.), Mexico City's Government established the following:

- The Mexico City's Water System is authorized to contract through direct award procedures under the Public Works and Procurement laws, both local and federal, all types of goods and services related to its attributions in order to face the contingency in an effective, efficient, expeditious and timely manner.
- <u>Drinkable water</u>. Carry out the necessary actions for the supply of drinkable water.

In addition, by means of an agreement published today in the Official Gazette of Mexico City, the activities of Mexico City's agencies, decentralized bodies, public administration entities and mayors' offices are temporarily suspended, with the exception of those activities corresponding to institutions of public security, the prison system, health, integral risk management and civil protection, fire brigade, Public Telephone Location Service (LOCATEL), C5, works and services, water system, water supply, as well as those necessary for the granting of public deeds related to real estate before notary publics and those activities or services that can be provided through electronic means, (including those of a fiscal and budgetary nature).

The measures at the level of Mexico City entered into force today and shall remain in force until the competent authority declares the conclusion of the sanitary contingency that gave rise to them.

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