

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, JUAN
ORLANDO HERNÁNDEZ IN THE NATIONAL CHAIN OF
RADIO AND TELEVISION ON NEW MEASURES OF
PREVENTION BEFORE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19:

Honduran people:

Tonight I want to inform the entire population that verified by the National Virology Laboratory, which we have three (3) new cases of coronavirus in Honduras. In this way, positive cases of coronavirus are raised to six (COVID-19). The coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) has overwhelmed capacity from all the countries of the world. No nation, not even those with the healthiest systems sophisticated, they managed to measure the impact that this new virus was going to have and exposed the vulnerability of populations to prevent and stop the spread of the virus. In Honduras we declared an emergency for several weeks, We identify the first resources to attend the first phase of prevention. We knew that sooner or later the coronavirus was going to enter the country because viruses do not know borders and many carriers of themselves are impossible to detect because people can be asymptomatic, that is, show no symptoms or be in the incubation range. This pandemic has begun to undermine capabilities, health and the life of the populations. Only in Italy 368 deaths have been reported in the last 24 hours and 1809 deaths in total. Similar scenarios are beginning to observe in other countries like Spain. At the regional level, the Guatemalan government has confirmed a few minutes that already report the first death. In Panama, 55 cases were confirmed today and in Costa Rica 35 cases have been confirmed. In countries like China, Singapore and Taiwan, the way to stop spread was to take drastic measures. These measures, although it is true, are difficult, they can allow saving lives, this being the supreme end of the State. OUR MISSION AND MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO SAVE THE LIVES OF OUR PEOPLE. We must do what we have to do to protect the most vulnerable, these being people over 60, people with underlying or pre-existing diseases like diabetes, hypertension, asthma, cancer, among others. Young people should stay home to avoid take the contagion to their homes, being able to affect their parents, grandparents and other relatives with these conditions. Because we are in the process of identifying the contacts that confirmed coronavirus patients had, we must enter the quarantine process for which we must collaborate and prepare us all. With the understanding that we are only going to face if each assumes their individual responsibilities. As the government of the republic we are asking the mayors and entrepreneurs, order the closure of businesses of all kinds, to exception of supermarkets, markets, grocery stores, pharmacies, hospitals, hotels, gas stations and private banking. Asking to these, take the separation measures between people so minus one meter. In all cases, it should be regulated that the number of people does not exceed 50 in a single business location. For this, the presence of children, the elderly and families must be avoided. whole in supermarkets. In addition, access must be controlled and to them so that the minimum amount of people allowed. All my thanks to the supermarket employees, pharmacies, medical assistance centers, relief agencies and security for the great work they are doing on behalf of the people Honduran in this emergency. Finally I want to inform the Honduran people starting today at 11:59 pm, all national borders are closed by road land, air and sea for the transit of people, leaving only open for the transport of cargo and supplies. This was not an easy decision, but in the face of great evils, great remedies. Coronavirus is a disease that can rob us of many lives. Therefore, these measures come into effect from the 11:55 pm today with a duration of 7 days. We will be evaluating constantly and we will decide whether to decrease or expand this measure.

I reiterate:

- All kinds of events are suspended.
- We order the closing of businesses except supermarkets, markets, grocery stores, pharmacies, pharmaceutical industry, medical laboratories, hospitals, hotels, gas stations and the private banking.
- Land, air and sea borders are closed nationals for the transit of people. Likewise, I instruct the Ministry of Finance to make effective the payment of wages to public employees as soon as possible and We urge private companies to do the same. Remember: the best coronavirus vaccine is you.
- Do not fall for disinformation because it is more deadly than disease.
- Do not self medicate.
- At the first symptoms, practice self-isolation, keep a meter away from your relatives and use a mask.
- Go to the nearest health center if you have fever and cough dry.
- Wash your hands with plenty of soap and water.
- Use antibacterial gel.
- Do not greet kiss and hug.
- STAY AT HOME.

MAY GOD BLESS HONDURAS

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., March 15, 2020