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(Listed and non-listed)

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In this newsletter:

**Current COVID 19
Situation in Venezuela**

By Eugenio Moreno

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CURRENT COVID 19 SITUATION IN VENEZUELA

The first case of coronavirus in Venezuela occurred a year ago. During the first months of that year, the government established strict measures such as rigid quarantine, airport closure and land transit prohibition, except in a few cases.

In the last months, the rigid measures were established twice a month, the so-called 7+7, that is, a flexible week allowing people to carry out most of the normal activities and the following week a rigid one, fully confining people at home and so on. Recently international flights between Venezuela and some connecting airports have been allowed.

As port activities are one of the excepted cases, in principle, shipping activities have been carried out normally, although under some unavoidable impact in the rigid time derived from the fact that no general activities have been permitted during that time. Likewise, as seafarers have been declared key workers and some international flights are available, no problem should arise nowadays to repatriate them or to join a vessel at Venezuelan port.

The level of Covid 19 in Venezuela could be regarded as moderate or of low rate so far. During that year, the average coronavirus cases could be in the region of 420 cases per day, and the average diseases could be about 5 cases daily. Nowadays, the total of cases has reached around 152,500 coronavirus cases and 1,500 disease cases.

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As there has been some increase in the daily figures (reaching in some days about double of the average amounts) and more affected people have needed hospitalization, this week and next week have been declared rigid and fully quarantine. Other strict restrictions measures as inland transit have taken place, although international flights are still available.

It was reported that the first vaccines against Covid 19, which arrived this month, amounted to 100,000 Russian vaccines and 500,000 Chinese vaccines. This covers about 300,000 people (The population of Venezuela is about 29 million). The interim government headed by Mr. Guaido has informed that they will be providing about 12 million vaccines for around 6 million people in the next following weeks. The government has given priority to specific people like those in the health and public sector. Seafarers are not still on the priority list.