Washington Remains Silent on Attack of Cuban Embassy

Spotlight
Memories of the “Romerías” Festival

Photo Feature
The Magic of Key Saetía

Economy
Cuban Resourcefulness Facing COVID-19 Economic Damage
Prospects of Tourism in 2020

By Roberto CAMPOS

Tourism amid a turbulent year such as the present.

In his assessments of the current situation periodically addresses pressing issues of distinctions as outlined by researcher and does not escape from, although with some tourism prospects, a situation that Cuba

He also talked about the consequences of the pandemic, which will affect the normal flow of international visitors, the remarked that Cuba

By doing so, such segments would then facilitate the efficient use of infrastructure. The expert stressed that the current situation will demand an inclusive effort that guarantees sustainability through constant innovation. This effort should be based on the growth of the rest of the productive sector, in response to the changes of the market, which can include the economy maintaining balance between the environment and the society. Perelló noted that fostering and increasing the offer of tourism destinations in Cuba is not only motivated by the need of increasing the capacity of financing from foreign sources, but also to contributing to raise spiritual and material satisfaction.

Perelló predicted that 2020 will be a year of great obstacles and challenges for the Cuban tourism sector, with the constant strengthening of the restrictions imposed by the U.S. and its economic, commercial and financial blockade, place for over 50 years.

He also talked about the consequences of the pandemic, which will affect the normal flow of international visitors, the adaptation to climate change and other weather phenomena, in addition to the lack of financial resources to continue projects related to the development plan. The possibility that the Cuban tourism sector has to appropriate the benefits of activity depends on several domestic factors, such as the competitiveness of the local industry and its capacity to supply the resources that companies need through the provision of inputs, which is vital. No country can have successful tourism development without the participation of local production. Investment in infrastructure is essential to tourism development process, Perelló noted.

In this sense, he commented that hotels, ports, airports and roads can be built, but the real contribution to development is made when the sector takes into account the goods and services rapidly increase their shares and production.

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International Organizations Request Nobel Prize for Cuban Doctors

HAVANA.- The French portal MesOpinions.com has received several endorsements requesting that the Nobel Peace Prize be granted to the Cuban Medical Brigades that are fighting COVID-19 around the world. Some voiced that Cuba “is an example of international solidarity” and “is the only country that has shown true internationalism in the face of this pandemic.”

By Rosmery IBERNAL

HAVANA.- Cuba is undergoing a favorable scenario in the fight against COVID-19; however, the battle continues in all sectors of the government and society in order to sustain the progress achieved so far.

Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel recently called for an end to the SARS-CoV-2 virus in Cuba after witnessing a reduction in the number of active cases.

At the beginning of June, 2020, the number of active cases had been confirmed in Cuba, of which 185 were still hospitalized, 89 had died, 2 had been evacuated to other countries and 453 had recovered. In recent days, the number of medical discharges has exceeded 1,000 as the number of infected patients in the hospital Authorities of the Public Health Ministry highlighted that the plan implemented in Cuba to face COVID-19 has made an important contribution to both treating patients and handling the disease.

Some of the actions have included immediate treatment and isolation of those suspected of having the disease, with consequent isolation in quarantine centers aimed at cutting the chain of infection.

Active investigation all over national territory is another important element of this plan. The objective is to detect all people with symptoms as soon as possible to be able to act on time.

The approved treatment for patients suffering from COVID-19 includes different medications produced in Cuba, such as Interferon alpha 2b, CIGB-210 and CIGB-300, among others.

Preventive treatment has been provided to different population groups through the distribution of medications, such as CIGB-258 and CIGB-260, among others.

Cuban health professionals have the necessary resources – either made domestically or donated by international organizations – for the diagnosis and treatment of patients, as well as for their protection in the fight against the deadly virus.

Cuban authorities insist on strengthening social distancing and hygiene in order to maintain a favorable scenario in the fight against the virus and avoid falling victim to it.

Science Fights Against COVID-19

HAVANA.- The current pandemic caused by the new coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) is considered the world’s biggest health crisis of recent history due to its rapid spreading, which has demonstrated that many countries were not prepared to cope with it.

Due to the high-quality level of its health specialists, scientists and researchers, Cuba has been able to use science in a dynamic way to fight COVID-19. New developments are announced each week, which will have a very positive impact on Cuba’s public health and the recovery strategy designed by local authorities.

In fact, as many as 70 proposals of projects, initiatives, clinical trials and protocols to cope with and treat COVID-19 have been presented so far. Upon detecting the first infected cases in March, the Cuban Public Health Ministry included Recombinant Human Interferon Alpha 2b in the treatment protocols for virus-positive patients, due to its effectiveness.

Local health authorities’ statistics revealed that of the coronavirus patients treated with Heberon (trade name of Interferon Alpha 2b), only 5.5 percent have been reported to be in critical condition.

A leading product of Cuba’s biotechnology, Heberon is a medicine used in China with excellent results in treating Covid-19 and has thus been in great demand by over 80 countries.

Cuban initiatives have also included the analysis on disease prevalence, which will contribute a general characterization of SARS-CoV-2 evolution, new infected cases and the percentage of asymptomatic people.

The study covers 15 provinces, 75 municipalities, 260 doctors’ offices, 1,500 homes and nearly 4,000 people, allowing for early detection of people that test positive for COVID-19 through the PCR test, so as to isolate and treat them on time.

In addition, the use of SUMA (Ultra Micro Analytical System) technology –UMELISA SARS-COV-2 rapid diagnostic kit- detects coronavirus antibodies in the blood streams, analyzed to keep looking for asymptomatic people. Also, the result of Cuban scientific talents is the approval of these new clinical trials that involve products and combinations of medicine locally manufactured, and a room for recovered patients with aftereffects.

Meanwhile, plasma transfusion from recovered donors to SARS-CoV-2 patients continues, with good results not only in Cuba but internationally.

Another strategy is the preventive use of various homoeopathic products, as well as the administration of Bismolud F, a traditional homoeopathic medicine in Argentina.

The demand for Cuban products continues to grow, thanks to Cuba’s reputation for high-quality products and Cuban professionals that were already working in 59 countries.

The Henry Reeve Contingent of Doctors and Professionals that were already working in 59 countries.

The request has been endorsed by other associations, solidarity groups, trade unions and political forces from France, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Iran, the United States, Mexico and Argentina.

The request was presented in the French portal MesOpinions.com by Rosmery Bernal, a journalist, and was accompanied by a letter in which the request is made. The request is also being sent to several sites that promote the Nobel Peace Prize.

The letter to the Nobel Peace Prize Committee is addressed to the President of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, Lina S. Bjork.

The letter will request that the Nobel Peace Prize be granted to the Cuban doctors that are fighting COVID-19 in the world.

Calls to grant Nobel Prize to Cuban doctors fighting COVID-19 in the world.

PHOTOS:

Dailly Fight Against COVID-19

By Dinorah SANABIA

On May 23, Cuban Minister of Public Health José Ángel Portal said that 2,379 medical professionals, organized in 26 groups of the Henry Reeve Contingent of Doctors Specialized in Situations of Disasters and Serious Epidemics, have contributed to the fight the disease in 24 countries.

The Minister also thanked that in addition to the aforementioned figures, the over 20,000 health professionals that were already working in 19 nations before the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus – the agent responsible for the deadly disease – are also included.

She added that last month, when Cuban doctors arrived in Italy, U.S. mass media had to finally recognize the Cuban cooperation and agreed that it was the right time to nominate the Henry Reeve Brigades for the Nobel Peace Prize.

According to the activist, the MPs are willing to make the request official at the Norwegian Nobel Committee. Furthermore, the request has been promoted on online sites and Facebook.

In addition to doing justice to the doctors who have undertaken such humanitarian actions around the world, “our objective is to fight the defamation of the U.S. empire on Cuban medical collaboration,” said Lou.
Maisel López’s Colossal Artworks

By LUISLOBADILLA

HAVANA—Heaven is his gallery; reviving decayed walls with his artistic touch, painting children as the city’s protagonists. Artist Maisel López invites the public to stop and take in his giant murals children’s faces, often 40-remarkable throughout the city.

Walls decimated by years of human activity become huge canvases for his realistic portraits of young boys and girls. This series of paintings, entitled Colosos (Colossus), gives a new light to overlooked or forgotten children. López mentioned that for his first mural, he used an anonymous photo of a girl from the National Aquarium and other public spaces.

The experience has been wonderful and mutually beneficial, because it has helped me understand and identify with the child I was at that age: “My name is Maria, I have a big belly.” López said that the experience has been wonderful and mutually beneficial, because it has helped me develop a sense of empathy with the child I was at that age.

This mural was a turning point in my artistic career. I realized that I could use my art to tell the story of children who have been forgotten or overlooked. Since then, I have worked on many other murals that focus on the experiences of children and the ways in which they have been affected by the city’s decay.

Maisel López is an artist who began his career in the 1980s and has since become one of the most renowned muralists in Cuba. His work often features children from different backgrounds and is characterized by its realistic style. López has been invited to work in many cities around the world, and his murals have become a symbol of hope and inspiration for children and adults alike.

López believes that art has the power to change the world and to bring about positive change in society. He sees his murals as a way of connecting people to each other and to the community, and he hopes that they will inspire others to think about the importance of children and to work towards a better future for all.

In addition to his work as a muralist, López is also a teacher and mentor to many young artists. He believes that art education is important for the development of young people and for the future of the community. He has founded the School of Arts and Culture, which offers classes in painting, sculpture, and other arts.

Artists like Maisel López are an inspiration to many young people, helping them to see the possibilities of art and to pursue their own dreams. With his murals, he has given a new light to overlooked or forgotten children, bringing attention to their experiences and helping to create a more compassionate and understanding society.
HAVANA.—Members of the Henry Reeve International Medical Cooperation Brigade are saving lives in 12 nations of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in a solidarity effort to face the new coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, the agent responsible for COVID-19. Since the spreading of the pandemic in the region, Cuban health professionals share their experience in hospitals in Barbados, Dominica, Trinidad & Tobago, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Jamaica, Belice, Surinam, Antigua & Barbuda, and Haiti. Groups of doctors, intensive care specialists, epidemiologists and nurses support the attention to and treatment of patients suffering from COVID-19 at the front lines of the epidemic in each of the Caribbean nations.

About two months after their arrival to Jamaica, the Henry Reeve Contingent—composed of 138 members—is the largest of all the received medical brigades in the Caribbean. This group supports the work of another 200 Cuban specialists distributed throughout all four regions of this Caribbean island.

Another group of about 100 Cuban nurses also arrived in Barbados and is contributing to controlling COVID-19 at the recently opened Harrison Point Hospital.

On May Day (May 1st), a female brigade arrived in Trinidad & Tobago to join the country’s actions against the pandemic and to provide training on intensive care to local nurses. In light of the effective response of the Community bloc against the pandemic, nations such as Saint Kitts & Nevis bet for Cuba’s medical solidarity, essential to the treatment of other diseases in hospitals and clinics of the federation.

On May 18, at the 73rd session of the World Health Assembly, Barbados Prime Minister and CARICOM Chairwoman Mia Amor Mittley acknowledged the support that Cuba has given to face the pandemic of the COVID-19 regionally.
DAHAMA.- Leading dancers of the Cuban National Ballet Company (BNC) Dani Hernández and Rafael Quenedit consider dance as a road to happiness; for that reason, their minds are set on the future of movement. As it has happened to most of the world's artists, COVID-19 has altered the routine of these high-performance athletes, who would have been currently dancing the classic Coppelia at the Alicia Alonso Grand Theater of Havana. We could not expect to be home, but it gives us the desire to achieve our dreams as soon as possible," said the young dancer Quenedit. In addition to trying to keep up his fitness, Quenedit has been devoting time to reading and learning. Hernández has used this break to continue writing his bachelor's degree thesis on the Art of Dance, particularly on a phenomenon of great value in Cuban culture and history: The Cuban ballet school. "Dance, no matter the style, is one of the few roads to happiness; it is a way of reflection and healing that gradually releases each fiber of our body, allowing us to forget — at least for a minute — any difficulties we face," Hernández told The Havana Reporter.

"I do not feel well; something is missing. I live for my career," said the artist, who won the 'Amici' (Friends) Contest last year, an award granted by Italian television. In his opinion, that experience helped him develop his artistic expressiveness and taught him to put all of his emotions into his movement. "I would like to take my future career in that direction; to put more emphasis on expression rather than technique to foster the dramatic element," he commented. Quenedit also hopes to play Romeo one day in the ballet Shakespeare and his masks, a piece that is so dramatic that challenges to any dancer — a work worthy of the outstanding English writer. He would also like to dance the classical piece Sleeping Beauty, one of the most emblematic and finest works of Russian ballet. For the time being, reality is postponed but dreams continue to develop; that's why these two leading dancers of the BNC shared their emotions with us now, to show that devoting themselves to art will continue being their raison d'etre.

By María MARTÍNEZ

PHOTO FEATURE

The Magic of Key Saetía

HAVANA.- Cuba's east is full of color and adventure for those looking for active vacations, as recommended by visitors from around the world that cherish unforgettable memories of their travels. One of these magical places, which has attracted European tourists especially, is Key Saetía, an island accessed by a two-hour boat ride where passengers can enjoy the Ramón Peninsula, or by crossing over a bridge. Key Saetía (Sae-Tia) is a 42-square kilometer island, 120 kilometers southeast of Holguín Province, between the Nipe Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. It has five forest areas with exotic species, some of them introduced into the country. Operated by the Gaviota Tourism Company, this area offers visitors virgin beaches and tours to watch local fauna, including deer, buffalo, ostriches, zebras, camels, and antelope. The key has an olive tree island with 12 rooms in an isolated area, ideal for those tours, exploring by foot or other excursions such as scuba diving and snorkeling.

With plans to expand its resorts in the future, Key Saetía is ready to welcome those that return to or visit Cuba for the first time, once the world defeats the Covid-19 pandemic.
The Global Impact of COVID-19

By Laura ARBESO

BRASIL.- Five months after the SARS-Cov-2 virus broke out, the number of infected people continues to grow around the world, and the Americas stands out as the epicenter of the pandemic, considered the worst health crisis of recent times.

According to global health statistics collected in May, over five million people had tested positive for COVID-19, claiming 340,000 lives by the end of May, with 2,354,485 patients that have defeated the disease.

The United States and Brazil, both with relentless political policy and a lack of safety and control measures, are the countries with the biggest numbers of infected people. By the end of May, the United States had reported 1,705,462 COVID-19 cases and over 100,000 deaths, while the figures for Brazil were then 370,060 patients and 23,102 deaths.

According to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, SARS-CoV-2 is a dangerous enemy as it is effective, fast and fatal. It can operate in the dark, spread silently through communities, and when suddenly visible if we are not ready, it is a forest fire. We’ve seen the same pattern repeat itself in cities and countries from around the world, he warned, and suggested that countries do everything possible to make sure that the 2020 coronavirus pandemic is never repeated. “The pandemic proves why investing in health is not an expense but an investment. Health is a way towards security, prosperity and peace,” the WHO director stated.

"We are learning from this sad experience that health is not a luxury, it is a necessity. Health is not a reward for development; it is a perquisite. Health is not an expense but an investment. Health is a way towards security, prosperity and peace,” the WHO director stated.

In spite of generating huge expectations over the United States’ decision to withdraw the assigned funds, the meeting was supported by its members. All present parties agreed to intensify efforts to control the pandemic and ensure equal access and fair distribution of technology and health products required to fight COVID-19, according to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. SARS-CoV-2 is a dangerous enemy as it is effective, fast and fatal. It can operate in the dark, spread silently through communities, and when suddenly visible if we are not ready, it is a forest fire. We’ve seen the same pattern repeat itself in cities and countries from around the world, he warned, and suggested that countries do everything possible to make sure that the 2020 coronavirus pandemic is never repeated. “The pandemic proves why investing in health is not an expense but an investment. Health is a way towards security, prosperity and peace,” the WHO director stated.

Havana.- Amidst a strong fight against COVID-19, Cuba also advocates for saving water and resources in times of economic slowdown which, according to experts, will affect the entire world.

Cuba’s Council of Ministers recently approved adjustments to the 2020 Economic Plan to mitigate the effects in the country of the pandemic, together with the consequent reduction of economic activity due to the measures implemented to contain the spreading of the virus.

The protection of exports and the intensification of measures aimed at saving resources, including the reduction of some of the most significant adjustments, said Cuba’s Vice Prime Minister Alejandro Gil, who is also Minister of Economy and Planning. “Top priority is given to national production: food, medicines and hygiene items, as well as to the continuation of the productive activity and the commercial and financial resources, he added.

Cuba’s massive contribution to the W.H.O. vaccination program as a staunch global pandemic-fighting country has been continuously supported by its members. All present parties agreed to intensify efforts to control the pandemic and ensure equal access and fair distribution of technology and health products required to fight COVID-19, according to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. SARS-CoV-2 is a dangerous enemy as it is effective, fast and fatal. It can operate in the dark, spread silently through communities, and when suddenly visible if we are not ready, it is a forest fire. We’ve seen the same pattern repeat itself in cities and countries from around the world, he warned, and suggested that countries do everything possible to make sure that the 2020 coronavirus pandemic is never repeated. “The pandemic proves why investing in health is not an expense but an investment. Health is a way towards security, prosperity and peace,” the WHO director stated.

As a result of the measures taken to combat the pandemic, the industrial output was lower this time (about 98 percent of the plan), the sugarcane was cleaner by 15 percent, and the quality of the sugar reached 97 percent, almost 100 percent in the factories located in the northern part of the country.

The idea is not to adapt the economy to the current trend but to reduce and eliminate expenses to be able to overcome the complex panorama, the minister said. “Aiming at the current scenario, it will be impossible to do anything that had been obtained for the country’s frontier with the economic activity will not be affected. Gil emphasized. “It will be necessary to continue with the social distancing measures implemented to contain the spreading of the virus. The protection of exports and the intensification of measures aimed at saving resources, including the reduction of some of the most significant adjustments, said Cuba’s Vice Prime Minister Alejandro Gil, who is also Minister of Economy and Planning. “Top priority is given to national production: food, medicines and hygiene items, as well as to the continuation of the productive activity and the commercial and financial resources, he added.

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Economic Restrictions Affect 2019-2020 Sugarcane Harvest

By Roberto SALOMON

Cuba’s 2019-2020 sugarcane harvest came to an end in May without accomplishing the production plan envisioned for the period, largely affected by the tightening of the U.S. blockade against the island.

Of the 44 sugarcane mills participating in the harvest, almost half of them were still operating one week before the end of the period, sparring no effort to produce as much cane as possible despite possible rain storms.

The President of Azcuba Sugar Business Group, Julio Andrés García, noted that the blockade prevented the funds needed to buy more than 100 trucks and other specialized machines that were essential for the harvest time. Also due to the restrictions, a considerable number of mills were late to begin functioning, while others could not operate at all for several months due to the lack of fuel, with consequent production loss.

The sugar producing companies of Sancti Spíritus and Cienfuegos, in central Cuba, were the only ones that met their financial goals as their factories and nearly 20 mills worked overtime.

According to García, this time Azcuba focused on accomplishing its production goals for the domestic market.

Even though some 81 percent only of the production goal was achieved, with ten sugarcane mills less than in the previous period, this harvest was more efficient, Azcuba’s Director of Information Technology and Analysis, Domis Pérez, told the Havana Reporter.

Industrial output was higher this time (about 98 percent of the plan), the sugarcane was cleaner by 15 percent, and the quality of the sugar reached 97 percent, almost 100 percent in the factories located in the northern part of the country.

In regard to sugar products, the production of honey B, is now also sold in the agricultural sector has gone as planned, together with the manufacturing of 400,000 tons of nutrients made from harvest wastes and agro-industrial byproducts.

Good results have also been obtained in the manufacturing of other products such as alcohol gel form as sanitizer to fight COVID-19 and to make medical inputs, and other products.

During the harvest period, the ever more diversified agro-industry generates electricity for the national grid, and so does the Cienfuegos Biorefinery Plant, located some 450 kilometers east of Havana.

Other products made from sugarcane byproducts are sorbitol (to make toothpaste), bagasse, beeswax, (to make wax material used to make the beehive), saccharose, glucose and candies.

The diversification includes producing food supplies in agricultural areas that belong to Azcuba, which runs over 400,000 hectares used to grow, among others, potatoes, vegetables and to produce milk, beef, pork, and goat meat, both for the sector and for the population.

The sugarcane industry, which was the country’s driving force for centuries, is given top priority because of its huge economic and exporting prospects, with great ties to other industries and sectors in the country.

“Cuba faces a highly challenging scenario caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean holds responsibility for as it is expected to be the worst economic recession ever in the history of the world,” FERNÁNDEZ commented.

In this way, Cuba faces a highly challenging scenario caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean holds responsibility for as it is expected to be the worst economic recession ever in the history of the world.

We are more than a travel magazine...
Bolsonaro and COVID-19 Threaten Brazilian Lives

By Osvaldo CARDOSA

BRASILIA.- President Jair Bolsonaro’s selflessness and proven irresistibility continue to determine the pandemic in Brazil, which is likely to become the world epidemic.

In the middle of layoffs and resignations at the Ministry of Health, on May 18 the South American country became the third country in the world with the biggest number of Covid-19 cases, after the United States and Brazil. One day later, the daily death toll passed 1,000 for the first time, with 7,199 recorded deaths.

The international observatory of Johns Hopkins University in the United States noted that with that number, Brazil has joined the unfortunate group led by the United States and Russia.

In tune with the WHO and the IOC, Cuba Visualizes a Post-Pandemic Future

By Yarel CÁNCIO

Although Cuban sports are still on hold due to the coronavirus, the gradual return to normality has to be well planned, and in good time.

Sport events will be held in Cuba. We have to comply with the health recommendations issued by the World Health Organization (WHO), in coordination with the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

According to the Cuban Institute of Sport, “the recommendations deal with those sports that will resume and are strictly for coral Deportes, the dangers and challenges that events will face if held indoors or outdoors, and other issues pertaining to their organization and operation.”

The recommendations are also related to sport demography, especially the age differences among players, and the organization of events, officials and spectators, which represent a multiplicity of factors for the sport’s development.

In case of infection, “the recommendations detail the distance to be maintained among participants, the number of people in the facilities and communication,” the report states.

With the imminent postponement of the WBC, the National Commission could buy some time and find the best candidates for the WBC.

The WHO, an entity that has maintained the presence of the global pandemic throughout the national territory, top Cuban authorities noted that the main leagues in the world had made the official call yet.

The Cooper Union is the main league in the world whose recommendations are followed by all, and currently, the IOC and the WHO are the only bodies that have not yet done so.

This decision has been made, according to experts, because they have not been able to decide on the best dates for the events in the near future.

For now, the decision has been made, the national and international tournaments, all suspended because of the global pandemic, must be postponed to the summer of 2021.

According to the report, the Tokyo 2020 Games are the only event that will be held in 2020, and this is the only way to draw back to normal and recover lost treasures.

Individual and collective success at the national championship is not enough to lift the country’s morale.

However, amid this distressing panorama, fans hope that the alleged postponement of the World Baseball Classic is just a rumor. That news would be the hammer at the second half of the ninth inning, with all the bases loaded.

Call for Elections as Pandemic Intensifies Crisis in Bolivia

By Odalys TROYA

In addition to causing serious health crises in Bolivia, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the political and social panorama, which has been in crisis since the coup d’état on November 10, 2019.

In order to stop the pandemic, on March 21 the transitional government declared a complete quarantine that was later on postponed until May 10; hence, the elections scheduled for May 3 could not be held.

Given that situation, on April 30 the President of the Inter-American Legislative Assembly of Bolivia, Eva Copa, promulgated the Law on the Postponement of the 2020 General Elections, to be held within the coming 90 days, as stipulated.

By Oscar CARDOSA

The Law on the Postponement of the 2020 Elections, to be held within the coming 90 days, as stipulated.

According to predictions by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation of the University of Washington, the virus would attack over 88,000 people in the South American country by August.

Hence, the cases that have not been included on official records due to different administrative reasons would then be added.

Local health authorities agree that those recorded figures had been predicted months ago, right after Bolsonaro called for Brazilians to ignore quarantine, the main measure intended to stop COVID-19 from spreading, taking no notice of scientific recommendations.

While in other countries, presidents adopted drastic measures to contain the virus’s spreading in February and March, the former army captain disregarded the risks and challenged the idea of quarantine.

It is also evident that inequality, a deeply-rooted structural problem in Brazil, makes a large sector of the population even more vulnerable in the context of the pandemic, by preventing that more effective measures such as social distancing are adopted.

Statistics by Data Favela and Locomotive Institutes reveal that at least 15.6 million people live in favelas, which corresponds to the need to have a specific plan for these localities.

Due to the unstoppable increase of deaths and infected cases, the health protocol predicted a pandemic peak in Brazil between June and July.

There is no available information yet to say when the pandemic will peak in the five states most affected by the disease: Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Ceara, Pernambuco and Amazonas,” said Brazil’s Health Surveillance Secretary Wanderley de Oliveira.

However, he noted, “the growth of infected cases shows that the virus behavior changed among the most critical period of the disease is expected for June or July.”
I CHOOSE CUBA to walk

Cuban Program for the treatment of diabetic foot with Heberprot-P®

The Diabetes Mellitus is a non-transmissible chronic disease that has a high incidence in the world population. It can bring about important complications to the person who suffer from it. Among them the diabetic foot ulcer, that is responsible of physical-motor disabilities. This is why an integral and multidisciplinary attention is carried out on these patients, emphasizing in the prevention, control and treatment of the disease.

One of the most important elements of this program is the usage of a revolutionary and unique drug created in Cuba: The Heberprot-P®, prescribed for the therapy of the diabetic foot ulcer (of in-hospital usage) it has become quite a worldwide event for the possibilities it offers to face this suffering. Its application allows to reduce the risks of amputation due to these lesions in the 78% of the cases.

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