

## **Response of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) to the joint questionnaire by Special Procedure mandate holders on Protecting human rights during and after the COVID-19 pandemic**

**19 June 2020**

A broader range of relevant information published by the International Commission of Jurists is available on our website (<https://www.icj.org/human-rights-in-the-time-of-covid-19-front-and-centre/>) which is updated frequently.

Responses in this questionnaire relating to **access to justice** may be relevant for **all participating mandates**. This information may also be relevant for the **Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers**, although we do not understand that mandate to be formally participating in the joint questionnaire.

Responses have also been provided for the separate questions from the following mandates:

- **Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights**
- **Special Rapporteur on the right to food**
- **Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing**
- **Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples**
- **Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity**

## Common questions

### Protection of various groups at risk and indigenous peoples

- What measures have public authorities taken to protect high-risk populations from COVID-19, including: a) health care and social workers, b) older persons, c) other persons with a possibly reduced immune system such as indigenous peoples, or persons living with HIV, d) detained and incarcerated persons, including persons under state custody; e) persons living in care homes, f) children and adults living in institutions, camps, shelters or collective accommodation, g) persons with disabilities, h) homeless persons; i) persons living in informal settlements or overcrowded homes; j) refugees, IDPs and k) migrant workers.

In **Colombia**, the measures to guarantee the rights of detainees and prisoners have been insufficient. In late March, the lack of adequate measures led to multiples riots in different prisons.<sup>1</sup> As a result, 23 people died<sup>2</sup> and one prisoner is missing.<sup>3</sup> After this incident, the national government promulgated a decree to allow the release of detainees and prisoners due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4</sup> However, the decree has not improved overcrowding.<sup>5</sup> As of late May, only 623 people had been released.<sup>6</sup> Similarly, the government has not taken proper measures to curb the spread of the virus inside the prisons. As of mid-June, it has been reported more than 1.288 confirmed cases.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> El Tiempo, [Tras 23 muertes en disturbios, Gobierno decreta emergencia carcelaria](#), 23 March 2020.

<sup>2</sup> El Espectador, [Autoridades confirman 23 muertos tras motín en la cárcel La Modelo](#), 22 March 2020.

<sup>3</sup> El Espectador, [La historia del interno dado por desaparecido tras el motín del 21 de marzo en La Modelo](#), 4 May 2020.

<sup>4</sup> [Decreto 546 del 2020](#).

<sup>5</sup> La Silla Vacía, [El decreto de presos no le hace ni cosquillas al hacinamiento ni al coronavirus](#), 15 April 2020.

<sup>6</sup> Asuntos Legales, [El Inpec emitió 623 excarcelaciones de mujeres y hombres privados de su libertad](#), 20 May 2020.

<sup>7</sup> El Espectador, [COVID-19 en las cárceles: hay 1.288 casos, 134 recuperados y cuatro muertos](#), 11 June 2020.

## Accountability and justice

- Could you provide any account and statistics on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operation of the justice system, including law enforcement, the provision of legal assistance and the operation of courts? Which activities were temporarily suspended?

### General Observations on COVID-19 and Courts

Guidance on the Courts and COVID-19 (7 April 2020). As courts of law around the world are moving rapidly and dramatically to limit and reduce their operations in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICJ has published guidance from a human rights and rule-of-law perspective. <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Universal-ICJ-courts-covid-Advocacy-Analysis-brief-2020-ENG.pdf>

Among the topics addressed in the Guidance are:

- The special role of courts in international human rights law, including in situations of emergency, in relation to the right to fair trial by an independent and impartial court, the right to judicial control of deprivation of liberty, and the right to an effective remedy.
- Public access to and publicity of court proceedings.
- In suspending “non-urgent” cases, ensuring that human rights violations and abuses involving irreparable harm are considered “urgent”, and ensuring proper consideration of gender perspective, and the particular situation of children, older persons, persons with disabilities, persons deprived of liberty, and other particular groups in that regard.
- Situations where substitution of video-conferencing or similar modalities of hearings, in place of physical presence, is and is not permissible, and necessary human rights considerations when video-conferencing is used.
- Dealing with consequences of mass postponements of hearings.
- The need to take the fundamental role of the judiciary for human rights and the rule of law into account in relation to relevant risk assessments.

In **Colombia**, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection declared a health emergency and ordered several preventive measures; the emergency has been extended until August 30.<sup>8</sup> On March 17<sup>th</sup>, the Colombian President declared a state of economic, social and ecological emergency under article 215 of the Constitution;<sup>9</sup> and on May 6, a new state of emergency was declared for 30 days.<sup>10</sup>

Under the state of emergency, the government adopted several measures using exceptional powers; many of the law-decrees promulgated within this emergency have been reviewed by the Constitutional Court (others are under current judicial review),<sup>11</sup> and others decrees are under review of the Conseil d'Etat (Consejo de Estado) and Administrative Tribunals. Also, the government adopted measures with ordinary powers, some of them restricting rights, such as the compulsory preventive isolation.<sup>12</sup>

During the last three months, the Colombian judiciary adopted specific measures to protect the health of judges, courts' personnel and persons appearing before the courts. The Judicial Council postponed proceedings, allowed remote work, and established the providing of access to justice to protect fundamental rights (tutela and habeas corpus mechanisms by internet), and some services in criminal matters (e.g. hearings where the person was deprived of liberty).<sup>13</sup> The

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<sup>8</sup> See Resolución 385 de 2020. Available here:

<https://www.minsalud.gov.co/sites/rid/Lists/BibliotecaDigital/RIDE/DE/DIJ/resolucion-385-de-2020.pdf>. Also, see: <https://id.presidencia.gov.co/Paginas/prensa/2020/Presidente-Duque-ampliacion-Aislamiento-Preventivo-Obligatorio-31-mayo-extension-Emergencia-Sanitaria-31-de-agosto-200519.aspx>

<sup>9</sup> See Decreto 417 de 2020. Available here:

[https://coronaviruscolombia.gov.co/Covid19/docs/decretos/presidencia/51\\_Presidencia\\_Decreto\\_417.pdf](https://coronaviruscolombia.gov.co/Covid19/docs/decretos/presidencia/51_Presidencia_Decreto_417.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> See Decreto 637 de 2020. Available here

<https://dapre.presidencia.gov.co/normativa/normativa/DECRETO%20637%20DEL%20%20DE%20MAYO%20DE%202020.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> See, the Constitutional Court press releases regarding their decisions here:

<https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/noticia.php?La-declaratoria-de-estado-de-emergencia-en-Colombia-est%C3%A1-ajustada-a-la-Constituci%C3%B3n-8904>;  
<https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/contenido.php>

<sup>12</sup> About the compulsory preventive isolation, see:

<https://coronaviruscolombia.gov.co/Covid19/acciones/acciones-de-aislamiento-preventivo.html>

<sup>13</sup> See: Consejo Superior de la Judicatura: i) Acuerdo PCSJA20-11517. Available here:

[http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp\\_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11517.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11517.pdf); ii) Circular PCSJC20-6. Available here:

<https://www.ramajudicial.gov.co/documents/10228/3385454/Circular+CSDJ+medidas+Covid19.pdf/55ad63a4-fde5-4e35-afb5-6bc992d98886>; iii) Acuerdo PCSJA20-11518. Available here:

[http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp\\_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11518.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11518.pdf); iv) Acuerdo PCSJA20-11519. Available here:

[http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp\\_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11519.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11519.pdf); v) Acuerdo PCSJA20-11521. Available here:

[http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp\\_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11521.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11521.pdf); vi) Acuerdo PCSJA20-11526. Available here:

Council reviewed these measures during this period and expanded the matters in which the judiciary was to provide access to justice (e.g some administrative, civil, family and labour matters). Also, the Constitutional Court<sup>14</sup> and the Special Jurisdiction for Peace<sup>15</sup> defined their measures.

In early June, the Judicial Council divulgated a plan to “normalize” the justice service after the 1st of July.<sup>16</sup> Specific measures that will be in place after this date are to: i) continue to work remotely unless the services must be provided in-person; ii) maintain a maximum of 20% of the personnel in each court; iii) establish shifts for the personnel going to courts and for customer services; iv) provide biosecurity safeguards; and, v) prefer the use of virtual mechanisms, among others.

There are, at least, four main concerns that arose during this time. First, there has been a reduced spectrum of access to justice that especially affects persons under vulnerable conditions. Second, as there is a digital gap<sup>17</sup> in the country, the preference for virtual mechanisms also increases inequity in access to justice. Third, there is a need to secure that due process guarantees are in place in hearings held by videoconferences and that videoconference hearings are only held for those cases where the physical presence of the person is not essential to the fairness of the proceeding, prevention of ill-treatment of persons deprived of liberty, or on other human rights grounds. Fourth, there has been a lack of comprehensive and specific information about the functioning of the judiciary in all jurisdictions within the country, especially information that is clear and accessible to all people.

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[http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp\\_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11526.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11526.pdf); vii) Acuerdo PCSJA20-11532.

[http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=~ /App\\_Data/Upload/PCSJA20-11532.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=~ /App_Data/Upload/PCSJA20-11532.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> See: Corte Constitucional: <https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/noticia.php?Por-urgencia-de-adoptar-decisiones-para-la-protecci%C3%B3n-de-derechos-fundamentales,-la-Corte-Constitucional-levantar%C3%A1-t%C3%A9rminos-judiciales-suspendidos-8889>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6QXVQr86H0&feature=youtu.be>

<sup>15</sup> See: Jurisdicción Especial para la Paz: i) Acuerdo AOG No. 008 de 2020. Available here: <https://www.jep.gov.co/organosgobierno/Acuerdo%20AOG%20No%20008%20de%202020.pdf>; ii) Acuerdo AOG No. 009 de 2020. Available here: <https://www.jep.gov.co/organosgobierno/Acuerdo%20AOG%20No%20009%20de%202020.pdf>; iii) Acuerdo AOG No. 014 de 2020. Available here: <https://www.jep.gov.co/organosgobierno/Acuerdo%20AOG%20No%20014%20de%202020.pdf>; iv) Circular 022 de 2020. Available here: <https://www.jep.gov.co/coronavirus/Circular%20022.pdf>; v) Circular 026 de 2020. Available here: <https://www.jep.gov.co/coronavirus/Circular%20026.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> See Consejo Superior de la Judicatura, Acuerdo PCSJA20-11567. Available here: [http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp\\_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11567.pdf](http://actosadministrativos.ramajudicial.gov.co/GetFile.ashx?url=%7E%2FApp_Data%2FUpload%2FPCSJA20-11567.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> See data regarding the use of technology, especially internet, in Colombia here: [https://www.dane.gov.co/files/investigaciones/boletines/tic/bol\\_tic\\_hogares\\_departamental\\_2018.pdf](https://www.dane.gov.co/files/investigaciones/boletines/tic/bol_tic_hogares_departamental_2018.pdf)

**See also:**

ICJ briefing paper on the impact of anti-COVID-19 pandemic measures on access to justice in **CIS countries** (12 June 2020), outlining measures affecting the court system and access to justice which have been introduced in response to COVID-19 in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CIS-Justice-and-coronavirus-Advocacy-Analysis-brief-ENG-2020.pdf>

Rights of judicial proceedings' participants must be protected in **Tunisia** following COVID-19 lockdown (8 June 2020). <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Tunisia-judicial-proceedings-pandemic-Advocacy-briefing-paper-2020-ENG.pdf>

- What has been the impact of this situation on women's access to justice? Are courts open and providing protection and decisions in cases of domestic violence, and are protection orders accessible?

See COVID-19: ICJ calls on **African States** to protect women from escalating sexual and gender based violence (June 17, 2020). While reports suggest a decrease in crime during lockdown due to restricted movement, violence against women, including gender-based violence (GBV), continues unabated, and has likely worsened throughout Africa, replicating global trends in this regard.

<https://www.icj.org/covid-19-icj-calls-on-african-states-to-protect-women-from-escalating-sexual-and-gender-based-violence/>

## Questions by the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights

1. ... Do the economic recovery plans adopted include measures towards making progress towards establishment or strengthening of a national social protection floor?

The ILO indicates that 89.7% of countries have adopted some social protection measures in response to COVID-19,<sup>18</sup> of which 28.8% were in the form of a “special allowance/grant”.<sup>19</sup> Many such measures do not comply with the requirements of the right to social security.<sup>20</sup>

**South Africa** has not established a social protection floor despite the urging of the UN Committee on ESCR in its concluding observations to South Africa.<sup>21</sup> No grant is available for persons between 18-59 years old falling outside of the protection of existing schemes such as for older persons, persons with disabilities and children.<sup>22</sup> A new COVID-19 social grant of R350 (\$18.44 USD) per month for unemployed not benefitting from other social grants has been implemented. This is less than a third of the R1227 (\$64.65) that government itself estimates individuals require to be lifted out of poverty.<sup>23</sup> A broad based civil society coalition has called for an increase in this amount and implementation of a basic income grant consistently with CESCR’s recommendations.<sup>24</sup>

In addition, asylum seekers and special permit holders are explicitly excluded from accessing this grant in violation of their domestic and international human rights.<sup>25</sup> As Human Rights Watch has noted the provision of this assistance is crucial to ensuring non-citizens in South Africa can have access to adequate food.<sup>26</sup> The Scalabrini Centre successfully approached the

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<sup>18</sup> ILO, “Social Protection Responses to COVID-19 Crisis Around the World”: <https://www.social-protection.org/gimi/ShowWiki.action?id=3417>.

<sup>19</sup> Id. ILO “Social Protection Spotlight” (May 2020): [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_protect/---soc\\_sec/documents/publication/wcms\\_744612.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---soc_sec/documents/publication/wcms_744612.pdf).

<sup>20</sup> D Sivaprakasam & D Kurolova “The Right to Social Security: Navigating the Narrow Passage Between Virus Suppression and Economy Resuscitation” (12 May 2020): <https://opiniojuris.org/2020/05/12/the-right-to-social-security-navigating-the-narrow-passage-between-virus-suppression-and-economy-resuscitation/>.

<sup>21</sup> Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Concluding Observations on South Africa, UN Doc. [https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=E/C.12/ZAF/CO/1&Lang=En](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=E/C.12/ZAF/CO/1&Lang=En) (29 November 2018), para 48(d).

<sup>22</sup> Id, para 48(c).

<sup>23</sup> “Statement by President Cyril Ramaphosa on further economic and social measures in response to the COVID-19 epidemic” (21 April 2020): <http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/press-statements/president-outline-expanded-covid-19-economic-and-social-relief>.

<sup>24</sup> “Coalition Statement: Guaranteed Income Security For All” (11 June 2020): <https://c19peoplescoalition.org.za/coalition-statement-guaranteed-income-security-for-all/>.

<sup>25</sup> “Social grants - Coronavirus COVID-19”: <https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/socialgrants>; GNR 517 (9 May 2020): [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/202005/43300rg11107gon517.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202005/43300rg11107gon517.pdf).

<sup>26</sup> “South Africa: End Bias in Covid-19 Food Aid” (20 May 2020) <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/05/20/south-africa-end-bias-covid-19-food-aid>

High Court to have the discriminatory regulation upon which this exclusion is based declared as unlawful and in violation of the rights to social assistance, equality and dignity.<sup>27</sup>

In **Thailand** the government announced an increase in unemployment benefits in both amount and duration which could benefit 13.3 million formal workers if they are made redundant.<sup>28</sup> The Social Security Fund has been criticized for being too slow to pay to make payments.<sup>29</sup> Some relief measures have also been provided informal workers.<sup>30</sup> However, as UNAIDS has reported, most citizen and non-citizen sex workers, whose livelihoods have been significantly compromised during COVID-19 “are not eligible for the social protection measures” or for protection provided to informal workers.<sup>31</sup> A rapid response survey indicated that as many as three quarters of sex workers surveyed “could not make enough money to cover daily expenses and 66% could no longer cover the cost of housing”.<sup>32</sup>

In **India**,<sup>33</sup> the government has introduced various relief packages.<sup>34</sup> It has provided direct cash transfers to women in poor households, construction workers, widows, elderly, people living with disabilities and farmers.<sup>35</sup> The scheme is inadequate because it is likely less than half of what is required to combat effects of COVID-19.<sup>36</sup> The cash transfers for women of Rs. 500 per

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<sup>27</sup> “Victory In Covid-19 Social Relief Grant Court Case” (19 June 2020):

<https://scalabrini.org.za/news/victory-in-covid19-social-relief-grant-court-case/>.

<sup>28</sup>ILO “Social Protection Spotlight” (May 2020): [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_protect/---soc\\_sec/documents/publication/wcms\\_744612.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---soc_sec/documents/publication/wcms_744612.pdf), p 9.

<sup>29</sup>“Social Security Fund assures its stability” (4 May 2020):

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1912500/social-security-fund-assures-its-stability>

<sup>30</sup>International Monetary Fund “Thailand”: <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#T>.

<sup>31</sup> “Supporting sex workers during the COVID-19 pandemic in Thailand” (7 May 2020):

[https://www.unaids.org/en/20200507\\_Thai\\_sex\\_workers](https://www.unaids.org/en/20200507_Thai_sex_workers).

<sup>32</sup> “Thai Community Organization Steps In” (1 June 2020):

[https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/june/20200601\\_thailand](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/june/20200601_thailand).

<sup>33</sup> For more information see: International Commission of Jurists “India on the Brink of Hunger Crisis during COVID-19 Pandemic” (27 April 2020): <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/India-Right-to-Food-COVID19-Briefing-Paper-2020-ENG.pdf>.

<sup>34</sup> “Finance Minister announces Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus, Ministry of Finance” (26 March 2020): <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1608345>; “Finance Minister announces short term and long-term measures for supporting the poor, including migrants, farmers, tiny businesses and street vendors” (14 May 2020): <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1623862>.

<sup>35</sup> “Finance Minister announces Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus, Ministry of Finance” (26 March 2020): <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1608345>.

<sup>36</sup> “Concerned citizens’ response to the COVID 19 relief package announced by the finance minister” (27 March 2020): <https://caravanmagazine.in/noticeboard/citizens-response-to-covid-relief-package-nirmala-sitharaman>; Y Aiyar, “Cash Transfers: There is a way out” (25 May 2020):

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/columns/cash-transfers-there-is-a-way-out/story-CnxM5WobJL3vEbuikx34Ij.html>.

month (6.56 USD) for three months are inadequate<sup>37</sup> in amount and coverage (e.g. “more than half of poor women” are excluded).<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Id.

<sup>38</sup> R Pande et al, “A Majority of India’s Poor Women May Miss COVID-19 PMJDY Cash Transfers” (17 April 2020): <https://egc.yale.edu/sites/default/files/COVID%20Brief.pdf>.

## Questions by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food

1. To what extent, and how, were international and domestic food supply chains disrupted during the pandemic? What were the measures taken by national, federal, provincial or local governments? Did authorities close particular local markets or impose export restrictions on certain goods? What was the reasoning for the actions taken by the respective authorities?

In **India**,<sup>39</sup> the government issued several circulars identifying food as an essential good and allowing transport of agriculture and food supply.<sup>40</sup> Shops trading in food and groceries, including ration shops under the public distribution system, were allowed to remain open. Nevertheless, significant bottlenecks have been experienced in the transportation of food which has led to disruptions in the domestic food supply chain.<sup>41</sup> This has contributed to a proliferation of hunger and starvation despite the fact that in 2020, the Government held three times the buffer stock of food than it required.<sup>42</sup> One source records 167 deaths as a result of “starvation and financial distress”.<sup>43</sup>

Structural flaws preventing access to food for people living in poverty, including lack of ration cards and lack of inter-state portability of ration cards, persist.<sup>44</sup> This is a particular problem given the large number of internal migrant workers that have needed to move between states as a result of COVID-19. Government has introduced a scheme for the portability of ration cards by March 2021.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> For more information see: ICJ “India on the Brink of Hunger Crisis during COVID-19 Pandemic” (27 April 2020): <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/India-Right-to-Food-COVID19-Briefing-Paper-2020-ENG.pdf>.

<sup>40</sup> Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) (25 March, 2020): [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHA%20order%20with%20addendum%20to%20Guidelines%20Dated%2024.3.2020\\_0.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHA%20order%20with%20addendum%20to%20Guidelines%20Dated%2024.3.2020_0.pdf); Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) (27 March, 2020): [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/PR\\_SecondAddendum\\_27032020\\_0.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/PR_SecondAddendum_27032020_0.pdf).

<sup>41</sup> T Reardon et al, “COVID-19’s Disruption of India’s Transformed Food Supply Chains” (2 May 2020): <https://www.epw.in/journal/2020/18/commentary/covid-19s-disruption-indias-transformed-food.html>.

<sup>42</sup> S Hussain, “COVID-19 Lockdown: How India Can Provide Food Grains to Stranded Migrant Labourers (18 April 2020): <https://thewire.in/rights/covid-19-lockdown-india-food-grains-stranded-migrants>.

<sup>43</sup> “Non Virus Deaths” (11 June 2020): <https://thejeshgn.com/projects/covid19-india/non-virus-deaths/>.

<sup>44</sup> ICJ “India on the Brink of Hunger Crisis during COVID-19 Pandemic” (27 April 2020): <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/India-Right-to-Food-COVID19-Briefing-Paper-2020-ENG.pdf>.

<sup>45</sup> Id.

2. What measures did national, federal, provincial or local governments put in place to ensure access to food for the individuals in vulnerable situations such as older persons, children, women, rural communities, LGBT persons, national or ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic minorities, and indigenous peoples?

Nepalese migrant workers were stranded at the India-Nepal border for up to two months and faced various issues including lack of proper food, water and housing.<sup>46</sup> Some entering **Nepal** were “stuck on buses without any provisions of food, water, toilets, or beddings” before being taken to quarantine facilities.<sup>47</sup> Nepal requires migrant workers entering on the India-Nepal border to be quarantined.<sup>48</sup> At the time of writing 116,215 people have been placed in quarantine facilities run throughout the country.<sup>49</sup> These facilities are overcrowded, congested, unhygienic and unsafe.<sup>50</sup> Although, government has set standards for such facilities,<sup>51</sup> many people in the quarantine do not receive adequate food,<sup>52</sup> and as a result their family members risk increasing COVID-19 transmission by bringing food to them.<sup>53</sup>

In **Pakistan** despite some legal protection and public support from some leaders, all LGBTQ persons have experienced significant vulnerability during lockdown periods.<sup>54</sup> Transgender persons struggled to access food aid which was made dependent on verification based on the national identification card, which they do not have.<sup>55</sup> This problem was compounded by the

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<sup>46</sup> P Manandhar, “COVID-19 And Nepalese Migrant Workers at Nepal-India Border” (13 April 2020): <https://www.spotlightnepal.com/2020/04/13/covid-19-and-nepalese-migrant-workers-nepal-india-border/>.

<sup>47</sup> A Aryal “Thousands of Nepalis without food or shelter await entrance at the Karnali border”(26 May 2020) <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2020/05/26/thousands-of-nepalis-without-food-or-shelter-await-entrance-at-the-karnali-border>.

<sup>48</sup> “Notice for Nepali in India” (3 June 2020): <https://in.nepalembassy.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Notice-for-Nepali-Nationals.pdf>.

<sup>49</sup>Ministry of Health and Population “COVID-19 Related Materials”: <https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/>.

<sup>50</sup> A Poudel, “Poor quarantine facilities could themselves become outbreak hotspots, doctors warn” (6 April 2020): <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2020/04/06/poor-quarantine-facilities-could-themselves-become-outbreak-hotspots-doctors-warn>.

<sup>51</sup> Nepal Government - “Standards for establishment and management of quarantine facility related to COVID-19, 2020”

<sup>52</sup> K Sejuwal & A Tiwari “Thousands of returnees from India run out of food and water” (28 May 2020): <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2020/05/28/thousands-of-returnees-from-india-run-out-of-food-and-water>.

<sup>53</sup> M Paudel, “Quarantine facilities in Province 5 crowded and mismanaged” (19 May 2020 ) <https://kathmandupost.com/province-no-5/2020/05/19/quarantine-facilities-in-province-5-crowded-and-mismanaged>.

<sup>54</sup> Transgender community fears complete lockdown will add more miseries to life (22 March 2020) <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2181779/1-transgender-community-fears-complete-lockdown-will-add-miseries-life/>

<sup>55</sup> Keeping HIV treatment available in Pakistan during COVID-19 (15 April 2020): [https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/april/20200415\\_pakistan](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/april/20200415_pakistan)

closing of shrines during lockdown – sometimes a key source of food for transgender persons.<sup>56</sup> Moreover, transgender persons, many of whom work as informal workers, have faced a severe loss of livelihood as lockdown measures have prevented many informal workers from earning a living.<sup>57</sup>

In **Malaysia** NGOs were initially prohibited from providing food aid, resulting in the closure of soup kitchens across the country, although this decision has since been reversed.<sup>58</sup> Despite government-provided food assistance,<sup>59</sup> LGBTQ people were sometimes denied access to such food.<sup>60</sup> Food aid provided by the government to indigenous people has also been inadequate, requiring significant intervention by NGOs to ensure that households receive adequate food.<sup>61</sup> Some indigenous people have decided to “flee into forests” both to evade COVID-19 transmission and in search of food in the absence of sufficient income or support.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>56</sup> Transgender community fears complete lockdown will add more miseries to life (22 March 2020): <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2181779/1-transgender-community-fears-complete-lockdown-will-add-miseries-life/>.

<sup>57</sup> “Women and girls must be at the center of Pakistan’s COVID-19 recovery” (9 June 2020): <https://blogs.worldbank.org/endpovertyinsouthasia/women-and-girls-must-be-center-pakistans-covid-19-recovery>.

<sup>58</sup> “NGOs get green light to distribute food to homeless” (1 April 2020): <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2020/04/01/ngos-get-green-light-to-distribute-food-to-homeless/>.

<sup>59</sup> MOH advises food aid to be sent to designated collection centres (29 March 2020) <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/579295/moh-advises-food-aid-be-sent-designated-collection-centres>

<sup>60</sup> V Pillai “The Trans Women at the Frontline”: <https://www.queerlapis.com/the-trans-women-at-the-frontline/>.

<sup>61</sup> “Isolated and short of supplies, Malaysia’s indigenous groups depend on aid to ride out movement control order” (12 April 2020): <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/covid19-malaysia-orang-asli-food-shortage-ngos-12647956>.

<sup>62</sup> “Malaysia’s indigenous people flee into forests to escape coronavirus” (3 April 2020): <https://www.thejakartapost.com/seasia/2020/04/03/malaysias-indigenous-people-flee-into-forests-to-escape-coronavirus.html>.

## Questions by the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing

1. ... (a) Has your country declared a prohibition on evictions? If a prohibition was declared, indicate its legal basis and how long it will last. Please specify if it is a general prohibition and if it also applies to persons living in informality or in informal settlements. Is the prohibition of evictions restricted to tenants or mortgage payers who have been able to pay their rent or serve their mortgages, or broader?

In **India**,<sup>63</sup> the Ministry of Home Affairs issued an order banning forced evictions of “labourers and students”.<sup>64</sup> The application of this order has been extended repeatedly and the prohibition currently persists until 30 June 2020.<sup>65</sup> It has been difficult to enforce the order because an estimated 90% of rent agreements are without a written contract<sup>66</sup> even though many state laws require rental agreements to be in writing.<sup>67</sup> The ban excludes protection for many who have been subject to evictions including large numbers of people from the North East of India, who are living in other parts of India<sup>68</sup> and healthcare workers.<sup>69</sup>

Central Government has condemned forced eviction of healthcare workers who are evicted because they are perceived to be a risk for COVID-19 transmission.<sup>70</sup> Such evictions and threats thereof have been reported throughout the country. The order prohibiting evictions has not

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<sup>63</sup> For more information see: International Commission of Jurists “COVID-19 Pandemic Exposes India’s Housing Crisis” (7 May 2020): <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/India-Right-to-Housing-COVID19-Briefing-Paper-2020-ENG.pdf>.

<sup>64</sup> Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) (29 March 2020): [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/PR\\_MHAOrderrestrictingmovement\\_29032020.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/PR_MHAOrderrestrictingmovement_29032020.pdf)

<sup>65</sup> Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) (1 June 2020): <http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/MHA%20Order%20Dt.%2030.5.2020%20with%20guidelines%20on%20extension%20of%20LD%20in%20Containment%20Zones%20and%20phased%20reopening.pdf>.

<sup>66</sup> G Bhan, “View: Why the issue of migrant security should be a top priority in India’s covid response” (8 April 2020): [https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/view-why-the-issue-of-migrant-security-should-be-a-top-priority-in-indias-covid-response/articleshow/75054748.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/view-why-the-issue-of-migrant-security-should-be-a-top-priority-in-indias-covid-response/articleshow/75054748.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

<sup>67</sup> Delhi Rent Act, Section 4(1); The Punjab Rent Act, Section 4(1); The Karnataka Rent Act, Section 4(1).

<sup>68</sup> C Kulkarni “COVID-19: Ten from Northeast evicted from homes” (30 March 2020): <https://www.deccanherald.com/city/top-bengaluru-stories/covid-19-ten-from-northeast-evicted-from-homes-819046.html>.

<sup>69</sup> H Petersen & S Rahman, “Indian doctors being evicted from homes over coronavirus fears” (30 March 2020): <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/30/indian-doctors-being-evicted-from-homes-over-coronavirus-fears>.

<sup>70</sup> “‘Gods in white coats’: PM Modi warns against harassment of doctors treating COVID-19 patients” (25 March 2020): <https://www.thestatesman.com/india/pm-modi-warns-harassment-doctors-treating-covid-19-patients-1502870011.html>.

been extended to include health care workers.<sup>71</sup> State governments too have not uniformly acted to protect people from forced evictions, with exceptions including Karnataka and Delhi who have criminalized evictions of healthcare workers.<sup>72</sup>

In **South Africa** a moratorium on “all eviction and execution of attachment orders” was declared on 26 March.<sup>73</sup> Later amendments to Lockdown Regulations made it a criminal offence for any person to evict any other person.<sup>74</sup> With the relaxing of lockdown restrictions, however, from 1 May this prohibition was regrettably relaxed to allow courts to order evictions “provided that any order of eviction shall be stayed and suspended” until the end of the lockdown period and “unless a court decides that it is not just and equitable to stay and suspend the order”.<sup>75</sup> The current regulations for lockdown, which apply to date, retain provision of the same effect.<sup>76</sup>

Despite the moratorium, forced and violent evictions without court orders and contrary to international and domestic law have continued during lockdown periods.<sup>77</sup> Some landlords who have been unable to evict tenants during lockdown have resorted to tactics including “cutting electricity to throwing dirty water on people’s floors” in attempts to make continued accommodation unbearable.<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> For more information see: International Commission of Jurists “COVID-19 Pandemic Exposes India’s Housing Crisis” (7 May 2020): <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/India-Right-to-Housing-COVID19-Briefing-Paper-2020-ENG.pdf>

<sup>72</sup> Order No. HFW 54 CGM 2020 (26 March 2020): <https://www.barandbench.com/news/eviction-of-doctors-paramedics-over-covid-19-scare-karnataka-orders-strict-penal-action-against-errant-landlords-read-order>; Order No.F.51/DGHS/PH-IV/COVID-19/2020/prsecyhw/33/6-30 (24 March 2020): [https://images.assettype.com/barandbench/2020-03/649eebb8-2b1f-4b93-9ac0-981d6c407ef4/order\\_Land\\_lords\\_house\\_owners\\_24\\_03\\_2020\\_pdf.pdf](https://images.assettype.com/barandbench/2020-03/649eebb8-2b1f-4b93-9ac0-981d6c407ef4/order_Land_lords_house_owners_24_03_2020_pdf.pdf).

<sup>73</sup> GNR 418 (26 March 2020): [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/202003/43167reg11066418.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202003/43167reg11066418.pdf), s 5(f).

<sup>74</sup> GNR 446 (2 April 2020): [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/202004/43199rg11078-gon446.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202004/43199rg11078-gon446.pdf).

<sup>75</sup> GNR 480 (29 April 2020): [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/202004/43258rg11098gon480s.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202004/43258rg11098gon480s.pdf), s 19.

<sup>76</sup> GNR 608 (28 May 2020): [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/202005/43364gon608-translations.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202005/43364gon608-translations.pdf), s 36.

<sup>77</sup> “ICJ calls on authorities to immediately ensure the end of all evictions and protect the livelihoods of all” (28 April 2020): <https://www.icj.org/south-africa-icj-calls-on-authorities-immediately-ensure-the-end-of-all-evictions-and-protect-the-livelihoods-of-all/>; “Interim Interdict Granted by WC Court to Stop Evictions in Observatory” (21 May 2020): <https://ewn.co.za/2020/05/21/interim-interdict-granted-by-wc-court-to-stop-evictions-in-observatory>.

<sup>78</sup> L Kiewit “Online campaign advocates for tenants’ rights during the lockdown” (13 May 2020): <https://mg.co.za/news/2020-05-13-online-campaign-advocates-for-tenants-rights-during-the-lockdown/>.

In **Uzbekistan**, while demolition of property can only be done upon a resolution of the Prime Minister,<sup>79</sup> no moratorium was placed on evictions which continued to take place during the COVID-19 pandemic. In April, 47 homeowners were threatened with eviction from their homes.<sup>80</sup> In May, a woman's house was forcibly demolished in the presence of the authorities,<sup>81</sup> in compliance with a court order.<sup>82</sup> Later, the woman threatened to set herself on fire.<sup>83</sup> This follows on an incident in January in which a man set himself on fire when officials arrived to evict him from his home.<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>79</sup> Ministry of Justice official Telegram Channel, <https://t.me/pravoinf/846>.

<sup>80</sup> "Evictions during Quarantine. Why 47 homes are under eviction in Yangiyol?" (29 April 2020): <https://kun.uz/news/2020/04/29/karantindagi-snoslar-yangiyolda-47ta-uy-nega-buzilishga-tushdi>.

<sup>81</sup> "Official Telegram channel of the Bureau of Execution of Court orders": <https://telegra.ph/RASMIJ-MUNOSABAT-05-28-2>.

<sup>82</sup> Id.

<sup>83</sup> "In the Navoi Region, a woman tried to set herself on fire in front of the hokimiyat building after the demolition of her house" (28 May 2020): <https://repost.uz/jenshina-ogon>.

<sup>84</sup> "An Andijzn resident set himself on fire in protest against eviction" (24 Jan 2020): <https://repost.uz/in-andijan>.

- 3) What measures have been taken to protect persons living in informal settlements, refugee or IDP camps, or in situation of overcrowding from COVID-19?

In **Malaysia**, ongoing crackdowns on undocumented migrants have left migrant workers vulnerable and struggling to make a living. “Raids” undertaken in May, which were condemned by the Malaysian Human Rights Commission,<sup>85</sup> have resulted in increased detention of such migrants in detention centres which have notoriously “inhumane” conditions and are the sites of human rights abuses.<sup>86</sup> Stuck between the risk of detention and losses of income, six Myanmar nationals in Malaysia have committed suicide in May and June alone.<sup>87</sup> In addition to this, undocumented migrant workers continue to be deported and/or risk of contracting COVID-19 while awaiting deportation in detention centers.<sup>88</sup> Fear of deportation and poor conditions at detention centers discourages undocumented migrants from seeking COVID-19 treatment thus further increasing their vulnerability to COVID-19.<sup>89</sup>

In **Uganda**, a shelter for homeless LGBT persons in in Kyengera was raided,<sup>90</sup> and the 19 people arrested and detained were only released in terms of a court order after almost 50 days in detention.<sup>91</sup> This amounts to targeted attack on homeless queer people and an abuse of COVID-19 emergency measures.<sup>92</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> “Press Statement No. 15 of 2020 “Suhakam Urges Authorities to Cease Arrest of Undocumented Migrants during Covid-19 Crisis” (3 May 2020): <https://www.suhakam.org.my/press-statement-no-15-of-2020-suhakam-urges-authorities-to-cess-arrest-of-undocumented-migrants-during-covid-19-crisis/>

<sup>86</sup> “COVID-19 is not an excuse to crackdown on undocumented migrants” (30 April 2020): <https://www.amnesty.my/2020/04/30/covid-19-is-not-an-excuse-to-crackdown-on-undocumented-migrants/>.

<sup>87</sup> Without work and fearing arrest, undocumented Myanmar Migrants in Malaysia take their own lives (17 June 2020) <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/without-work-fearing-arrest-undocumented-myanmar-migrants-malaysia-take-lives.html>

<sup>88</sup> Malaysia deports nearly 400 undocumented Myanmar workers: (12 May 2020) <https://irrawaddy.com/specials/myanmar-covid-19/malaysia-deports-nearly-400-undocumented-myanmar-workers.html>

<sup>89</sup> “Malaysia: Migrants, Stateless at Extra Risk from Virus” (24 March 2020): <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/03/24/malaysia-migrants-stateless-extra-risk-virus>

<sup>90</sup> “UN rights experts fear Uganda is using COVID-19 emergency powers to target LGBT people” (27 April 2020): <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25832&LangID=E>.

<sup>91</sup> “Court orders release of jailed LGBT+ Ugandans after coronavirus charges dropped” (18 May 2020): <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-uganda-lgbt/court-orders-release-of-jailed-lgbt-ugandans-after-coronavirus-charges-dropped-idUSKBN22U2D0>.

<sup>92</sup> “UN rights experts fear Uganda is using COVID-19 emergency powers to target LGBT people” (27 April 2020): <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25832&LangID=E>; and S Suhail & M Yesudas “Pride 2020: a time for vigilance, collective action and digital spaces in the COVID-19 pandemic” (10 June 2020): <http://opiniojuris.org/2020/06/10/pride-2020-a-time-for-vigilance-collective-action-and-digital-spaces-in-the-covid-19-pandemic/>.

## Questions by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples

In **Malaysia** food aid provided by the government to indigenous people has also been inadequate, requiring significant intervention by NGOs to ensure that households receive adequate food.<sup>93</sup> Some indigenous people have decided to “flee into forests” both to evade COVID-19 transmission and in search of food in the absence of sufficient income or support.<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>93</sup> “Isolated and short of supplies, Malaysia’s indigenous groups depend on aid to ride out movement control order” (12 April 2020): <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/covid19-malaysia-orang-asli-food-shortage-ngos-12647956>.

<sup>94</sup> “Malaysia’s indigenous people flee into forests to escape coronavirus” (3 April 2020): <https://www.thejakartapost.com/seasia/2020/04/03/malaysias-indigenous-people-flee-into-forests-to-escape-coronavirus.html>.

## Questions by the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

In **Colombia**<sup>95</sup> and **Peru**<sup>96</sup> rules established that women and men could only be in public places or outdoors on different days. Although Colombian<sup>97</sup> and Peruvian<sup>98</sup> authorities assured that they would respect people's gender identity, the implementation of these measures led to police abuse against transwomen.<sup>99</sup> Additionally, transgender people faced harassment and discrimination in supermarkets, banks, and other public places. Among other things, there were cases where transwomen were requested to produce an identification document to prove their sex and would be prevented from accessing a service if they did not do so.<sup>100</sup>

In **Pakistan** despite some legal protection and public support from some leaders, all LGBTQ persons have experienced significant vulnerability during lockdown periods.<sup>101</sup> Transgender persons struggled to access food aid which was made dependent on verification based on the national identification card, which they do not have.<sup>102</sup> This problem was compounded by the closing of shrines during lockdown – sometimes a key source of food for transgender persons.<sup>103</sup> Moreover, transgender persons, many of whom work as informal workers, have faced a severe

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<sup>95</sup> In Colombia, the [measure](#), called “pico y género”, was established only in Bogota (see: [Decreto 106 de 2020](#), artículo 2, parágrafo 5). The measure was in force from 13 April to 10 May 2020.

<sup>96</sup> In Peru, it was a national measure (See: [Decreto Supremo 057-2020-PCM](#)). The measure was in force from 3 April to 10 April 2020.

<sup>97</sup> In the case of Bogota, the respect of gender identity was set out in the Decree that created the measure (see: [Decreto 106 de 2020](#), artículo 2, parágrafo 5). Additionally, local authorities [said](#) that the implementation of the measure was a success and that they conducted activities to create awareness about the importance of respecting gender identity.

<sup>98</sup> In Peru, the Decree that created the measure established that it was forbidden all form of discrimination (See: [Decreto Supremo 057-2020-PCM](#)). In the same vein, the Peruvian president [said](#) that in the implementation of the measure would consider gender identity to avoid homophobic actions.

<sup>99</sup> In the case of Peru, see: RT, [Maltrato policial y humillaciones a la comunidad trans de Perú y Panamá durante la polémica cuarentena por sexo biológico](#), 10 April 2020.

In the case of Colombia, see: RCN Radio, [Investigan presuntas vulneraciones a transexuales en Bogotá durante 'pico y género'](#), 16 April 2020; Caracol TV, [La dura realidad de las trabajadoras sexuales que se quedaron sin trabajo por la cuarentena](#), 26 April 2020.

<sup>100</sup> El Tiempo, [Mujer trans denuncia discriminación por su identidad de género](#), 29 April 2020; Washington Blade, [¡Los derechos trans no están en cuarentena!](#), 24 April 2020.

<sup>101</sup> Transgender community fears complete lockdown will add more miseries to life (22 March 2020) <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2181779/1-transgender-community-fears-complete-lockdown-will-add-miseries-life/>

<sup>102</sup> Keeping HIV treatment available in Pakistan during COVID-19 (15 April 2020): [https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/april/20200415\\_pakistan](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/april/20200415_pakistan)

<sup>103</sup> Transgender community fears complete lockdown will add more miseries to life (22 March 2020): <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2181779/1-transgender-community-fears-complete-lockdown-will-add-miseries-life/>.

loss of livelihood as lockdown measures have prevented many informal workers from earning a living.<sup>104</sup>

In **Malaysia** NGOs were initially prohibited from providing food aid, resulting in the closure of soup kitchens across the country, although this decision has since been reversed.<sup>105</sup> Despite government-provided food assistance,<sup>106</sup> LGBTQ people were sometimes denied access to such food.<sup>107</sup>

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<sup>104</sup> “Women and girls must be at the center of Pakistan’s COVID-19 recovery” (9 June 2020): <https://blogs.worldbank.org/endpovertyinsouthasia/women-and-girls-must-be-center-pakistans-covid-19-recovery>.

<sup>105</sup> “NGOs get green light to distribute food to homeless” (1 April 2020): <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2020/04/01/ngos-get-green-light-to-distribute-food-to-homeless/>.

<sup>106</sup> MOH advises food aid to be sent to designated collection centres (29 March 2020) <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/579295/moh-advises-food-aid-be-sent-designated-collection-centres>

<sup>107</sup> V Pillai “The Trans Women at the Frontline”: <https://www.queerlapis.com/the-trans-women-at-the-frontline/>.