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North American governments ready plan to reopen the automotive sector in the region

- The Government of Mexico will be emphatic in protecting health and will monitor that the reopening be orderly, gradual and cautious.
- This joint effort will result in a common benefit for the three nations with a positive balance in public health and in the reactivation of the productive sectors.

The Government of Mexico is working in a close, coordinated and permanent manner with the authorities of the governments of the United States and Canada in order to establish the criteria, guidelines, protocols and conditions that must be observed to successfully move towards the reopening of the productive activities of the automotive industry in North America.

This industry has significant economic relevance for multiple reasons. The automotive sector is a mainstay of formal employment in North America. In Mexico alone, close to a million people are employed in this sector. In addition, the automotive industry is particularly important due to the size, geographic scope and length of supply chains among various suppliers of all sizes in the three countries.

In turn, the characteristics of the automotive industry mean that its reopening entails challenges in terms of health, which is why the governments of the three countries will delineate a coordinated strategy that will prioritize mechanisms that protect public health in the context of the current pandemic. In Mexico, the Government will be particularly emphatic in protecting the health of workers, their families and their community, for which reason the competent authorities will ensure that the reopening of the automotive industry is orderly, gradual and cautious.

It is recognized that within the three countries there are regions and localities with particular sanitary conditions, which is why the degree of spread of COVID-19, the demographic characteristics, the health condition, risk and vulnerability of people are different, as well as the capacities and restrictions of local public health systems to respond to the emergency. Thus, the elaboration of the plan to reopen the automotive sector in North America will contemplate this diversity and complexity. Meanwhile, the automotive industry and its supply chains in Mexico will abide by the suspension of activities mandated by the General Health Council.

The Government of Mexico expresses its firm will, willingness and support to build a trinational solution that ensures the coordination and synchronization of our production processes. With the understanding that, by protecting the health of the population, the optimal operational continuity of companies is guaranteed over the medium and long term.

In the coming days, the governments of Mexico, Canada and the United States will release more information on the reopening plan. Tri-national cooperation will allow this plan to be based on scientific evidence and best practices shared by public health agencies in the three countries. Also, this collaborative exercise will serve as a precedent to determine in Mexico the return of other non-essential economic activities. This joint effort will result in a common benefit for the three nations with a positive balance in public health and in the revival of the productive sectors.