

May 4, 2009 Circular No. 024-2009

General Manager Panama City

> <u>Reference:</u> Preventive Measures for possible A (H1N1) Flu Pandemic

Dear Manager:

As you know, numerous outbreaks of the A (H1N1) flu virus have sprouted at the international level. Thus, the World Health Organization has decided to raise the flu pandemic alert level to phase 5.

In this context, we point to the recommendation of the CEO of WHO, who in her last official statement mentions that "passing to a higher phase is a sign to governments, health ministries and other ministries, the pharmacy sector and the corporate world, that specific measures must now be adopted with ever increasing urgency and at an accelerated rhythm".

In light of the above, and although it is true that our country has had no confirmed cases of A (H1N1) flu outbreaks, we ask the banking entities to diligently set up a contingency plan that includes the appropriate sanitary measures to follow for their employees as well as their customers, in case an epidemic occurs in Panamanian territory.

We are grateful to the Manager for giving the staff under his charge the pertinent instructions for the observance of this circular.

Attentively,

Olegario Barrelier Superintendent

Attachment: WHO Monthly Report

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