

## CORONAVIRUS IMPACT

AmCham “how-to” guide

### THE MESSAGE OF THE US AMBASSADOR EISENBERG TO ITALY

We open this newsletter with a special thank to the American Ambassador Lewis Eisenberg for his video directed to the Italians.

He underlined the importance of the corporate contributions to Italy's fight against COVID-19, a further proof of the incredible, historical friendship between Italy and USA .



### UPDATES ON AMCHAM'S ACTIVITIES



An [“observatory” page](#) on the developments of the situation connected with the spread of coronavirus in Italy and the world, with a focus on the USA!

## LEADERS LEADING THROUGH THE CRISIS



The collection of video messages from the leaders of major Member companies continues!

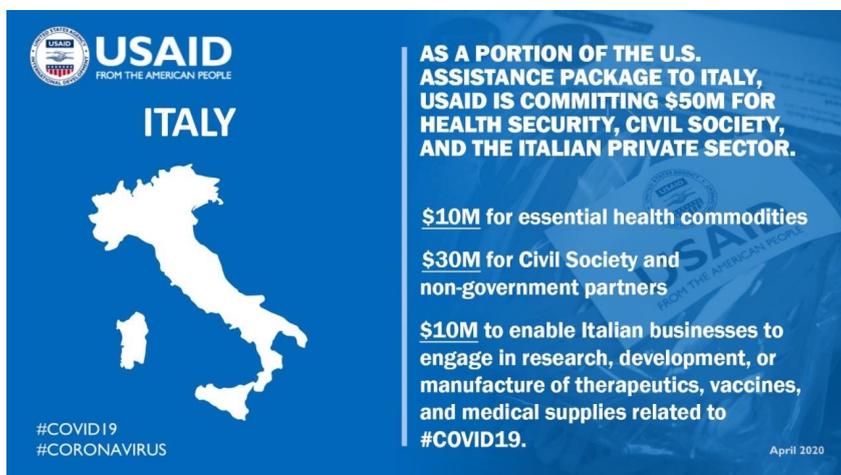
The CEOs have told AmCham how they are dealing with the crisis linked to the spread of coronavirus and how, at the same time, they manage to guarantee their companies' *business continuity*, an essential condition for keeping the country system's economy alive.

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## THE SITUATION IN ITALY AND SUPPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES

The provisions of the [new Prime Minister's Decree for Phase 2](#) will be in force from May 4 through May 17, 2020. Businesses that can reopen on May 4 will be allowed to prepare for their restart with "preparatory activities" beginning April 27.

In this second phase, it will be important to use **personal protective equipment**. Precisely on this front, Prime Minister Conte has announced the signing, by Commissioner Arcuri, of the [order](#) setting a maximum price of € 0.50 for "surgical" masks.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**ITALY**

#COVID19  
#CORONAVIRUS

**AS A PORTION OF THE U.S. ASSISTANCE PACKAGE TO ITALY, USAID IS COMMITTING \$50M FOR HEALTH SECURITY, CIVIL SOCIETY, AND THE ITALIAN PRIVATE SECTOR.**

- \$10M** for essential health commodities
- \$30M** for Civil Society and non-government partners
- \$10M** to enable Italian businesses to engage in research, development, or manufacture of therapeutics, vaccines, and medical supplies related to **#COVID19**.

April 2020

As anticipated in the [Memorandum of this past April 10](#), the American government has pledged **US \$ 100 million** in economic support, [US\\$ 50 million of which originating from USAID](#), the Agency for international development.

Thanks also to AmCham's mediation, these funds will be intended for civil society and non-government partners, as well as for the private sector, for research and the production of therapies, vaccines, and medical equipment pertaining to the health emergency.

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## THE SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES

### [We're keeping millions of Americans on the payroll](#)

The **darkest week** for the United States since the start of the epidemic opened with oil prices [collapsing below zero](#) for the first time in history, with Texas crude plummeting 305% to US\$ -37,63 per barrel for May deliveries.

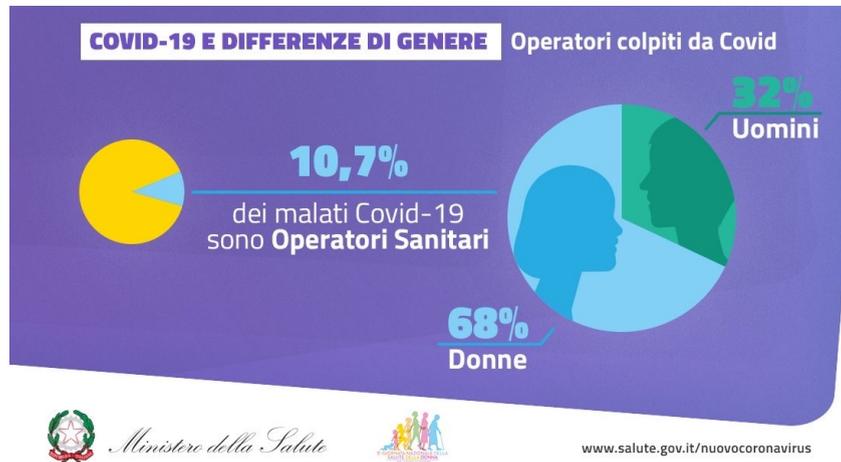
President Trump signed a **60-day Executive Order** blocking all **green card** applications for permanent residence in the United States. Stating his wish to safeguard the interests of Americans

left unemployed, Trump circumvented criticism from the hi-tech industry and the agricultural sector by allowing the entry of seasonal workers and highly qualified professionals.

### **An historic victory for Americans!**

A [new aid package](#) amounting to US\$ 484 billion has been approved by Congress: of this figure, [nearly US\\$ 350 billion](#) will be allocated to support [small- and medium-sized enterprises](#), and about US\$ 100 billion to the healthcare system and to testing.

Applications for [unemployment benefits](#) are declining: according to the U.S. Department of Labor, 4.43 million Americans applied for unemployment benefits during the week ending April 18, down from 5.24 million the previous week. The total number of unemployed citizens has topped 26.4 million.



### **THE GOOD NEWS**

Starting May 4 nationwide, on an initial sample of 150,000 persons, **blood tests to define whether a person has been infected** by coronavirus will begin. The tender called by the government to supply the serological tests was won by the **pharmaceutical company Abbott**. By the end of May, [4 million tests](#) will be distributed in Italy. An important piece of the post-lockdown strategy will thus fall into place, making it possible to comprehend the virus's spread and to plan the scheduling for the gradual return to normal activity.

We also report that the **FDA** has approved [the first "home" test](#) to identify positive cases of COVID-19.

The **UN** and the **WHO** have launched an [international alliance](#) to accelerate the development, production, and distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine, asking leaders from around the world, international organizations, and the private sector to take the field united towards the same goal. **Italy has also joined the project** alongside other world partners. "Italy has from the start been on the front line in this battle. We have learned through our own experience that the virus knows no boundaries," explained Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte at the virtual press conference presenting the initiative, dedicating it to "those who have lost their lives to the virus, and to our heroes: the doctors and physicians. Their efforts," Conte added, "will not be in vain".

The **European Medicines Agency (EMA)**, in concert with the pharmaceutical industry and the Member States of the EU, has launched [an enhanced fast-track monitoring system](#) to help prevent and mitigate supply issues with crucial medicines used for treating patients with COVID-19. Under this system, each pharmaceutical company will appoint a single contact point (an industry single point of contact, or i-SPOC) who will report to EMA and national competent authorities all current and anticipated shortages of medicines used in patients with COVID-19, both for centrally and nationally authorized medicines.



# MASCHERINE GRATUITE IN LOMBARDIA

PRESSO



## PROFESSIONAL NOTES



### I CONSIGLI DEI SOCI DI SETTORE Aspetti legali e fiscali

During this emergency situation, the professional notes produced by our Members may be viewed on our [website's dedicated page](#).

## Link Utili

Ministero della Salute

Protezione Civile

Organizzazione Mondiale della Sanità

Istituto Superiore di Sanità

Regione Lombardia

Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri

Epicentro

Department of State

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**A presto!**

**AmCham Italy**

**Stay connected!**



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