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PRESS RELEASE

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INDEX calls on federal and state authorities to end blockades and avoid greater economic impact.

For several weeks, trade and transportation organizations have expressed their discontent through road blockades and work stoppages due to labor, social, and security issues. This, combined with disruptions in foreign trade operations systems, has had an economic impact in several regions of the country, primarily on the northern border. The most recent event was a 40-minute work stoppage today in Nuevo Laredo, with others in Tijuana and Ciudad Juárez.

In this regard, the National Council of the Maquiladora and Export Manufacturing Industry (Index) makes a respectful and firm call to all three levels of government to address the issues that pertain to them and thereby avoid continuing to negatively impact businesses, workers, transporters, and commercial flows, while instead sending positive signals for attracting investments and consolidating existing production and export operations.

It is imperative to reinforce road security throughout the country, as incidents of cargo theft and attacks on transporters have increased over the past year, along with road blockades, border crossing closures, and general interruptions and failures in customs operations systems, which alone or in combination have caused social and public image impacts and, economically, significant losses for businesses and in foreign currency revenues for the country.

If effective solutions are not found for these issues, the perception within and outside the country is that insecurity prevails over formality and harmony, which are the foundations of the rule of law.

We reiterate, through our 18 associations, our willingness to engage in communication with public and private sectors and our readiness to make improvement proposals and work in dialogue tables and strategies to find solutions to the mentioned conflicts.