



Comisión Nacional de los  
Derechos Humanos  
MEXICO

# Newsletter

NEW ERA, N°. 232

JUNE, 2012

## The voice of the President

### Health Protection

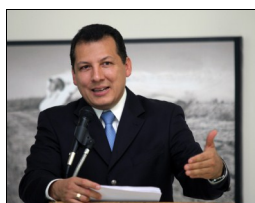
*Dr. Raúl Plascencia  
Villanueva*

*Wednesday June 13, 2012*

The satisfaction of basic needs such as employment, health, housing, food or education, are some of the main duties of the State, which allow the authorities to legitimize and contribute to the peaceful coexistence of society.

In this context, it becomes important to protect the right to health, defined by the WHO as the "state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." Meanwhile paragraph 1, Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights states that the sig-

natories of the Covenant "recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health", which warns that failure to comply may result in penalties for the Mexican State.



Some of the main duties of the State in protecting the right to health are:

- 1) to provide general services,
- 2) to provide preventive care, healing and rehabilitation,
- 3) to monitor the health and sanitation of facilities,
- 4) to take measures to prevent accidents and illnesses,
- and 5) to create the regula-

tory framework capable of ensuring the effective exercise of this right.

Unconditional respect to right to health protection is not only subjected to these obligations, but must be consistent with international standards. In the same way, it must be accessible to all, according to:

- a) non-discrimination,
- b) physical accessibility,
- c) economic accessibility or affordability
- d) access to information.

With respect to the service's provision, it is not enough to give medical consultations and medicines, it is required to report on preventive measures and also provide service in the most timely and effective manner.

This article is available at: <http://www.eluniversalmexico.com.mx/editoriales/2012/06/58977.php>

## Event of the month

**The National Human Rights Commission and The Inter-Parliamentary Union signed a Collaboration Agreement on training and promotion of Human Rights**



## **NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**CGCP/138/12**

*June 1st, 2012*



The National Human Rights Commission, chaired by Raúl Plascencia-Villanueva, drives between authorities, NGO's and civil society, the "2012 National Campaign for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities".

For this national Organism

the respect the human rights of all Mexicans, of whom 10 million live with a disability, is a primary objective to. During the "State Forum for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities" held in Oaxaca, home to 227 262 people with disabilities, the need to implement public policies that contribute to elimination of social barriers restraining the development

of this vulnerable group was revealed. It is the responsibility of the State, panelists agreed, to undertake programs that allow free exercise of the right to education, health, employment and access to justice.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## **PREVENTING TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IS A TASK FOR EVERYONE**

**CGCP/139/12**

*June 2nd, 2012*

The National Human Rights Commission considered necessary to strengthen prevention and protection measures to prevent children and adolescents from being victims of trafficking. Statistics reveal that this group of people is one of the most vulnerable to crime.

Worldwide, the number of underage victims rises to 1.2 million and it estimated that in Mexico 16,000 children and adolescents suffer sexual exploitation.

They are a vulnerable group for being underage, which makes them easily captured for labor and sexual exploitation. Organized crime uses many ways to engage

their victims; one of them is through the Internet or social networks.

The CNDH has the Program against Human Trafficking, which allows to tackle the problem comprehensively in three key areas: legal, institutional and social

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## **PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ASSAULT**

**CGCP/140/12**

*June 3rd, 2012*

The National Human Rights Commission considered minors one of the most vulnerable groups for abuse and violence, so we must redouble efforts to protect them from actions that violate their dignity.

As we commemorate the *International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression*,

the CNDH considers necessary to adopt pertinent legislative, administrative and educational measures to avoid affecting their right to live in an environment free of violence.

It is essential to eradicate customs or beliefs that consider the physical and verbal abuse as part of the learning process of children from homes, schools and communities. It is also fundamental to fostering a culture of filing criminal complaints in order

to bring before the authorities those who neglect, abandon or exploit minors in any way.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## STRENGTHENING ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

### CGCP/141/12

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission deems necessary to reinforce strategies and actions in all areas to end violence against women, a degrading practice that violates their dignity.

Violence against women is defined as any act or omission that causes them psychological harm or physical, patrimonial, economic or sexual suffering,

whether in the public or private area, that can occur in the family, workplace, community or institutional field.

Through the *Women Affairs and Equality between Women and Men Program*, this National Organism works to eliminate discriminatory practices and gender aggression that prevail in all sectors of our society.

From January 2011 to April 2012, 918 complaint cases for alleged violations of the

fundamental rights of women were attended.

The CNDH reiterates its commitment to continue working to ensure that women enjoy freedoms and rights under the law and can live in a society with equal opportunities and free of violence.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## THE CNDH ATTENDS COMPLAINTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

### CGCP/142/12

June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Providing improper education service, poor medical care, denying social security benefits, negligence and anomalies in the supply of drugs, are some of the facts reported to the CNDH by persons with disabilities.

In the period from January to May, this year, the National Human Rights Commission attended 430 complaint files

for alleged violations of their fundamental rights.

Through the General Directorate to Attend Persons with Disabilities, this national autonomous Organism performs various actions to facilitate access for people with disabilities to health, employment, education, transportation and entertainment opportunities in equal conditions.

The CNDH considers necessary the application of inclusion public policies to change

the situation of discrimination and stigmatization experienced by this group of society; it also oversees the adaptation of national legislation in the field and verifies compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## CONSTANT WORK OF THE CNDH FOR OVER 22 YEARS

### CGCP/143/12

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The CNDH, created 22 years ago, has consolidated its autonomy and raised the claim of a genuine Rule of Law with full respect for Mexicans' human rights.

In these 22 years, there has been a permanent demand to fully comply with the Constitution, laws, treaties and international instruments that our country has signed. It has become closer with civil society and academy, to carry

the message of the promotion and protection of human rights throughout the country.

It has expanded treatment of victims of crime and power abuse with 15 regional offices located in various states of the country. It has issued a total of 2,257 recommendations, addressed to various authorities, which result from an extensive research of the complaint files closed in this period. Definitely one of the CNDH's greatest achievements has been the constitutional reform of 2011.

A reform that substantially changed the meaning of the Constitution in three areas: the recognition of human rights in the Constitution, the State's commitment to promote education in this area and the full recognition of the international instruments adopted by our country.



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**INADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE IN THE HOSPITAL OF SONORA****CGCP/144/12***June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH issued Recommendation 21/2012, addressed to the Sonora's state government, because of inadequate medical care received by a patient from the staff of Del Socorro Hospital of Nogales, surrogated by the Sonora's Security and Social Services Institute Workers (ISSSTESON).

After a car accident, the victim remained hospitalized for two days, where the treating physician did not examine him properly and diagnosed him with symptoms of a slight hip fissure.

The patient returned to the hospital several times, showing no improvement in his health while pain increased.

Several studies were performed with results showing that he actually had "fracture and detachment of the *aceptábulo* (sic), collapse, deformity and necrosis of the femoral head".

Therefore, he filed a complaint to the CNDH, which after an investigation, concluded violations to right to health protection and issued a proposed settlement to ISSSTESON, without having evidence

of its compliance; so the case was reopened and also violations to the rights to legal security and legality were added.

Recommendation 21/2012 establishes that the authorities must comply with the proposed settlement that had been issued, in order to avoid delays that result against the victims. The aforementioned recommendation can be accessed through [www.cndh.org.mx](http://www.cndh.org.mx)

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**THE CNDH SUPPORTS MIGRANTS****CGCP/145/12***June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH considers essential to respect individual rights of all people living in or visiting our country, regardless their immigration status.

According to data from the International Organization for Migration, some 400,000 undocumented Central Americans cross

the Mexican territory every year to reach the United States and often suffer from harassment, abuse, discrimination along their journey.

This national autonomous Organism has 15 foreign offices, 10 of which are located in strategic points of gathering and transit of migrants as Tijuana, Ciudad Juárez, Nogales, Ixtepec, Coatzacoalcos

and San Cristóbal de las Casas, where migrants are given legal advice and are supported with written complaints.

The CNDH reiterates its commitment to uphold the human rights of all people and particularly of vulnerable groups, such as migrants.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**ATTENTION TO COMPLAINTS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION****CGCP/146/12***June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH considers that by bolstering in schools a culture of peaceful coexistence and respect for the dignity of persons, we contribute to the construction of a better society.

It is the responsibility of parents, students, teachers and authorities to eradicate situations

of violence that harm the welfare of children and young people.

From January 2011 to date, the CNDH opened 1,325 files for alleged violations of fundamental rights in the education field. Of these, 554 correspond to the current year.

The allegations are related to improper provision of education service, actions that inhibit child's

physical or mental development, and omissions to provide facilities and materials for this activity.

Therefore, the CNDH teaches courses in elementary and secondary schools intended to foster in students the values of tolerance, respect and equality, through reading materials designed by specialists.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



**HUMAN RIGHTS REFORM: MORE PROTECTION TO SOCIETY**

**CGCP/147/2012**

*June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The Constitutional Reform on Human Rights granted new powers to the CNDH to protect society against the power abuse.

The amendments to 11 Constitutional articles, which came into force a year ago, strengthen the institutional framework to promote the culture of legality, which should be the backbone of the State and the

relationship between authorities and the people.

To this end, it is necessary that the State promotes education on human rights among the population, especially children and youth, as established by the Constitution.

Since June 2011, the authorities are compelled to perform their duties in accordance with the Mexican legal system and the more than 100 international instruments signed and ratified

by our country.

From these changes, public officers and institutions assumed the inescapable commitment to accept the recommendations addressed to them by human rights institutions. It is the responsibility of all to work to consolidate a new model of society where the culture of respect prevails and where we all fulfill our duties.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**PROTECTING WORKING CHILDREN**

**CGCP/148/12**

*June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012*

Within the framework of the **World Day against Child Labor**, commemorated on June 12, the CNDH calls upon protecting the integrity of minors engaged in some type of work or economic activity.

Institutions, authorities, parents and society as a whole, must unite forces to abate this practice that prevents children and adolescents from enjoying the most basic rights estab-

lished in the national and international legal order.

Actions should aim to ensure the safety of more than three million children between five and 17 years old, who live in Mexico and have entered the labor market to provide resources to their homes or cover essential needs such as clothing and food.

According to official statistics, 4 out of 10 working children do not attend school, which is an obstacle in the search for opportunities to improve their situation.

Therefore, the CNDH highlights the importance of ratifying the 138 Convention of the International Labor Organization (ILO) on the minimum age for admission to employment to protect their health.



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**THE CNDH DEPLORES JOURNALIST'S DISAPPEARANCE**

**CGCP/149/12**

*June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

On the occasion of the news of the disappearance of **Stephanía Rodríguez Cardoso**, a reporter for the newspaper *Zócalo de Saltillo*, increases to 16 the number of missing journalists registered by the CNDH.

Personnel of the "Program on Assaults on Journalists and Civil Human Rights Defenders"

have established contact with relatives of the missing reporter and media managers from where she used to work, in order to offer support and institutional care. They also reiterated the Institution's willingness to follow the case up.

The CNDH deploras the occurred events to journalist **Stephanía Rodríguez Cardoso**, her youngest son and her family. It also notes that is particularly serious that such attacks occur, which makes it essential

that appropriate investigations are immediate, objective, effective, comprehensive and independent, in order to prevent grievances from remaining unpunished.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**RECOMMENDATION TO ZACATECAS FOR ILLEGAL RETENTION**

**CGCP/150/12**

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The CNDH addressed to the government of Zacatecas its Recommendation 22/2012, on the case of the citizen who was illegally deprived of his liberty by agents of the State General Attorney's Office.

The victim declared that while leaving the entity's Electoral Commission in company of several people, five individuals dressed

as civilians, who did not identified themselves, got down of a truck and put him in the back of the vehicle. He was taken to the facilities of that corporation, without recording his access officially.

He remained five hours guarded by policemen dressed as civilians, and was later taken to a prosecutor, assigned to the General Attorney's office, who informed him of the existence of a complaint against him, not allowing him to read any docu-

ments, and indicating him that he could leave.

After the corresponding investigation, the CNDH concluded violations to the rights of personal liberty, due process and legal certainty, against the victim, by acts of arbitrary arrest and illegal detention. Recommendation 22/2012 can be accessed through [www.cndh.org.mx](http://www.cndh.org.mx).

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_150.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_150.pdf)

**NUMBER OF JOURNALIST'S HOMICIDES RISES TO 82**

**CGCP/151/12**

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The CNDH determined to start an *ex-officio* investigation on the unfortunate murder of Victor Manuel Baez Chino, journalist of the *Xalapa Millennium* journal and director of the publishing group "Police Reporters", whose body was found today in Veracruz.

With this journalist's death, the number of cases registered by the CNDH from

2000 to date rises to 82, 13 of which have occurred in that entity which stands in first place in this type of aggression.

This national autonomous Organism will remain seized of the performance of the public officers responsible for implementing and enforcing the law and of the investigations undertaken to clarify these regrettable and reprehensible acts that under no circumstances should remain unpunished.

The CNDH requires federal and local authorities to act promptly, expeditiously and to implement preventive actions in order to avoid these acts from occurring, given that they extremely restrict the exercise of freedom of expression.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_151.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_151.pdf)

**CNDH SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION**

**CGCP/152/12**

June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission and the Inter-Parliamentary Union signed an extensive Collaboration Agreement on training and promotion of Human Rights.

At the ceremony, the national Ombudsman, Raúl Plascencia-Villanueva, pointed out the importance of this agreement, which also covers the editing of documents seeking the fulfillment of the

Constitutional mandate, after the most important reform on human rights was made to our Constitution.

That training and documents developed under the guidelines of this agreement will contribute to strengthening the culture of legality in our country. In turn, Anders B. Johnson, General Secretary of the Inter-Parliamentary Union said that the signing of this agreement should be understood as the framework to develop multiple activities,

including the publication of guide on human rights for parliamentarians in Mexico.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union is an international organization based in Geneva, Switzerland, dedicated to defending and promoting democracy and is recognized by the parliaments of 140 countries.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_152.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_152.pdf)



## ATTENTION TO COMPLAINTS IN HEALTHCARE SECTOR

### CGCP/153/12

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

From January 1 to May 25, 2012, the CNDH received 1,723 complaints for alleged violations of the right to healthcare of the population, an average of 344 per month.

Because of this, the National Commission considers necessary to strengthen the training of public officers who work in healthcare institutions, in order to respect the fundamental rights of patients. It is also important for them to know

the laws and regulations in the field to improve hospitals care, clinics and rehabilitation centers, with a dignified and respectful treat.

The main facts reported to the Commission in the indicated period are omissions in the provision of medical care, inadequate provision of public services and hampering or unwillingness to provide social security benefits to which the patients are entitled.

Also noteworthy: breaches of legality, honesty, loyalty,

fairness and efficiency in the performance of duties or charges, negligence, deficiencies in the implementation of procedures and irregularities in the supply of medicines.

So far in 2012, the CNDH has issued 10 recommendations addressed to various authorities for violating the right to healthcare. These recommendations may be accessed through [www.cndh.org.mx](http://www.cndh.org.mx).



[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_153.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_153.pdf)

## STRENGTHENING ACTIONS ON GENDER EQUALITY

### CGCP/154/12

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission considers that in order to achieve an equitable society in which women and men have the same rights, obligations and opportunities, education and public policies that promote gender equality should be strengthened. Women continue to face discrimination and inequality in relation to men in various fields.

In the professional one, their opportunities for advancement are limited and their wages lower than those of men, though both perform the same job.

At home, they also perform what is called "double day" without pay, as they are the ones who do the housework, in most cases, in addition to fulfilling their job responsibilities.

The CNDH reiterates its com-

mitment to work for both women and men alike to exercise their rights and to consolidate a culture of fairness, freedom from violence and gender based discrimination.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_154.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_154.pdf)

## THE CNDH'S SIXTH VISITORSHIP STARTS WORKING

### CGCP/155/12

18 junio, 2012

The president of the National Human Rights Commission, Raúl Plascencia-Villanueva, appointed Juan Pablo Piña Kurczyn as head of the Sixth General Visitorship of this autonomous public Organism.

The new officer is a lawyer and has a masters degree from the Université de Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas and Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona.

He has worked in the First General Visitorship and served as General Director of the Program on Assaults to Journalists and Human Rights Defenders of the CNDH.

This General Visitorship will be competent in the knowledge of labor, environmental, cultural, economic and social issues, thanks to recent amendments to the organic law of the CNDH.

During the ceremony where the new General Visitor was

sworn in, the National Ombudsman noted that with the appointment of the Sixth General Visitor, the CNDH settles a pending debt with the Mexican society.



[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_155.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_155.pdf)

**PROTECTING REFUGEES' HUMAN RIGHTS**

**CGCP/156/12**

*June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH considers that protection should be provided to all persons who for some reason are forced to leave their places of origin.

Within the framework of the commemoration of the **World Refugee Day** on June 20, the CNDH notes the need to take measures to prevent people's persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership to a particular social group.

Official statistics show that there are over 42 million of children, women and men as refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers in the world, who face discrimination, abandonment and xenophobia.

In Mexico, until September 2010, there were 1,390 refugees registered from countries like Colombia, Haiti, El Salvador, Ethiopia and Eritrea. They often live in precarious conditions and there are few opportunities for access to employment, healthcare services and education, which is a challenge for society.

This autonomous public Organism participates in activities to eradicate marginalization and racism.

The CNDH also trains public officers in the field of human rights and promotes compliance with the legislation on humanitarian assistance.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_156.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_156.pdf)

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHT TO FOOD**

**CGCP/157/12**

*June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH considers that the protection and promotion of indigenous peoples and communities human rights needs to be considered a major issue on the national agenda, particularly in relation to the right to food.

This group of people is one of the most vulnerable in

the country. Their poverty and marginalization place them in a constant discrimination and backwardness in social and health matters, and hence food.

In Mexico there are 15.7 million indigenous people, of whom 8 out of 10 are poor, according to figures from international organizations.

The National Commission in Mexico considers unac-

ceptable that there is still malnutrition among the indigenous population.

Therefore it is necessary to create effective public policies that strengthen the food, health, education and work conditions in these communities.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_157.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_157.pdf)

**RECOGNITION OF MANAGEMENT QUALITY OF THE CNDH INTERNAL COMPTROLLER**

**CGCP/158/12**

*June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012*

The certification company SGS of Mexico conducted a follow-up audit of the management system of the Internal Comptroller of the CNDH, in order to confirm that the system had been implemented in accordance with the standards established and whether the certification granted in 2010 remained valid.

The processes reviewed were: audits development, analysis, indicators' development and evaluation, and management review.

The Quality Management System (QMS) allows the Comptroller to maintain and continuously improve the performance of processes, under a scheme of efficiency and effectiveness necessary to ensure the fulfillment of objectives, in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and transparency processes.

In March 2006, the Internal Comptroller of the CNDH initiated activities for the implementation of a QMS, based on ISO 9001:2000, with the purpose of obtaining the corresponding

certification by an internationally recognized private Organism.

In November 2008, The Mexican Institute of Standardization and Certification, A. C. published ISO 9001:2008 which replaces version 9001:2000. As a result, from January 2009 it started updating the Management System of the Internal Comptroller in accordance with requirements of this new version.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_158.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_158.pdf)





## GUARANTEEING EQUITY IN ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT

### CGCP/159/12

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission considers necessary to guarantee women equal treatment, opportunities for training and promotion, fair wages and social security. According to official data, in Mexico, 50.2 million people are part of the economically active population, and 19.3 million of them are women.

The partial occupancy rate and unemployment is 16.1 for women and 9.4 for men.

The CNDH deems essential that progresses in terms of equality are put into practice in order to prevent women from being victims of discrimination.

The Program for Women Affairs and Equality between Women and Men oversees and evaluates the national policy on the equity issue.

From January, 2011 to May, 2012 has assisted 949 complaints of women and has organized 298 activities related to protection and promotion, among which we can point out: teaching courses, lectures,

workshops and conferences in order to create awareness among public officers and the population as a whole. Information on the Program of Women Affairs and Equality between Men and Women, as well as equality indicators, opinion polls, surveys, special reports and publications can be found in page [www.cndh.org.mx](http://www.cndh.org.mx)

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_159.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_159.pdf)

## THE CNDH ASSITS INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN PRISONS

### CGCP/160/12

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

The CNDH considers essential to provide the necessary measures to ensure a fair trial for indigenous people who are in places of detention.

Until April, 2012, there were 8,634 indigenous people of different ethnic groups in prisons throughout the country, 7,855 for common law crimes and 779 of the federal jurisdiction.

This group of people often suffers human rights violations

such as arbitrary detention, the lack of a translator or interpreter, lack of knowledge of their legal status and inadequate medical care.

In support of indigenous people sentenced who fulfill necessary conditions to obtain the benefits of early release, this national Organism deals with the competent authorities in order to accelerate the analysis of their records.

The CNDH is committed to its labor to support vulnerable

groups, such as this one, also offering a phone assistance service in numbers 5490-7400, 5681-8125 and 01 800 715 2000, where inmates and their relatives are informed on their legal status, complaints or requirements for the granting of benefits of early release.



[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_160.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_160.pdf)

## RESPECT THE WORK OF CIVIL DEFENDERS

### CGCP/161/12

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The CNDH believes that joint efforts between authorities, NGOs and society will guarantee the security Civil Defenders in Mexico.

From 2011 to date, this national autonomous Organism has documented 86 cases of alleged violations of their fundamental rights, 27 out of which correspond to the current year.

Some of the complaints are

related to violations to their rights to legal certainty, integrity, freedom, legality, ownership and possession.

The Program on Assaults to Journalists and Human Rights Civil Defenders of the National Commission provides personal attention to victims, tracks ministerial cases, gives legal advice and if necessary, requests the implementation of precautionary measures to protect their integrity and their families.

For the CNDH, one of the

fundamental pillars in building a fairer country is to respect the activities of those involved in the defense and protection of human rights of children, women, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_161.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_161.pdf)

**CNDH INCREASES ACTIONS TO PREVENT TORTURE****CGCP/162/12***June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH has increased the actions it carries out to prevent torture practices and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in Mexico.

Within the framework of the **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**, commemorated on June 26, this national autonomous Organism reiterates that there is no justification for violating the physical and emotional

integrity of another human being, and considers it necessary to maintain a constant fight to prevent any treatment that harms human dignity.

Torture is one of the most severe forms of violations of human rights; it damages victims' work and family environment and undermines the social fabric.

The CNDH in its capacity as a National Preventive Mechanism of Torture (MNPT), has performed from January, 2010 to May 2012, 1,348 visits to deten-

tion facilities and internment centers.

The results obtained from these visits are presented in reports that show the irregularities detected. Said reports can be accessed through the CNDH webpage [www.cndh.org.mx](http://www.cndh.org.mx)

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_162.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_162.pdf)

**FORMING A UNITED FRONT AGAINST TORTURE: CNDH****CGCP/163/12***June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

As part of the **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**, commemorated on June 26, the National Human Rights Commission considers that there is no justification to attack the physical and emotional integrity of a person.

Torture is one of the most severe forms of human rights violations because it damages the victims' family and work environment and undermines the social fabric.

As National Preventive Mechanism for (MNPT), this national autonomous Organism carried out 1,348 visits to detention facilities and internment centers from January, 2010 to May, 2012.

The National Preventive Mechanism of Torture has signed 30 agreements with local Human Rights Commissions across the country and has issued 35 reports addressed to: Governors, the Head of Government of Mexico City, mayors and ministries of the State.

This public entity calls for establishing a broad united front to combat torture and strengthen a culture of respect for human rights among society.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_163.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_163.pdf)

**GUARANTEEING RIGHT TO EDUCATION****CGCP/164/12***June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The CNDH considers essential to ensure the right to education for children, adolescents and youth of Mexico.

The third article of our Constitution establishes that the State's obligation to provide basic and high school education that is secular, free and with adherence to the scientific model, to achieve the purpose of promoting patriotism and respect for human rights.

This national autonomous Organism has found in schools the suitable environment for promoting human rights among students, teachers and parents and helping to improve the social coexistence.

The Program on Children and Family Affairs held forums, workshops, conferences and campaigns aimed primarily at children and young people, in which issues of interest such as school violence, child abuse and respect for others were discussed; also, 268,909 educational mate-

rials have been distributed to support these activities.

The National Commission believes that providing quality education accessible to children, adolescents and youth will help to strengthen a society tolerant of cultural diversity, respectful of human rights of each of its members.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_164.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_164.pdf)



## PROTECTING MIGRANT MINORS

### CGCP/165/12

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The CNDH considers that authorities and society must redouble efforts to protect and guarantee the human rights of migrant children and adolescents crossing the country in an attempt to find better life conditions.

This vulnerable group is permanently at risk of abuse, mistreatment, kidnapping and other situations that endanger

their physical and emotional health and even their lives.

Thus, through the Migrant Assistance Program, the CNDH promotes and disseminates human rights of undocumented migrants crossing the country through forums, workshops and training courses.

According to government statistics, during that period there were 2,108 minors, 1,877 of them foreigners who were returned to their home countries, housed in detention centers in Mexico.

Over 70% were male and their ages ranged from 12 to 17 years old.

The CNDH deems fundamental to provide social protection, food, counseling and safe houses to migrant children, in order to prevent them from being victims of organized crime and ensure respect to their human rights at all times.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_165.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_165.pdf)



## CNDH INVESTIGATES AGGRESSION OF FEDERAL AGENTS TO CIVILIANS

### CGCP/166/12

June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The President of the National Human Rights Commission, Raúl Plascencia-Villanueva instructed to immediately start an investigating on the assault suffered by two civilians, one of them a minor, presumably by members of the Federal Police in Ciudad Jiménez, Chihuahua.

Right after knowing of this case, the CNDH requested assistance to the State Human

Rights Commission of Chihuahua, in order to perform the corresponding procedures.

CNDH staff went to collect the information and evidence necessary to determine whether a violation of human rights occurred.

Officials of this national Organism established communication with relatives of the victims to offer the legal advice and attention needed.

The CNDH also requested information from various author-

ities at the federal, state and local levels, to gather evidence about what happened.

The CNDH will remain seized of the authorities' inquiries in order to oversee that in this and all other cases the necessary processes are carried out to exhaust all lines of investigation and to eliminate future recurrence of these human rights violations.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM\\_2012\\_166.pdf](http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Comunicados/2012/COM_2012_166.pdf)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RECOMMENDATION 24/2012

**MATTER:** On the case of inadequate medical care and deprivation of life against V1 at the Family General Hospital Sub-area no. 19, of the IMSS, located in the state of Chiapas

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:** General Manager of the Mexican Institute of Social Security

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission opened complaint file CNDH/1/2011/5318/Q, due that on May 12, 2011, V1, a child who presented fever, nausea, vomiting, pain in the right upper quadrant and anorexia, was examined by ARI,

a Doctor of the Emergency Room Family General Hospital sub-area No. 19, of the IMSS in Huixtla, Chiapas, who omitted to diagnose clinical symptoms of severe dengue.

Hours later, staff of the mentioned hospital, referred the victim for his attention to Family General Hospital Unit No.1, also dependent on that Institute in Tapachula, in that state, where he died at 16:30 pm on May 14, 2011, and indicating causes of death as: acute pulmonary edema, congestive heart failure, hepatorenal syndrome and septic shock.

From the legal analysis of the evidence contained in the aforementioned file, according to article 41 of the National Human Rights Commission Law, this national Organism had enough elements to confirm violations to the rights to health protection and life against V1, attributable to medical personnel assigned to IMSS Subzone Family General Hospital No. 19 in Huixtla, Chiapas. Recommendation 24/2012 was issued.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

**RECOMMENDATION 25/2012**

**MATTER:** On the appeal by members of the parents Committee of the Indigenous Pre-school Education Center "El Porvenir"

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:** Constitutional Governor of the state of Guerrero

*June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The National Human Rights Commission integrated the writ of appeal to file CNDH/5/2011/373/RI because in January 14, 2011, Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4, president, secretary and treasurer of the parents association of Loma Macho community and municipal commissioner, respectively, filed a complaint to the Human Rights Commission of the state of Guerrero, related to the performance of AR1, Head of the Ayutla de los Libres 8<sup>th</sup> Sector of the Ministry of Education of Guerrero, who in February, 2010 had authorized,

in an irregular way, the swapping of SP1, bilingual teacher, based in the Indigenous Pre-school Education Center "El Porvenir", in the Loma Macho community in the municipality of Acatepec, in that state, by SP2, who by then had a contract of five months and a half.

Therefore, since August 2010, the school has no teacher, besides that they had not received response on the part of diverse educational authorities they had gone to in order to resolve the issue.

Once the referred Commission carried out the corresponding investigations, on June 6, 2011, addressed Recommendation 063/2011 to the head of the Ministry of Education in that state, which has not been fulfilled by said authority.

As a result, the affected persons who had originally

filed the complaint, filed the appeal before this national Organism.

From the legal analysis of the evidences contained in the aforementioned file, it was concluded that there were violations to the rights to education and equality against 32 minors enrolled in the Indigenous Pre-school Education Center "El Porvenir" for the 2010-2011 school year, as well as those who were old enough to enter the next school year, for omitting to designate a bilingual teacher to provide educational services, what constitutes a discriminatory situation against the children of this community, attributable to personnel of the Ministry of Education of Guerrero. Recommendation 25/2012 was issued.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

**RECOMMENDATION 26/2012**

**MATTER:** On the case of V1's deprivation of life in Mexicali, Baja California

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:** General Attorney of Mexico

*June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The National Human Rights Commission opened file CNDH/1/2010/6083/Q, given that on September 24, 2010, at approximately 18:30 pm, AR1, federal prosecutor in charge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Table of the Mixed Unit of Attention to Small Scale Drug Dealing, together with AR2, AR3, AR4, AR5, AR6, AR7 and AR8, elements of the Federal Ministerial Police, ascribed to the General Attorney's Office, went to a household located in the city of Mexicali, Baja California to complete a search warrant issued in the Preliminary Inquiry (PI) No. 1.

In the raid, police found diverse substances apparently illegal, so they proceeded to arrest four persons, who were put at the disposal of the respective

ministerial authority, concluding the proceedings at 19:30 pm that day.

The body of V1, who according to the saying of Q1 died from injuries caused by the aforementioned elements of the PFM, was found in the previously searched place, establishing in the death certificate abdominal trauma as the cause of violent death.

Therefore the prosecutor of the Attorney's Office of the state of Baja California began preliminary inquiry No. 2, which together with the PI No. 1 was sent to the MPF agent in Mexico City.

Due the broadcasting of the events in different media, on September 25, 2010, the MPF agent based in Mexicali, Baja California, started PI No. 3, which was forwarded to the Directorate General of Preliminary Control of the Deputy Regional Control, Criminal Proceedings and Appeal in the PGR in Mexico City, initiating

the PI No. 4, on authority's abuse, murder and whatever resulted against V1.

As of May 4, 2012, said inquiry was in process of integration without any record that it had been sent to this national Organism showing that administrative proceedings had been initiated against any staff involved in the incident.

From the legal analysis of the evidence contained in the aforementioned file, according to article 41 of the National Human Rights Commission Law, this national Organism had enough elements to confirm violations to the rights to life, integrity and personal safety, legality and legal security to against V1, attributable to staff of the Attorney General's Office. Recommendation 26/2012 was issued.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

## RECOMMENDATION 27/2012

**MATTER:** On the case of the denial to provide medical assistance to V1 and V2 at the Regional Hospital of Specialties of the Ministry of Health in the state of Veracruz, and on the death of V2

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:**

Constitutional Governor of the state of Veracruz

*June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The National Human Rights Commission opened file CNDH/1/2011/7343/Q on the basis that on July 10, 2011, V1, a 16 years old minor, beneficiary of the Popular Insurance, went to the IMSS's General Hospital of Zone 50 in Lerdo de Tejada, Veracruz, where the medical staff that examined him diagnosed a symptoms of a 33 weeks pregnancy, premature breaking of membranes, threat of premature birth, pregnancy hyper tense sickness and probable severe preeclampsia, proposing as a strategy to follow, given the lack of proper infrastructure, to stabilize her and transfer her to the Regional Hospital of Specialties of Veracruz of the Ministry of Health.

However, according to Q1, given that the victim did not receive adequate medical attention in the second hospital,

he decided to transfer her to a private one.

That same day, V1 was admitted at the private clinical "Las Torres de Nuestra Señora del Carmen", where they practiced her cesarean, giving birth to V2 in a state of respiratory repression.

The next day, on July 11, 2011, the newborn was transferred to another private hospital to be treated and, finally, on July 12, after a request of Q1, his admission was approved by the Director of the Regional Hospital of Specialties.

Nonetheless his health condition keep deteriorating and he finally died on July 25, 2011 at 18:00 hours, pointing as cause of death: neonatal sepsis, ischemic hypoxic encephalopathy, perinatal asphyxia and prematurity.

It is worth mentioning that to the day of writing the present Recommendation, this national organism had not received evidence of any preliminary inquiry being carried out or any other procedure to establish responsibilities.

From the legal analysis of the evidence contained in the aforementioned file, according to article 41 of the National Human Rights Commission Law, this national Organism

had enough elements to confirm violations to the rights to protection of health and life against V1 and V2, respectively, attributable to personnel of the Regional Hospital of Specialties of Veracruz, of the Health Ministry of that state, given their denial to provide urgent medical assistance to the victims. Recommendation 27/2012 was issued.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

**RECOMMENDATION 28/2012**

**MATTER:** On the case of inadequate medical attention and loss of life of V1 at the Green Cross Medical Services at "El Salto", Jalisco

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:** Members of the municipality of "El Salto", Jalisco

*June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

The National Human Rights Commission opened complaint file CNDH/1/2011/3077/Q, on the basis that on December 28, 2010, at approximately 07:00 hours, Q1 noticed that her less than five years old son V1, did not wake up so he went to his room, realizing that he was lying and had urinated in bed so he asked him to change clothes, without him answering.

When Q1 carried him, he noticed that his body was "loose and heavy", therefore, Q1 drove him to the Green Cross Medical Services, at "El Salto" municipality, in Jalisco, where he received medical care from nurses and was examined by AR1, who diagnosed him with clinical hypostatic pneumonia and orogastric bleeding, indicating as treatment: intubation, intravenous fluids and antipyretic, however, despite the many attempts by the mentioned public servant and nursing staff service, the endotracheal intubation of the victim could not be made.

Therefore, AR1, physician assigned to the Green Cross Medical Services of the mu-

nicipality "El Salto", Jalisco, sent V1 to the New Civil Hospital of Guadalajara, "Dr. Juan I. Menchaca", however, while driving him to the Hospital his health deteriorated, and was taken to General Hospital No. 14 IMSS, where a doctor of the pediatric emergency department diagnosed him with a cardiopulmonary failure, in premortem conditions and oropharynx with abundant fresh blood, making intubation, recovering his heart rate, but not the breathing.

Subsequently, V1 presented another cardiac failure which was reversed, however, his health continued to deteriorate, so the General Hospital No. 14 IMSS pediatric emergency staff service, diagnosed him with a cardiac failure, gastrointestinal bleeding, probably mixed shock dysmorphic syndrome and brain death, and allowed the Green Cross personnel to transfer him by ambulance to the New Civil Hospital of Guadalajara, "Dr. Juan I. Menchaca", in which they provided him with resuscitation maneuvers; however at 13.00 he was pronounced dead, and identified as causes of death hypovolemic shock secondary to superior thyroid vein perforation caused by medical instruments.

Therefore, Q1 filed a complaint that led to the initiation of Preliminary Investigation No. 1 in the 4/C the General Attorney's Medical Responsibilities Agency of the state of Jalisco, where victim's necropsy was performed and deter-

mined that the V1 death was due to hypovolemic shock secondary to superior thyroid vein perforation caused by medical instruments, contributed by pneumonia; nevertheless, by the time the present Recommendation was elaborated, the mentioned inquiry is still in integration.

In addition, personnel of the Medical Services of the state of Jalisco expressed to the National Commission that there has not been any process to establish liabilities.

From the legal analysis of the evidence contained in the aforementioned file, according to article 41 of the National Human Rights Commission Law, this national Organism had enough elements to confirm violations to the rights to health protection and life against V1, attributable to medical personnel assigned to the Green Cross, of the Medical Services of the municipality "El Salto". Recommendation 28/2012 was issued

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

**RECOMMENDATION 29/2012**

**MATTER:** On the case of deprivation of life of V1 and torture of V2, in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:** Secretary of National Defense

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission opened complaint file CNDH/2/2012/199/Q due that on December 27, 2011 at 13:30 approximately, members of the Ministry of National Defense entered the restaurant 1, located in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, where they arbitrarily and violently detained V1 and V2, after which they were transferred to an opening where they were beaten to confess his involvement in various crimes, and then abandoned.

Given the gravity of the injuries presented by V1, V2 walked to the road and called for help from motorists who were circulating in it, until someone stopped and drove him to Q1's house. V2 informed about

the facts to Q1 and immediately moved into the opening, V1 was picked up and taken to Clinic 1, where within minutes after entering was pronounced dead, at 15:00 pm that day. Subsequently, the State Ministerial Police, informed the General Attorney of the state of Tamaulipas about the presence of a dead body of a male person, corresponding to V1, in Clinic 1.

A diligence of ministerial faith, and body lift were performed, and upon completion, the Seventh agent of the Public Ministry of the General Attorney's Office of the state of Tamaulipas, dictated to open procedures for preliminary investigation no.1, on criminal homicide against the person or persons responsible, which still is in integration.

Also, it is known that neither the General Attorney of Military Justice nor the Inspection Unit and General Comptroller of the Army and Mexican Air Force, have initiate any proce-

dures against the military who participated in the events.

From the legal analysis of the evidence contained in the aforementioned file, according to article 41 of the National Human Rights Commission Law, this national Organism had enough elements to confirm violations to the rights to legality, legal certainty, integrity and personal security, and freedom against V1 and V2, and the right to life of V1, for acts that violated the formalities for the issuance of a search warrant or during the execution of it, to enter a household without a warrant, arbitrary detention, torture and deprivation of life, as well as harassment and threats perpetrated against V3, attributable to military members based in the city of Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas . Recommendation 29/2012 was issued.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

**RECOMMENDATION 30/2012**

**MATTER:** On the case of arbitrary detention, cruel treatment and false reporting against V1, in San Luis Potosi

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:** Secretary Of Public Security

June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The National Human Rights Commission opened complaint file CNDH/1/2010/5324/Q due that on August 24, 2010, at approximately 15:00, V1, driving a borrowed car on the Ricardo B. Anaya Avenue, located in the city of San Luis Potosi, SLP, was asked to stop by elements of the Federal Police that were in an official vehicle.

V1 stopped and got off the vehicle because, as he stated, the driver's window did not work, suddenly he heard a shot produced by a gun, and got scared and started running hearing other detonations.

V1 immediately felt a very strong impact on the right side of his face, and his eye exploding, falling to the ground and momentarily fading; while try-

ing to get up, the elements of the Federal Police approached him, started to beat him, handcuffed him and drove him to a private hospital located in San Luis Potosi, where medical personnel informed that the victim would have to be operated, so they took V1 to the Central Hospital "Dr. Ignacio Morones Prieto" of the Ministry of Health of SLP, where they practiced an evisceration of the right eye (emptying of the eyeball).

The next day, V1 was taken to the prosecutor of the Attorney General's Office of the state of SLP, and informed that the reason for his detention was that he was suspected of having stolen a car; however, the victim was released on August 26, 2010, because when checking the status of the mentioned vehicle it had not been reported as stolen.

Therefore, on August 26, 2010, Q1 filed a complaint before the Human Rights Commission of SLP, but based on jurisdiction it was turned over to the National Commission on September 8, that same year.

The Commission began the respective investigation; however this Organism has not received up to date any record evidencing that an investigation procedure to the Federal Police personnel involved in the incident has started.

From the legal analysis of the evidence contained in the aforementioned file, according to article 41 of the National Human Rights Commission Law, this national Organism had enough elements to confirm violations to the rights to personal integrity and safety, decent treatment, legality, legal certainty and truth, for acts consisting on arbitrary detention, cruel treatment, violation of the presumption of innocence and false reporting, all attributable to Federal Police public servants, members of the Federal Public Security Secretariat. Recommendation 30/2012 was issued.

[http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones\\_1990\\_2012](http://www.cndh.org.mx/Recomendaciones_1990_2012)

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### **CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM OF HUMAN RIGHTS (LA REFORMA CONSTITUCIONAL DE DERECHOS HUMANOS)**

From:  
**MIGUEL CARBONELL**

Editorial: PORRUA

ISBN: 9786070910241

Edition: 1st

Format: RUSTIC

Year: 2012

No. of pages: 483

Language: SPANISH

Country: México

We hope that readers will find in this book enough arguments to assess the extent of this important constitutional operation, covering these and other reforms.

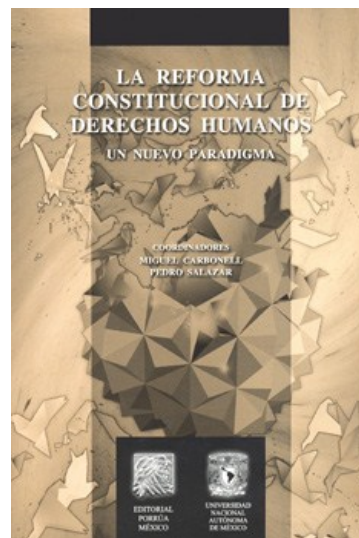
This is a volume that departs from the dogmatic law and opens its analysis to the social, political and jurisdictional dimensions of the reformed norms.

We reiterate that the constitutional reforms are important but insufficient to change reality.

In fact, the authors of this volume are internationalists, political scientists and jurists who, by their mere presence in these

pages attest to the multi-disciplinary that the study of rights claims, as well as the complexity of offering guarantees.

<http://www.gandhi.com.mx/index.cfm/id/Producto/dept/libros/pid/510464>





## ARTÍCULO DEL MES

### Summits and human rights (Las cumbres y los derechos humanos)

Miguel Concha

Two summits in one week: the Summit of leaders of the Group of Twenty (G-20), held from 18 to 19 June in Los Cabos, Baja California, and the 2012 Earth Summit (Rio + 20), held from 20 and 22 June in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, bringing up enormous challenges for reflection and action from the human rights approach. For those who promote and defend the civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights, it is unacceptable to discuss and make decisions about the global crisis we are suffering, economic growth needs and sustainable development, regardless of the rights of individuals, communities and populations.

Financial stability privileged in the G-20 is not enough. It is essential to change the course of the productive economy, and put it at the service of decent employment, inclusion, social cohesion and development recognized as a right. In other words, to discard the model that in 30 years has proven inadequate. The Social Watch Report 2012, Sustainable Development: the right to a future, whose global launch took place precisely in Rio de Janeiro this week, said: "We need a radical change of the economic system that continues to produce marked economic and social inequalities worldwide".

Moreover, "it is crucial to introduce mechanisms of regulation and control managed democratically, able to promote and protect human rights rather than privileges for enterprises" (p. 28).

In the chapter on México-coordinated by "Equipo Pueblo", focal point of Social Watch in our country, and the coalition of Mexican civil organizations "Espacio DESC"-the report highlights the unsustainable path we travel, with megaprojects of diverse nature and environmental and social irresponsible policies,

not related to a comprehensive approach to human rights (pp. 142 and 143).

The G20 and Rio +20 Summits did not question the current development model. Nor policies, programs and projects implemented within this framework. Therefore they did not address the structural causes of the problems faced by society and the planet.

On the contrary, as warned by hundreds of civil organizations, and social networks in the People's Summit that took place prior to and parallel with the official events of Los Cabos and Rio, governments not only vindicated the model, but also outlined measures that will increase the power of transnational and speculative capital, at the expense of nature and the peoples' rights.

In this regard, the Our World is Not for Sale Network (OWINFS) also announced this week an appeal to "protect the commons, not the banks!", that indicates that both summits "reinforce a development model based on the commons' privatization, financial parasitism on the real economy, and the deepening of free market and investments".

Despite enormous differences of legitimacy, being the G20 an "informal space", and of Rio +20 a United Nations meeting, both summits were seen as "legitimate spaces for growing corporate control over commons," particularly with regard to the issue of the so-called green growth or economy. Only the speech and the platform of Los Cabos were green.

In the final declaration of the Summit of the Peoples against G20, driven by the Mexican Coalition and South Baja California, and other social organizations, movements and networks in over 30 countries, it is reported that the G-20 shows "the alliance between technocratic elites/global policies with multinational corporate power.

A partnership in which

the States, turned into guardians of trade competition and investor's "rights", forget their role as guarantors of citizens' and communities' rights.

The statement equates this alliance with a kind of "privatization of the State", in which global corporations make decisions that affect us all.

It also denounces the answer to the struggle of peoples for their rights, which is the criminalization of social protest. About this, we could give numerous examples of how in México and other countries, people and communities that demand to be informed and consulted on the implementation of certain policies and projects, that defend nature and communities of plunder, and overexploitation and destruction, opposing and resisting the imposition of megaprojects with high environmental and social costs are finally harassed, repressed, criminalized, and even killed.

For that and more, in the aforementioned Social Watch report it is emphasized that "the State must be the main driver of sustainability, encouraging a broad alliance with civil society and the business world, in order to decisively promote a model of viable development.

That is why it is so important to continue linking processes, struggles and alternatives shared by civil society, during this week at the Summit of the Peoples of México and Brazil, where the demand has been clear and unanimous: the multidimensional and global crisis we are living requires a profound change, a paradigm and system shift, which cannot be only economic. Our way of living and coexisting with nature must transcend the way we think and act.

[http://  
www.jornada.unam.mx/2012/06/23/  
opinion/020a2pol](http://www.jornada.unam.mx/2012/06/23/opinion/020a2pol)

## Newsletter

**The CNDH**  
**Defends and Protects your Rights**

### **President**

*Raúl Plascencia Villanueva*

### **First General Visitor**

*Luis García López-Guerrero*

### **Second General Visitor**

*Marat Paredes Montiel*

### **Third General Visitor**

*Guillermo Andrés G. Aguirre Aguilar*

### **Fourth General Visitor**

*Cruz Teresa Paniagua Jiménez*

### **Fifth General Visitor**

*Fernando Batista Jiménez*

### **Sixth General Visitor**

*Juan Pablo Piña Kurczyn*

### **Executive Secretary**

*Gerardo Gil Valdivia*

### **Technical Secretary of the Advisory Council**

*Oscar Elizundia Treviño*

Periférico Sur 3469,  
Col. San Jerónimo Lídice,  
Delegación Magdalena Contreras,  
C.P. 10200, México D.F.  
Telephone (52.55) 56 81 81 25  
y (52.55) 54 90 74 00  
Toll free code 01800 715 2000



### **Executive Secretary**

Blvd. Adolfo López Mateos, 1922, 1er piso,  
Col. Tlacopac,  
Delegación Álvaro Obregón,  
C.P. 01049, México, D.F.  
Telephone (52.55) 17 19 20 00 ext. 8712  
Fax (52.55) 17 19 21 53  
Toll free code 01 800 715 2000  
Correspondence  
[anadarbella@cndh.org.mx](mailto:anadarbella@cndh.org.mx)

