

# Newsletter









January, 2018

New Age, No. 299

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Remarks made by Luis Raúl González Pérez, President of the National Commission of Human Rights (NCHR), during the inauguration of the entitled event "Panel of dialogue of the Eastern Region of the Mexican Federation of Public Human Rights Organizations, in preparation for the contribution of NCHR to the Third Cycle of Review to Mexico of the Periodic Universal Review".

Puebla, Puebla January 23, 2018

Good morning everyone:

I begin this short message by thanking Mr. Adolfo López Badillo, President of the Human Rights Commission of Puebla's state, and of the Mexican Federation of Ombudsmen. The above, for hosting the first Regional Discussion (East zone), under the preparation for the Contribution of the National Commission of Human Rights to the Third Cycle of revision to Mexico by the Universal Periodic Review.

I greet the presence of the National State Commissions Presidents of San Luis Potosí, Morelos, Tlaxcala and Mexico's state, as well as the representatives of the Commissions of Querétaro, Hidalgo and the Federal District.

It is an honor for me to welcome you to this First Conversation under the Preparation of the Contribution on the Third Mexico's appraisal Cycle by the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism. This event demonstrates the commitment of the National Commission for Human Rights, as well, as the local ones, in boosting actions to promote human rights' protection and defense in the national territory, based on international Human Rights commitments, which the Mexican State is obliged to accomplish.

As you are aware, this Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is the most important mechanism of the United Nations, coordinated by the UN Human Rights Council to review the current human rights situation in each state members of this Organization. In this sense, it serves as a guarantee of the promotion and supervision of the human rights, as well as to promote the compli-

ance of the recommendations issued to the countries.

These actions are a very important part of the Human Rights National and local Institutions' agendas. The UPR is not only the most innovative review mechanisms of these rights, but also, maybe is the most propositional of all

Let me explain briefly, the UPR is novel because it is the only mechanism that makes a comprehensive review of all the human rights with the principles of integrality and interdependence. This means, that there is no hierarchy of the rights and that no right is more important than others are, because they are a system as a whole. If one right is violated, the whole set of rights of a person is violated.

It is also innovative, because States themselves evaluates each other. Even the 47 Human Rights Council Member States are obliged to participate within it, and all other interested UN State members can add to it. For the review that the Human Rights Council make for each state, the data is available from three main sources: a) from the Country's Report, b) from a UN Specialized Mechanisms report and; c) from the National Human Rights Institutions and of Civil Society Organizations.

Never before, nor after this mechanism, Human Rights Public Organisms, ever have this outstanding role inside the UN. It will be a unique opportunity to many of us to participate in this important exercise and, of course, we would not like to squander it.

I stress, this is an unprecedented opportunity to show our-

selves, not like the world's largest Non-judicial Systems for Human Rights Promotion and Protection, but as an efficient and effective system within our noble task, capable to organize itself to present human rights status overview in our country.

Mexico has been object of two previous assessments to this exercise, and as a result, we have issued a total of 267 Recommendations; 91 Recommendations in 2009 and 176 Recommendations in 2013.

With the aim of strengthening the contribution of this National organism, that will be send to the United Nations Human Rights Council in March of this year, we invite the Mexican Ombudsman Federation of Public Human Rights Organisms to join us in the elaboration of the information that will be given in the third appraisal cycle. Through the four Regional Discussions, we will collect the diagnostics and recommendations upon the human rights status around the 32 federative entities of the country.

During these two days, each one of you will have the opportunity to expose the human rights status in your federative entities, through six worktables. The themes were defined according to those with major recommendations resulting of the last MUPR, 2009 and 2013 exercises, and with the information that you previously answer in a questionnaire that was sent to you in order for us to know your main human rights worries in the subject.

Therefore, the topics that will be addressed in this Conversation are:



- Rights of women; girls, boys and adolescents and people with disabilities;
- Economical, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights and Indigenous Peoples Rights;
- Justice, Security and Rule of Law;
- Torture and Enforced Disappearance;
- Human Rights of Migrants and Displaced Persons and Human Trafficking;
- Freedom of Speech and Human Rights Defenders.

We Ombudsmen must be a great ally of the UPR and support the compliance of the recommendations issued to Mexico, by federal and local authorities. We have a unique opportunity to bring real stimulus to this task, which is complicated but necessary.

As I said, this Mechanism is one of the most proactive of the evaluations carried out by the UN Member States, because it is foreseen to:

- Enhance human rights situation at UN member countries;
- Fulfill the State obligations and commitments within this matter;
- Assess human rights advances and point out challenges in each country;
- Favor technical assistance to

- strengthen the State capability through thereof consult and consent;
- Encourage best practices exchange among States and other actors interested with their consent.
- Achieve human rights cooperation in promotion and protection, with UN pertinent organs participation.

The Human Rights Council, shall announce the recommendations addressed to the Mexican State in 2019, in this respect, together, we will have expressed upon thereof and stablish a common strategy to follow up its fulfillment.

The task is just beginning; there is a long way to go. By the moment, several civil society organizations have presented 39 contributions to the UPR, is a world of information to process. Hence, this great importance of these discussions, because they will allow us to organize and prioritize for attention to the outstanding issues that, in terms of human rights, we have in our country.

We are facing a participatory and inclusive exercise. Our country's Public Organisms for Human Rights Promotion and Protection could not have a better action framework within the United Nations. As President of the CNDH, I express my satisfac-

tion by cooperating with the Universal Periodic Review and I am confident that our contribution will help to these Mechanism's deliberations in an orderly and strategic manner.

I quote as an example, the enactment of the General Law against Enforced Disappearance. This not only helped to fulfill 6 or 7 recommendations made by the Working Group against Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances and of the Committee against Enforced Disappearances, both of the United Nations. It potentially, in its proper application, will help to fulfill more than 60 recommendations of these instances that includes judgments of the American- Court of Human Rights.

I very much appreciate all your collaboration and we will be adding you to the events derived from this mechanism. I feel accompanied in this process and excited that you welcome and are committed with it, knowing that all this in the end, is for the benefit, compliance and respect for human rights in our country.

Part of our challenges is to advance within the compliance of the recommendations from several international and regional mechanisms of human rights, by federal and local authorities. Our role is to contribute to the Mexican State responsibilities upon Human Rights fulfillment, by the

Human Rights Council's review. The Mexican state, in its autonomy exercise, assumed the commitment of submitting the challenges for that aim.

Lastly, I want to inform you that, shortly, we will conduct the same event in another three venues (Guanajuato, Baja California and Campeche). All your contributions are fundamental to bring to Geneva the firm, autonomous and independent voice of the Mexican Federation of Public Human Rights Organizations.

Many thanks.

#### **Event of the month**

## IN COLLABORATION OF THE OMBUDSMEN OF OUR COUNTRY, THE CNDH PREPARES ITS CONTRIBUTION TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL'S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

DGC/027/18 Mexico City, January 31, de 2018

In an unprecedented way, the National Commission of Human Rights (CNDH) will present at the Third appraisal Cycle to Mexico by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), its contribution in order to include inputs of the 32 members of the Mexican Federation of Ombudsmen (MFO).

Likewise, jointly, it prepares the follow- up mechanisms to the recommendations that will be issued by the UN Human Rights Council, once Mexico sustains its report before the United Nations highest body on the matter.

When the first of the four regional talks was opened in the city of Puebla to gather the diagnoses and proposals on the situation of human rights in the 32 states, the National Ombudsman, Luis Raúl González Pérez, told the Ombudsperson that they should present an overview of the fundamental human rights' state in our country.

Accompanied by the President of the Human Rights' Commission of the State of Puebla and the President of the FMOPDH, Adolfo López Badillo, González Pérez headed this discussion. In the event also participated the Ombudspersons form the States of Morelos, José Arturo Olivares; México, Jorge Olvera; San Luis Potosí, José Andrés López, and Tlaxcala, Víctor Manuel Cid



del Prado, as well as representatives of Ombudspersons from Mexico City, Querétaro and Hidalgo, Nashieli Ramírez, Roxana de Jesús Ávalos y José Alfredo Sepúlveda, respectively.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_027.pdf

**Press Releases** 

### THE CNDH CELEBRATES THE JDESIGNATION OF THE JUDGE EDUARDO FERRER MACGREGOR TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE

**AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN** RIGHTS

DGC/001/18 January 1st, 2018

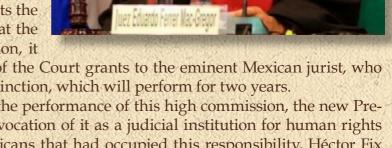
The National Commission of Human Rights (CNDH) congratulates the Judge Eduardo Ferrer MacGregor, who, from today January 1, will assume the Presidency of the American Court of Human Rights.

This National Body considers that the actual Vice-president Ferrer MacGregor unanimous election reflects the high degree of maturity and prevailing harmony at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. In addition, it

echoes the abundant confidence that the Plenary of the Court grants to the eminent Mexican jurist, who thus becomes the third Mexican to receive that distinction, which will perform for two years.

The CNDH expresses its certainty that, during the performance of this high commission, the new President of the Court will reaffirm the institutional vocation of it as a judicial institution for human rights defense. Ferrer MacGregor joins to the list of Mexicans that had occupied this responsibility, Héctor Fix Zamudio, who led it in two periods, 1990-1993 and 1994-1997, and Sergio García Ramírez, 2004-2007.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_001.pdf



### THE CNDH REQUESTS NOT TO LEAVE THE MIGRANT **POPULATION IN THE US DURING 2018, AND IT CONSIDERES NECESSARY TO RETHINK THE NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY.** WHICH SHOULD BE CENTERED ON THE PERSON DIGNITY

DGC/007/18 January 6th, 2018

The National Commission of Human Rights Commission (CNDH) calls on the authorities of the three levels of government not to abandon the more than 12 million Mexicans living in the United States. The above, since this 2018 will be crucial in the defense of the migrant community, given that the previous year the speech of hate and actions of discrimination, racism, xenophobia, criminalization and intransigency against the nationals on the other side of the border prevailed.

The American migratory policy changes, and in that sense the people, who live in irregular migratory conditions, as well as those who are in their way to the northern part of the American Continent, suffer from human rights violations. In this context,



the CNDH requested the intervention of the United Nations Special Rapporteur, as well as the good offices of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions. Also it requested the help of the Rapporteur for Migrants Human Rights of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Committee for Migrants Workers Human Rights Protection and members of their families, among others, to watch, to follow up and, if it is the case, to give pronouncements and dictate the correspondent measures.

Mexican Ombudsman also participated at preparatory meeting of the UN Global Compact for a Safe, Ordered and regular migration, where the Global Alliance of the National Human Rights Institutions presented its position, in order to advance in its consolidation.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com 2018 007.pdf

# THE CNDH ISSUES RECOMMENDATION TO SEVERAL FEDERAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES BECAUSE OF AN ILLEGAL DETENTION, ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE AND ARBITRARY EXCECUTION OF A MEXICAN CITIZEN AND THREE AMERICAN CITIZENS IN MATAMOROS, TAMAULIPAS

DGC/017/18 January 18th, 2018

The National Commission of Human Rights (CNDH) addressed the Recommendation 77/2017 to the Navy Secretary, Almirant Vidal Fancisco Soberón Sanz, to the State Governor of Tamaulipas, Francisco Javier García Cabeza de Vaca, to the National Security Commissioner, Renato Sales Heredia and to the Municipal President of Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Jesús de la Garza Díaz Del Guante.

The National Commission gathered sufficient evidence in the dossier CNDH/2/2014/7211/Q and the accumulative CND-H/2/2015/2937/Q. The information certify that on October 13, 2014 two brothers of American nationality went out from their

father's home, situated at Control town, Matamoros municipality, Tamaulipas, to get together with their sister, who is also an American citizen, accompanied by another Mexican person, in the International Free Trade Bridge Lucio Blanco, well known as "International Bridge Los Indios".

They were in their way to their home, located in Progreso, Texas, United States. The case is that under the bridge, these four people were deprived arbitrary of their freedom by public servers from the First Naval Zone of the Navy Ministry (SEMAR), and police officers belonging to the Operative Tactic Group Hercules Matamoros ("Hercules Group", formed by municipal instances

in function at event's date). They also seized three vehicles, which are property of the detainees.

The National Commission testified that the victim's detention was illegal and arbitrary, because there was no warrant arrest against them, neither an urgency case nor flagrance that will legitimized this action.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_017.pdf



# THE CNDH PRESENTED BEFORE THE SCJN, AN ACTION OF UNCONSTITUTIONALITY AGAINST SEVERAL ARTICLES OF THE HOMELAND SECURITY LAW THAT THREATENS MEXICAN CITIZENS' FREEDOMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

DGC/018/18 January 19th, 2018

The National Commission of Human Rights (CNDH) presented before the Supreme Court of Justice (SCJN) an action of unconstitutionality against different articles of the Homeland Security Law (HSL) because they develop the possibility of violation to basic rights and freedoms. They also may affect the design, balance and faculties constitutionally stablished between the Federation and the States, Institutions, State bodies and Powers.

This content action promoted by the CNDH, is the result of a process of dialogue and discussion carried out for the creation of this law. In this procedure, the National Organism includes civil society, academics, experts in the field and representatives of bodies linked with human rights protection and defense, at the national

and international level, in which their approaches were listen and raised.

Among the referred multiple arguments in this unconstitutionality action, there many questions related with civil authorities' subordination towards soldiers posed by the law, which are contrary to criteria established by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. It also underlines the fact that the provisions of article 21 of the Constitution are not known, which expressly indicates the matters and authorities that correspond to public security, when attempting to re-

CNDH presentó ante la SCJN una acción de inconstitucionalidad contra diversos artículos de la Ley de Seguridad Interior que ponen en riesgo libertades y derechos humanos



move from this scope any action that is carried out under the law, regardless of its true nature and practical consequences. Likewise, the law intends to redefine and prioritize national security concepts, such as homeland security and public security, leaving apart differential and specific content and treatment from this concepts carried out by thereof at Constitutional level.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_018.pdf

# THE NATIONAL OMBUDSMAN CALLS UPON TO COMPREHEND THE HOLOCAUST LESSON BY FACING THE ALARMING INCREASE OF THE SPEECH ON HATE AGAINST REFUGEES, MIGRANTS AND THOSE WHO THINK DIFFERENTLY

DGC/025/18 January 27, 2018

At stressing that the Holocaust is as lesson upon extreme fanatics, intolerance, discrimination and racism, the National Ombdusman, Luis Raúl González Pérez, underlined that the global increasing speech of hate boosts and promotes xenophobia, as well as the rejection of migrants and refugees, and the animosity towards those whom does not share the same worldview.

At heading the annual Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, at the Memory and Tolerance Museum, he assured that the preservation and strengthening of the democratic environment, that Mexico has developed, is a commitment and responsibility of all. He reaffirmed that no society could sustain on justice and peace if it rejects or diminishes human dignity

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_025.pdf



Responsible Authority	Issue	Recommendation
Mexican Social Security Institute	About the case of Human Rights violations to Health Protection,	Recommendation 1/2018 January 31, 2018
IMSS	Life, Children Best Interest and Truth principle, by inappropriate medical care, in detriment of V, at the Hospital General Regional 1, at Tijuana, and Hospital General de Sub-Zona 6, in Tecate, Baja Califor- nia, both belonging to IMSS	http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/ Recomendaciones/2018/Rec 2018 001. pdf

#### **Article of the month**

New Age, No. **299** 

### Afro-descendants: identity and resistance culture

We will understand the Afro-descendant culture as that segment of the cultural diversity of the Americas and Caribbean space, formed by different musical expressions, culinary, dances, working technics, traditional architecture, technological knowledge, afro- epistemological, spiritual, ethics, linguistic, brought by the Africans in slavery conditions during the slave trade.

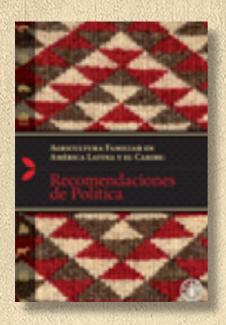
Some examples are the different existing samples of drums during the African diaspora in the hosting countries, such as Batá drums (Iya, itotele and okonkolo), in Cuba, culo e'puyas in Venezuela, Puita in Brazil, up to the cununo in Ecuador.

Other examples are some food preparations such as cafunga of Barlovento (Venezuela). Words like Malembe, Birongo, Carabalí, Zambe, exemplify linguistic sub-Saharan African heritage at everyday speech. Spirituality played a leading role in order to preserve codes of the complex religious systems Yoruba, Abakuá (Efik-Efok-Nigeria's antecedents), Kongos (Angola, both Congos) and Ewe/Fon (Benin/Dahomey):

These religious systems are well known as Ocha Rule or orishas creed, or as Vudu (Haiti, New Orleans, Cuba and Tobago). Preservation, creation and innovation is a historical continuum that breaks occidental cultural folklore paradigms that stuck us in time.

https://www.nodal.am/2017/10/afrodescendientes-identidad-cultura-resistencia-jesus-chucho-garcia/

Book of the month New Age, No. 299



## Family Agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean: Policy Recommendations

Edited by Salomón Salcedo and Lya Guzmán

N° of pages: 486 Binding: PDF

Editorial: Publish by the United Nations United Nations Food and

Agriculture Organization Language: SPANISH

ISBN: 978-92-5-308364-0

Family farming is a key sector in order to achieve hunger eradication and a change towards agricultural sustainable systems. Small farmers are allies of food security as well as main actors at the countries' efforts to achieve a future without hunger.

In our region, 80% of the exploitation comes from family farming. Millions of persons are the main source of farming or rural employment. This book systemize experiences and lessons that can contribute to public policies and dialogue so we can face the challenges that the family farmers deal with.

http://www.fao.org/docrep/019/i3788s/i3788s.pdf



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## Newsletter

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