



Press Release

SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS TO VISIT MEXICO

7 March 2008, Geneva.- The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Jorge Bustamante, arrives in Mexico City tomorrow 9 March on a seven-day official visit. Mr. Bustamante is a Mexican national who is Professor of Sociology at Notre Dame University and President and founder of El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF) in Tijuana. His responsibilities include investigating and reporting on the obstacles existing to the full and effective protection of the human rights of migrants, including difficulties for the return of migrants who are undocumented or in an irregular situation. His mandate extends to all United Nations member states.

The Special Rapporteur will be visiting Mexico at the invitation of the Government, and his mission will take part in the capital, Tijuana and Tapachula. The visit, with a view of Mexico as a country of origin, transit and destination, will include meetings with representatives of the Government, human rights NGOs, researchers and other civil society groups. The Special Rapporteur also intends to meet with migrants themselves, through his visits to detention centers and shelters.

Throughout the visit the Special Rapporteur will take into account the 2002 visit of the previous Special Rapporteur, Gabriela Rodríguez Pizarro. As a result of the visit, Mr. Bustamante will report to the Human Rights Council on Mexico's compliance with its human rights obligations and will make recommendations designed to promote more effective protection for migrants in the future.

For more information:
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