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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Thirty-first session

INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECONOMIC AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1159 (XLI) REGARDING  
CO-OPERATION WITH REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES  
CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

Note by the Secretary-General

At its forty-first session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1159 (XLI) <sup>1/</sup> regarding co-operation with regional intergovernmental bodies concerned with human rights. Under the terms of this resolution, the Council, desiring to make use of all possible information and experience to advance the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinctions as to race, sex, colour or religion, inter alia, invited the Secretary-General to arrange for the exchange of information on matters relating to human rights between the Commission and the Council of Europe, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States and other regional intergovernmental organizations particularly concerned for human rights.

The present note contains a communication dated 6 January 1975 received from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in response to the invitation of the Secretary-General for submission of information within the framework of the exchange provided for in the resolution.

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<sup>1/</sup> The resolution was adopted at the 1445th plenary meeting of the Council on 5 August 1966.

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A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fourth regular session (April 19 - May 1, 1974)

Pursuant to Article 52 (f) of the Charter of the Organization of American States and Article 9 (bis) c of its Statute, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights submitted its Annual Report for the year 1973<sup>1/</sup> to the fourth regular session of the General Assembly of the OAS, which was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

The report is divided into two sections, preceded by an introduction that refers to the provisions of the Charter of the Organization, the Statute of the Commission and the terms of Resolution XXII of the Second Special Inter-American Conference, which govern the presentation of the report, as well as a guide to the contents.

In accordance with paragraph 4 of the aforementioned Resolution XXII, Part I of the first section contains constitutional, legislative and administrative provisions and court decisions handed down in the American states in 1972 and 1973, which, in the opinion of the Commission, denote progress toward the attainment of the objectives set forth in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man.

Part II of that same section indicates the areas in which it is recommended that measures be taken in order to give greater effect to human rights. The first area in which the Commission recommended a redoubling of efforts, both by domestic legislation and by international safeguards, is the right to life. The IACHR noted that this most fundamental of rights is being jeopardized by the struggle between many American states and minority social groups, who, by means of terrorism, "have sought to

<sup>1/</sup> OEA/Ser.P/AG/doc.409/74.

impose social reforms rejected by the majority of the people" or to destroy the existing order. According to the Commission, the grave excesses resulting from this struggle are never justified. The IACHR also mentioned the violation of the right to life among certain Indian populations who have been eradicated by "rapacious entrepreneurs and usurpers" in an effort to obtain the Indian's land.

The Commission noted that these political and social struggles had led to the adoption of measures, such as state of siege and the suspension of habeas corpus, that violate the right to liberty and personal security. In this connection, mention was made of the lack of many of the basic elements of normal judicial proceedings in trials conducted by the military. Also mentioned were the subhuman conditions and lack of rehabilitation programs in the prison systems of most of the countries of the hemisphere.

Another area indicated in Part II of the Report is the right to equality which is being ignored, with no rational justification, by current laws in American countries. It declared that certain social sectors, such as the Indian community, are usually denied the legal protection extended to the more favored sectors.

The Commission also considered that the establishment of "crimes of opinion" is entirely incompatible with the American Declaration, particularly the right to freedom of investigation, opinion, expression and dissemination and that such a measure usually leads to a veiled form of censorship of the communications media.

The Commission pointed out that "of all possible political actions, perhaps none is more likely to jeopardize human rights in general than the violent overthrow of a popularly elected government by one that

recognizes only its strength as its right to assume power," thus denying to the populace their right to participate in government.

Finally, the IACHR remarked on the number of complaints that it had received regarding violations of the right to strike and to free trade union activities.

As a result of the denunciations received by the Commission which led to the foregoing observations, it was deemed appropriate to recommend to the member states of the Organization the following:

1. That even in emergency situations stemming from political upheavals an attempt be made to hold to a minimum the restrictions on fundamental rights of the violations of such rights; particularly, that the death sentence not be imposed for political offenses or for common crimes linked to political offenses, and that steps be taken for the proper punishment of those who indulge in excesses of violence, in acts of cruelty or torture, in abusive attacks on or affronts to personal honor and human dignity.
2. That efforts be redoubled to provide adequate protection to Indian populations and, in general, to those social groups that, because of their low cultural level, are least able to defend themselves, guaranteeing them the peaceful enjoyment of fundamental human rights.
3. That an effort be made to limit, insofar as possible, the time period for the application of constitutional procedures designed to maintain order and security during an emergency, and also for the subjection of civilians to military jurisdiction, even when such a measure is authorized by constitutional provisions.
4. That those states that have ratified the Third Geneva Convention, of August 12, 1949, bear in mind that Article 3 imposes limits on the measures that can be taken in cases of internal armed conflict.
5. That the necessary measures be taken so that, in proceedings initiated because of internal disturbances in the states, the accused will be given full protection, with the right to independent legal counsel and to due process being guaranteed.
6. That persons arrested, tried, and sentenced for political offenses under existing law not be subjected to the same treatment, or confined in the same institutions, as ordinary offenders.

7. That some American states make a sustained effort to improve their detention centers, their prison systems, and the professional training of prison personnel, so that the punishment resulting in the loss of freedom can lead to the inmates' social rehabilitation.
8. That, insofar as possible, limits be placed on measures that bridge the right to freedom of information and the right to freedom of expression of thought, no law being permitted to establish "crimes of opinion" or to infringe the principle that criminal responsibility is personal, and no system being developed that implies monopoly of the management of the mass media.
9. That all states seek to guarantee the right of all citizens to participate in government, through the activities of a number of political parties, the freely exercised vote, and the appropriate bodies of a democratic-representative form of government.
10. That inasmuch as today's world demands recognition of the right to labor union freedom on the part of workers and employers, it is advisable to respect that right as defined in the ILO conventions. The same pertains to the right to strike, as applied to gains in the field of labor relations.

In compliance with the aforementioned Resolution XXII, Article 150 of the Charter of the OAS and Article 57 of its Regulations, Part III of the Annual Report contains the appropriate observations to the General Assembly made with respect to cases in which violations of human rights had been proved and recommendations had been made to the governments concerned.

Thus, included in Part III are resolutions on Cases 1683 and 1684 (Brazil), 1604, 1721 and 1726 (Cuba), 1716 and 1731 (Haiti), 1688 (Nicaragua) and 1741, 1758, 1759, 1762 and 1763 (Paraguay).

A second section provides more details on the activities of the Commission in 1973 and is comprised of a synopsis of the cases being processed, a review of the General Work Program of the Commission and other relevant

information. The purpose of the section is to enable the General Assembly to form a more accurate opinion on the overall work carried out by the Commission.

At its tenth plenary session held on April 30, 1974, the General Assembly of the Organization adopted the following resolution: <sup>2/</sup>

HAVING SEEN the annual report presented to its fourth regular session by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (AG/doc.409/74),

RESOLVES:

To take note of the annual report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and to thank the Commission for the important work it has been doing.

B. PERMANENT COUNCIL

At its regular meeting on December 4, 1974, the Permanent Council of the OAS took up the report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights regarding the examination in loco that the Commission carried out during the period July 22-August 2, 1974 in the Republic of Chile. <sup>3/</sup> At that meeting, the Council decided: "a) To transmit to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, for its information, the document containing the observations of the Government of Chile, presented at that meeting (AG/doc.385/74); b) To suggest to the Commission the advisability of holding a special meeting as soon as possible for the purpose of examining these observations; c) To refer, in due time, to the General Assembly, at its fifth regular session, at the request of the Delegation of Chile formulated in that same meeting, the report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on the "Status of Human Rights in Chile," the observations of the Government of Chile and any additional report of the Commission on those observations." <sup>4/</sup>

<sup>2/</sup> OEA/Ser.P/IV-0.2, Vol.I, p.36.

<sup>3/</sup> OEA/Ser.L/V/II.34 doc.21.

<sup>4/</sup> OEA/Ser.G/CP/INF.607/74.

With respect to the suggestion of a special session to consider the observations of the Government of Chile, the Chairman of the Commission, Dr. Andrés Aguilar, by note of December 18, 1974<sup>5/</sup> informed the Chairman of the Permanent Council, Ambassador Miguel Solano López, that a majority of the members of the Commission, having been apprised of the document containing the observations of the Government of Chile, were of the opinion that it was not necessary to meet for that purpose "since there are no new facts contained in the aforementioned document that would lead to changing the Commission's report in any substantial way."

C. INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Commission held one special and two regular sessions during the course of the year 1974.

1. The thirty-second session<sup>6/</sup>

This session of the IACHR took place April 8-18, 1974 in Washington, D.C. and was attended by all the members, to wit: Drs. Justino Jiménez de Aréchaga (Chairman), Carlos A. Dunshee de Abranches (Vice Chairman), Manuel Bianchi, Gabino Fraga, Robert F. Woodward, Genaro R. Carrió and Andrés Aguilar.

The Commission began the study of the denunciations referring to alleged violations of human rights in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela that it had received since the close of the thirty-first session.

<sup>5/</sup> OEA/Ser.G/CP/INF.612/74

<sup>6/</sup> More complete details can be found in the document "Report on the Work Accomplished by the IACHR during its thirty-second session" (OEA/Ser.L/V/II.32 doc.31).



In those cases deemed admissible, it was decided to request either additional data from the claimants or the appropriate information from the government concerned, according to the circumstances of the case.

Likewise, the Commission continued its examination of cases already under consideration from previous sessions, which referred to alleged violations in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, United States and Uruguay.

In each case the Commission named a rapporteur on the basis of whose report and recommendations the cases were examined and decisions were made which were forwarded to the governments concerned and to the claimants.

With respect to the in loco examination of the situation of human rights in Chile, consideration of which had been postponed at the previous session pending receipt of information from the government of that country, the Commission at this session decided, after studying the notes of that government dated January 10 and March 27, 1974, that it was necessary to carry out such an examination in order to verify the veracity of the denunciations. To that end, by note of April 18, 1974 the Commission requested the necessary consent from the Government of Chile.

In regard to Guatemala, the IACHR decided to send a note to the government of that country explaining the nature and scope of the request for permission to visit that country made on November 1, 1973 and denied by the government, which alleged that it would be an infringement of its sovereignty.

An important element of the activities of the Commission is its General Work Program, whose purpose is to promote, in the broadest possible fashion, the knowledge and observance of human rights in the American states.

As part of this Program the Commission, at its thirty-second session, took note of the sixth report of the "Right to Vote in the Americas," presented by the rapporteur, Prof. Bianchi. The Commission decided to continue its study of this right in future opportunities.

With respect to the Right to Education, the rapporteur of which is Mr. Woodward, it was decided to bring up to date the first report on this subject, prepared by a former member of the Commission, Dr. Mario Alzamora Valdez, on the basis of the data requested of the governments on the most recent technical and legislative measures in this field.

With reference to the theme of Human Rights and the Development of Science and Technology, the IACHR considered the new report presented by the rapporteur, Dr. Abranches, and decided to repeat the request of last year to the governments for information on the developments, both technical and legal, in this area.

As to the creation of National Committees on Human Rights, envisioned for the member states of the OAS under the orientation of the IACHR, it was decided to repeat the invitations to the Bar Associations of those countries with the idea of establishing such committees.

2. The thirty-third session (special)<sup>7/</sup>

The sole purpose of this special session of the Commission was to examine the situation of human rights in Chile. On April 18, 1974 the IACHR had requested of the government of that country the necessary consent to make an in loco examination and, by note of May 23 of that year,

<sup>7/</sup> More complete details can be found in the document "Report on Work Accomplished by the IACHR during its thirty-third session (special)" (OEA/Ser.L/V/II.33 doc.15).

the Government of Chile granted the consent and suggested that the visit take place during the month of July. In June the Executive Secretary, Dr. Luis Reque, visited Chile and at that time it was agreed that the in loco examination should begin on July 22.

The members attending this session were Dres. Aréchaga, Abranches, Bianchi, Woodward and Carrió. Drs. Fraga and Aguilar were unable to participate due to prior commitments.

In the course of the two-week session the Commission met with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Defense and Justice; the President of the Supreme Court; the Commission studying constitutional reform; the Secretary General of the Presidency; the Archbishop of Santiago and the President of the Bar Association, as well as many local authorities, in Santiago and elsewhere in the country.

In addition, the Commission met with the Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Latin America who gave an account of the status of the refugees in Chile and the actions taken by the government with regard thereto. Information was also received from the International Red Cross on the situation of human rights in Chile.

At one of its sessions the Commission received a group of twelve lawyers representing the Bar Association of Chile. The lawyers informed the IACHR on the legal situation in the country with particular emphasis on those persons detained by reason of the decree-laws on "state of siege" and "state of war," as well as on the exercise of the remedy of amparo.

The Commission visited many detention centers where its members spoke freely with prisoners. Although the Commission was provided with ample

facilities by the Government of Chile, it was not permitted to visit three establishments, generally pointed out by prisoners as the principal centers at which physical and psychological pressures were applied, because they had been declared military zones. In addition, members of the Commission examined judicial files, observed the functioning of Councils of War, etc.

An office was opened in the downtown hotel in which the Commission was quartered where more than 500 written complaints were presented and were given the appropriate handling.

As a result of the in loco examination, the Commission, by note of July 29, suggested to the Government of Chile that it study without delay the adoption of the following eleven measures:

1. To make available the necessary means in order that the families of the persons deprived of their liberty for any reason will immediately be notified with respect to the causes and place of detention, as well as any later transfers of the prisoners.
2. To modify the conditions of detention of minors of both sexes who are now held in establishments created for adults and who are subjected to the same conditions as adults.
3. To take every possible measure to avoid the application of physical or psychological pressure to those detained and to sanction severely those persons responsible for such acts.
4. To establish, in the exercise of the constitutional powers that the Junta of Government has assumed in accordance with the Decree-Laws Nos. 1 and 128, a reasonable time limit on deprivations of liberty ordered in conformity with the provisions of Article 72, section 17 of the Constitution.
5. To take the necessary measures so that the detentions or transfers ordered in application of Article 72, section 17 of the Constitution do not result, in and of themselves, in actual punishment, such as unjustified or prolonged forced labor or solitary confinement.

6. To recognize fully the right of the normal professional activities of lawyers, permitting them free communication with those persons detained who need their assistance, regardless of the conditions of detention.
7. To authorize the exit from the country of those persons detained for reasons of security to whom no commission of crime has been imputed, in the event that they wish to leave the territory of Chile.
8. To establish, by means of constitutional interpretation or other equally effective means, that, under all circumstances, the remedy of amparo obligates the administrative authority to carry out the judicial order to present before the competent court the person in whose benefit the remedy has been presented, with a precise indication of the reasons and place of detention.
9. To exclude from the special courts (Tribunales de excepción) all causes in which there is alleged the commission of infractions of a criminal-administrative type, such as, for example, those concerning taxes.
10. To grant to the pertinent offices the necessary means so that they may give rapid information to the families of those persons whose whereabouts are unknown, whether or not it concerns persons detained by the authorities.
11. To adopt a standard, mandatory for all state officials, that would bar application of the provisions dictated under the "state of war" to any act that occurred prior to September 11, 1973.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile replied to the aforementioned note by note of August 2 addressed to the Chairman of the Commission. The pertinent parts of that note are as follows:

"... I can tell you that, except for points 1, 7, 8 and 10 referring to measures that might be taken by the higher officials of the government services concerned, all of the other items are juridical or administrative matters that are being fully complied with in Chile. If any violations have occurred, they have not been brought to the attention of the Government. Should your Commission have information about such violations, I would be very grateful if you would inform me of them.

"With regard to item 2, I must point out that minors are taken to the Reformatory while a decision is made as to whether they will be brought to trial, depending on whether they can be held legally responsible under existing law. If the Commission has found any case of this kind, I would appreciate it if you would inform me of it so that any such anomaly may be immediately remedied.

"With regard to item 3, as the Ministers of the Interior and of National Defense have stated to you on repeated occasions, every effort has been made to avoid the occurrence of any such excesses. Moreover, as has been stated to you on previous occasions, our criminal law classifies such acts as crimes, and the person affected or any person can activate the judicial mechanism for ensuring appropriate penalties. Again I would appreciate it if you would inform me immediately of any specific cases you might find, so that appropriate steps might be taken.

"Regarding point 4, I must point out to you that the Government has made every effort to see that the state of siege does not extend beyond the reasonable, essential, and minimum time required for safeguarding the population. It is not now, nor ever has been, the desire of the Government to prolong this kind of measure but neither can it disregard the security of the large majority of Chileans.

"Regarding point 5, I refer to what has been previously stated, and I would appreciate it, in the event any cases of forced labor, or of persons being held in solitary confinement for an unjustified or prolonged period, are found, if you would immediately inform me of such a situation or situations.

"With regard to item 6, free access of counsel has never been denied and even with respect to wartime proceedings, Article 184 of the Code of Military Justice states "(counsel) may also communicate with the accused, and no decree of incommunication may prevent him from so doing." This provision is enforced, and is complied with, as are all other relevant provisions.

"With regard to point 9, Chilean special courts have jurisdiction over such matters, in most cases, in application of the law of internal security of the State, violations of which, in a state of siege, are under the jurisdiction of such courts.

"With respect to point 11, I feel a policy such as that suggested is unnecessary. Non-retroactiveness of criminal law takes precedence over all penal juridical actions in Chile, and I urge you to inform me of any specific violation that you might find".

While the IACHR was meeting in Chile it received information relating to the measures adopted by the Government of Peru with respect to various publications of that country which, if true, would constitute a serious attack on the freedom of expression and dissemination. The Commission, by cable of July 29, 1974, requested the appropriate data from the Government of Peru and that government, by cable of July 31, stated that such measures were necessary as part of the reforms put into effect to change the economic and social structure of the country.

3. The thirty-fourth session<sup>8/</sup>

This session was held October 15-25 at the seat of the Commission in Washington, D.C. and was attended by all of the members.

In accordance with Article 6 of its Statute, the Commission elected officers for the next two years. At the first meeting of this session, Dr. Aguilar was unanimously elected Chairman and Dr. Abranches was re-elected Vice Chairman. At the same meeting Drs. Fraga and Woodward were elected as third member and alternate, respectively, of the standing subcommittee.

Much of the thirty-fourth session was taken up with the preparation of the report on the in loco examination of the situation of human rights in Chile, which the Commission carried out from July 22 to August 2 of this year. This report chronicles the activities of the IACHR during its two-week visit and is divided into 18 chapters, to wit: Introduction; Background of the visit of Chile; Initiation of the visit; The normative system established beginning September 11, 1973 and the "State of War"; Detention facilities and testimony of prisoners, tortures; Installations

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<sup>8/</sup> More complete details can be found in the document "Report on the Work Accomplished by the IACHR during its thirty-fourth session" (OEA/Ser.L/V/II.34 doc.30).

the Commission was not able to visit. Establishments denounced as torture centers; Administration of justice by the war councils and the military courts; Status of the administration of justice and the office of the general comptroller of the Republic; Detention for an indeterminate time and persons who have disappeared; Execution by shooting without trial; Freedom of dissemination of thought and of information -- crimes of opinion; Political rights, "Political truths" and destruction of the voters' rolls; Right to leave the territory of the country or to remain in it. Right of asylum; The status of other human rights; Preliminary note of the Commission to the Government of Chile - and its reply; Conclusions; Recommendations; Events subsequent to our mission; and, Places visited by the Commission.

At the end of this session the final report adopted by the Commission was sent to the Government of Chile. The Commission decided also to submit this report to the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the OAS.

The Commission also made decisions regarding the communications, alleging violations of human rights in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, that it had received since its last regular session, held in April of this year.

It also continued the examination of cases already under study which deal with alleged violations in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

In these cases the Commission appointed rapporteurs from among its members whose recommendations were submitted to the consideration of the



Commission. The accords reached in each case were conveyed to the governments concerned and to the claimants.

In addition, the Commission agreed on the text of Part II of the Annual Report which deals with "a statement of areas in which further steps are needed to give effect to the human rights set forth in the American Declaration."

The IACHR was not able at this session to continue study of the items pending on its General Work Program due to the amount of time taken up in the preparation of the report on the in loco examination carried out in Chile.

With respect to the American Convention on Human Rights, the Commission authorized its Chairman to visit, when deemed opportune, various American countries in order to promote ratification of that document.

D. INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

During the year covered by this report the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) carried out numerous activities pursuant to the fulfillment of its objectives, which are summarized in its Organic Statute as "to work for the extension of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights to the women of Americas..."

The Commission was presided over by Professor Otilia de Tejeira and Mrs. Maria Lavallo Urbina acted as Vice Chairman. At the Seventeenth Assembly held in September 1974 these officers were replaced by Miss Isabel Arrua Vallejo, Chairman, and Mrs. Rita Z. Johnson, Vice Chairman.

The following regional activities were among those carried out with the idea of preparing women in the exercise of their rights and the assumption of their concomitant duties within the context of participating in the integral development of their respective countries:

- The Seminar on the Role of Women in the Taking of Decisions that Affect the Family - San José, Costa Rica, March 24-28, 1974.
- Fifth Seminar on the Incorporation of Rural Women into the Development of their Community - Tegucigalpa, Honduras, May 13-19, 1974.
- Fifth Seminar on Latin American Integration - Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 16-22, 1974.
- First Seminar on the Woman Artisan - Asuncion, Paraguay, June 29-July 5, 1974.
- Tenth Course of the Inter-American Program for Training Women Leaders - Montevideo, Uruguay, July 8-22, 1974.

The IV and V Regular Sessions of the Executive Committee met at the headquarters of the Commission in Washington, D.C. on February 11-14 and May 28-30, 1974, respectively. The agendas of the Executive Committee, charged with seeing to the fulfillment of the mandates issued by the Assemblies of the Commission, contained items pertaining directly to the area of human rights.

One aspect of the CIM's activities that has been intensified in recent years is the offering of seminars prepared by other organizations and departments of the OAS. These are the seminars on youth and cooperatives and the seminars on social security. This type of event that unites an appreciable number of women participants has proved to be valuable.

The following publications of the Inter-American Commission of Women are useful in disseminating news regarding the work of the CIM:

Informational Bulletin (monthly in English and Spanish), Enlace (biannual), News Bulletin (annually in English and Spanish). In addition to these regular publications, the CIM published the first volume in its Studies series "Divorce Laws in the American Republics," and in its Bibliographies series "Bibliografía de la mujer panameña."

The CIM also sponsored its first essay competition, selecting the topic "Political Participation of Women" as the theme. The jury awarded first prize to Dr. Sandra Thomas for her work entitled "Women of the Americas: Political Participants Emerging in an Era of Change." Honorable mention went to Miss Patricia Pinzón Gómez for her study, "Participación Política de la Mujer en Colombia."

From January 14 to February 1, 1974 the Chairman attended the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York, where plans for the observance of International Women's Year in 1975 were closely studied.

The Seventeenth Assembly of the Inter-American Commission of Women was held September 16-23, 1974 in Washington, D.C. Two working committees were formed to deal with an agenda containing 15 topics, such as: International Women's Year, Round Table on Women's Issues; Work of the CIM and Projections for the future; Analysis of the Results of the Surveys on the Status of Women in the fields of Politics, Labor and Family Law; and Follow-up Program of the Resolution of the Inter-American Specialized Conference on the Integral Education of Women (CEIM).

Among the thirty resolutions adopted by the Assembly are those entitled:

- I - Purposes, Objectives and Functions for the Future Action of the CIM;
- II - Proposal for a Study to Reform the Organic Statute of the CIM; III -

Declaration of Principles; IV - Program for Observance of International Women's Year; V- Follow-up Programs of Resolutions of the Specialized Inter-American Conference on Integral Education of Women; VI - Adoption of the Biennial Work Program for 1974/1976; VIII - Support by the Inter-American Council for Education, Science and Culture for the Observance of International Women's Year; IX - National Committees of Cooperation; X - Evaluation of the Programs of the Commission; XIII - World Conference on Women of the United Nations; XIV - Inclusion of Research Programs on the Problems of Working Women in the 1974/1976 Biennium; XV - Action of the Inter-American Commission of Women in the Provision of Direct Services for Development; XVII - Publicizing of Laws for the Protection of the Family and of Women; XVIII - Coordination of the Activities of CIM with those of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations; XXI - Fair Treatment of Women in the General Secretariat of the OAS; XXII - Analysis of the Findings of the Surveys on the Status of Women in the Political, Labor and Family Law Fields; XXVIII - Declaration of the Inclusion of Women in Political Parties, Labor Unions and Trade Associations.

The International Women's Year - 1975 will mark an important event in all of the world, and the Commission has prepared a complete program for its observance in keeping with the announced themes of the year: Equality, Development and Peace. It also projects a close coordination with all other organizations and entities that will observe this year.

E. INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE

The highlight of the activities of the Inter-American Children's Institute in the period covered by this report was the LIV Meeting of the Directing Council of the Institute, which took place August 20-22, 1974 in Washington, D.C.

In his welcoming address the Secretary General of the Organization, Mr. Galo Plaza, praised the accomplishments of the Institute during its 47 years of existence and spoke of the importance of the work of the IACI in the fields of health, nutrition, education, legal protection and social welfare of children by means of conferences, seminars and courses. He also referred to the establishment of an OAS Youth Activities Coordination Unit designed to cooperate in the work of the Institute and to improve liaison for programs in this sector.

The General Director of the Institute, Dr. Rafael Sajón, reported that efforts were under way to coordinate the work of the IACI with that of the General Secretariat and OAS units such as the Inter-American Commission of Women and the Pan American Health Organization in order to promote the care and education for pre-school age children in Latin America.

In addition to a number of administrative and budgetary resolutions, the Directing Council approved the agenda for the Fifteenth Pan American Child Congress to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 1976. The main item on the agenda will be the comprehensive protection for minors with emphasis on protection for neglected children. The Pan American Child Congress meets approximately every four years and is classified as an inter-American specialized conference.

During this session, the Directing Council also accepted a grant from the Government of Brazil for the construction of a building to house the library which the Institute maintains at its headquarters in Montevideo, Uruguay and an offer from the Government of the United States of books and films dealing with children. The library now has approximately 40,000 volumes on specific topics relating to the protection of children.

The Directing Council considered the comprehensive report submitted by the Office of the General Director regarding implementation of the resolutions adopted by the previous Child Congress. Activities include providing the member countries with technical assistance and advisory programs, as well as various courses and seminars.

Among the courses given in the latter part of 1973 was the Course on Training Personnel for Early Stimulation given for doctors, obstetricians, pediatricians, psychologists and nurses in Caracas, Venezuela during the period October 8 to 20, 1973. During the first week the participants worked with the newly-born and then studied children between 12 and 18 months of age with motor, sensory and intellectual impediments.

During the week of November 12-17, 1973 the Pan American Seminar on Responsibility and Function of Small Communities in the Integral Education and Protection of Childhood took place in Quito, Ecuador. Educators, planners, pediatricists and social workers were among the fellowship holders from fourteen countries who participated in the Seminar.

The Pan American Course on School Health was held October 29 - November 17, 1973 in Miami, Florida. Fellowship holders from 17 countries participated in the course, the purpose of which was to train doctors, teachers,

health educators, social workers and nurses in interdisciplinary work and to increase the effectiveness of the school in the preservation of child health.

The II Spanish American Congress on Learning Disabilities of Reading and Writing took place in Mexico City from May 7-14, 1974. Among the topics considered were: Genetics and Learning Problems; the difficulties of reading and writing as related to family and social factors, techniques of detection, treatment of methodology, etc.

The Regional Andean Course on Learning Disabilities was held in the second half of 1974 in Bogota, Colombia and was a continuation of the courses held in Buenos Aires in 1971 and in Panama in 1972. The purpose of this course is to train specialized educators for children with difficulties in reading, writing, language, mathematics, etc.

During 1973 the Institute published, among other works, the Second volume of a multilingual dictionary on common terminology with respect to the protection of minors; Drugs in Infancy and Adolescence; Minors in Irregular Situations - socio-legal aspects of their protection; the Problem of the Mother and Child in Urban and Rural Marginal Areas.

F. INTER-AMERICAN INDIAN INSTITUTE

During the period covered in this report the Inter-American Indian Institute has given a high priority to training programs in the following fields:

Fellowships

The Institute answered some 25 inquiries on possibilities of obtaining fellowships in anthropology, sociology and Indian affairs in the United States, Mexico and other Latin American countries. The Institute cooperated

with various United States institutions in the granting of a fellowship to a citizen of the United States to study museology in Mexico and in the conduct of that program.

#### Courses

From October 18 to November 9, 1973 a Seminar Course in Anthropology, Indian Affairs and Development was held in Valledupar, Colombia. It was attended by 64 members of committees on Indian Affairs in Colombia, part of the Operational Division of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Integration and Community Development. Among the subjects taught were: applied anthropology, research techniques, Indian culture, community development, adult education, agrarian reform, cooperatives, and legislation affecting Indians.

Besides receiving instruction, the participants in the course made a candid and specific study of problems and conditions of the Indian populations in Colombia and made field observations.

During the period May 6-18, 1974, and with the assistance of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Center for Demographic Studies in Latin America (CEDAL), a course on anthropology, Indian affairs and development was held in Costa Rica for the 17 member countries of the Institute. Delegates from 12 of these countries were in attendance. An important contribution was the exchange of information by each of the delegates, who explained the situation and problems of the Indians in their respective countries.

Three important aspects of this course were: the dissemination and exchange of experience and information on efforts being carried out in this



field; a discussion of political and philosophical aspects of the future of the Indian populations; and a fruitful exchange of ideas and analysis of scientific and technical aspects of the various subjects discussed.

In addition, the Director of the Institute, Dr. Gonzalo Rubio Orbe, and Dr. Alejandro Marroquín, Chief of the Department of Anthropological Research, participated in conferences in Mexico and Ecuador.

#### Publications

1. América Indígena. The four issues of this magazine were devoted to information on the situation of Indian affairs in Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela, and Costa Rica.
2. Anuario Indigenista Interamericano. This publication contains information on the principal work of the Institute through the reports presented by the Director on its activities and also contain the most important official documents.
3. Noticiero Indigenista Interamericano. The Noticiero has appeared regularly in the issues of América Indígena.
4. Special Publications. The following books have been published in the Special Editions and Social Anthropology series:
  - a. El Desarrollo Tarasco: Integración Nacional en el Occidente de México, by Janet R. Moone
  - b. Pregnacy, Childbirth, and the Newborn: a Manual for Rural Midwives, and Teacher's Guide for Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Newborn, by Eloesser, Galt and Hemingway; 3rd. edition.
  - c. Educación y Desarrollo Rural, by Julia Elena Fortún.
  - d. Homenaje al Dr. Gonzalo Aguirre Beltrán, contains studies on the most important contributions of Dr. Aguirre in the fields of anthropology, Indian affairs, adult education, and others.

- e. Relaciones Políticas en una Sociedad Tribal: study of the Ye'cuana Indians of the Venezuelan Amazon, by Nelly Arvelo Jiménez.

Visits to the Countries

Official visits were made by Dra. Rubio Orbe and Marroquín to Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru. The purpose of these official trips was one of coordination with the competent authorities of the different countries, selection of students for fellowships, preparation of future issues of América Indígena, and other matters. Efforts were also made to obtain quota payments and in some countries contacts were established with bookstores to promote the sale of publications of the Institute.

Other Activities

The Institute evaluated and assisted in various research projects during the year, including an analization by Dr. Marroquín of aspects of racial discrimination and the Institute's contribution in the struggle against it. This work was carried out at the request of the United Nations Committee on Racial Discrimination.