



**CORTE INTERAMERICANA DE DERECHOS HUMANOS  
COUR INTERAMERICAINE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME  
CORTE INTERAMERICANA DE DIREITOS HUMANOS  
INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS**



---

**I/A COURT OF H.R\_CP-05/11 ENGLISH**

**PRESS RELEASE (\*)**

*San Jose, Costa Rica, June 20, 2011.* - The Inter-American Court of Human Rights held its 91<sup>st</sup> Regular Period of Sessions in its seat, San Jose, Costa Rica, from February June 27 to July 9, 2011. During the sessions, the Court will carry out case studies of two judgments and will hold seven public hearings, three on contentious cases and four on provisional measures. Moreover, the Court will carry out case studies of two judgments, as well as 15 orders on provisional measures and monitoring of compliance with judgments. All of the public hearings will be transmitted live via the Court's web page: [www.corteidh.or.cr](http://www.corteidh.or.cr)

**1. Public hearings on contentious cases**

**a. Case of González Medina and next of kin v. the Dominican Republic.** As of 15:00 on June 28, 2000, and 9:00 on June 29, 2011, the Court will hear the statements of the alleged victims; two witnesses, one proposed by the representatives of the alleged victims and the other proposed, *ex officio*, by the Court; and, an expert proposed by the Inter-American Commission and the representatives of the alleged victims. Moreover, the Court will hear the final arguments of the representatives of the alleged victims and the Dominican Republic, as well as the final comments of the Inter-American Commission. Judge Rhadys Abreu Blondet, given her nationality, will not participate in the matter.

*Background*

On May 2, 2010, the Inter-American Commission filed an application against the Dominican Republic, for the alleged enforced disappearance, as of May 26, 1994, of the university professor, columnist, and opposition leader Narciso González Medina as a consequence of his alleged criticism of the military forces and former President of the Republic Joaquín Balaguer, as well as for his participation in the public denunciation of the alleged electoral fraud in the presidential elections of 1994. To date, there is no knowledge of his fate or whereabouts, and allegedly no progress has been made in regard to a serious, diligent, and effective investigation to ascertain the facts, identify those responsible, and impose the corresponding punishment.

**b. Case of the Barrios Family v. Venezuela.** As of 15:00 on June 29, 2011, and 9:00 on June 30, 2011, the Court will hear the statements of the alleged victims, a witness proposed by the State and an expert proposed by the representatives of the alleged victims. Moreover, the Court will hear the final oral arguments of the representatives of the alleged victims and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as the final comments of the Inter-American Commission.

---

(\*) The contents of this press release are the responsibility of the Secretariat of the Court. The official text of the documents may be obtained by written request addressed to the Secretariat, at the address attached.

### *Background*

On July 26, 2010, the Inter-American Commission presented a case against the State of Venezuela, for the alleged persecution of the Barrios family by the Police of Aragua, which caused the deaths of several of the family members, alleged arrests and illegal and arbitrary searches, alleged threats against life and personal integrity, as well as the alleged displacement from their place of residence. Some of the family members that suffered in these events were children. All alleged violations have remained in a state of impunity to date.

**c. Case of the Kichwa Indigenous Community of Sarayaku v. Ecuador.** As of 15:00 on July 6, 2011 and 9:00 on July 7, 2011, the Court will hear the statements of four alleged victims, two witnesses proposed by the State, and two expert witnesses, one proposed by the Commission and another by the representatives of the alleged victims. Moreover, the Court shall hear the final oral arguments of the representatives of the alleged victims and of the State of Ecuador, as well as the final comments of the Inter-American Commission.

### *Background*

On April 26, 2010, the Commission presented a case against the State of Ecuador for having granted permission to a private oil company, to carry out the exploration and drilling for oil in the ancestral territory of the Kichwa People of Sarayaku, located in the Amazon province of Pastaza, without prior consultation and for having created an alleged situation of risk for the population, as this prevented the community from seeking the means to assure their livelihood in their territory and limited their right to movement therein. Also, this case concerns the alleged lack of judicial protection and enforcement of judicial guarantees.

## **2. Public hearings on provisional measures**

**a. Matter of the Jiguamiandó and Curbaradó Communities regarding Colombia:** As of 15:00 on June 27, 2011, the Court will hear the Republic of Colombia, the representatives of the beneficiaries of the provisional measures, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in order to receive information and comments on the implementation of the measures ordered by the Court, and on the request for expansion and actualization of the measures of the Inter-American Commission.

### *Background*

On March 5, 2003, the Inter-American Commission presented the Court with a request for provisional measures in order to protect the life and personal integrity, as well as the permanence in the territory of which the members of the afro descendant communities of the Community Council of Jiguamiandó and the families of Curbaradó are titleholders. On [March 6, 2003](#), the Court issued an Order, wherein it required the State to adopt the provisional measures in favor of the members of the mentioned communities. Moreover, the Court issued six orders on the matter on the following dates: [November 17, 2004](#), [March 15, 2005](#), [February 7, 2006](#), [February 5, 2008](#), [November 17, 2009](#), and [August 30, 2010](#).

**b. Matter of the Kankuamo Indigenous Community of Colombia:** As of 17:15 on June 27, 2011, the Court will hear the Republic of Colombia, the representatives of the beneficiaries of the provisional measures, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in order to receive information and comments on the provisional measures ordered by the Court.

### *Background*

On July 2, 2004, the Inter-American Commission presented the Court with a request for adoption of provisional measures in favor of the Kankuamo Indigenous Community in order to protect the life, personal integrity, and cultural identity of said peoples. On [July 5, 2004](#), the Court issued an Order, wherein it required the State to adopt the provisional measures to protect the life and personal integrity of all the

members of the communities that make up the Kankuamo Indigenous People. Moreover, the Court issued two orders on the matter with the following dates: [January 30, 2007](#) and [April 3, 2009](#).

**c. Mater of Fernández Ortega et al. regarding México:** As of 9:00 on June 28, 2011, the Court will hear the United Mexican States, the representatives of the beneficiaries, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in order to receive information and comments on the implementation of the provisional measures ordered by the Court.

*Background*

On April 7, 2009, the Inter-American Commission presented the Court with a request for provisional measures in order for the United Mexican States to protect the life and personal integrity of Obtilia Eugenio Manuel and her next of kin; 41 members of the Tlapaneco Indigenous Peoples Organization; Inés Fernández Ortega and her next of kin; 29 members of the Tlanichollan Mountain Organization, as well as the next of kin of Messers. Raúl Lucas Lucía and Manuel Ponce Rosas. On [April 9, 2009](#), the former President of the Court issued an Order, wherein it decided to require the State to adopt, immediately, the necessary measures to protect the life and integrity of the abovementioned. Moreover, the Court has issued orders on the matter on the following dates: [April 30, 2009](#) and [November 23, 2010](#).

**d. Matter of Alvarado Reyes et al. regarding México:** As of 11:15 on June 28, 2011, the Court will hear the State, the representatives of the beneficiaries, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in order to receive information and comments on the implementation of the provisional measures ordered by the Court.

*Background*

On May 13, 2010, the Inter-American Commission requested the Court to adopt the present provisional measures and, subsequently, by means of communications of September 3, 2010, and March 16, 2011, it presented requests to expand the measures. By means of Orders of [May 26, 2010](#), [November 26, 2010](#) and [May 15, 2011](#), the Inter-American Court ordered Mexico to adopt the necessary measures to protect the life and personal integrity of: (i) Rocío Irene Alvarado Reyes, Nitza Paola Alvarado Espinoza, and José Ángel Alvarado Herrera, allegedly forcibly disappeared on December 29, 2009; (ii) their 33 family members, and (iii) the representative Emilia González Tercero.

### 3. Case studies

**a. Case of Chocrón Chocrón v. Venezuela.** On June 30, 2011, the Court will deliberate and assess the possibility of rendering a Judgment on the preliminary objection, possible merits, reparations and costs in the present case.

*Background*

The facts relate to the alleged arbitrary dismissal of the alleged victim from her charge of Temporary Judge of First Instance on Criminal Matters of the Judicial District of the Metropolitan Area of Caracas, allegedly in the absence of minimum guarantees of due process and without having had an effective judicial remedy for these alleged violations.

**b. Case of Mejía Idrovo v. Ecuador.** On July 4, 2011, the Court will deliberate and assess the possibility of rendering a Judgment on preliminary objections, possible merits, and reparations and costs in the present case.

*Background*

The facts of this case relate to the alleged noncompliance of the State of Ecuador of the ruling rendered on March 12, 2002, by the former Constitutional Court, wherein two executive decrees on the suspension and discharge of José Alfredo Idrovo Mejía were deemed unconstitutional and which provided for the reparation of damages incurred.

- - - - -

During this period of sessions, the Court was composed as follows: Diego García-Sayán (Peru), President; Leonardo A. Franco (Argentina), Vice President; Manuel E. Ventura Robles (Costa Rica); Margarete May Macaulay (Jamaica); Rhadys Abreu Blondet (Dominican Republic); Alberto Pérez Pérez (Uruguay); Eduardo Vio Grossi (Chile).

For more information, please see the webpage of the Inter-American Court <http://corteidh.or.cr/index.cfm> or send an email addressed to Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, Secretary of the Court at [corteidh@corteidh.or.cr](mailto:corteidh@corteidh.or.cr).