

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
PRESS RELEASE**

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Amnesty International sends delegation to World Social Forum

An Amnesty International delegation will take part in the 2009 World Social Forum – to be held in Belem, Brazil between 27 January and 1 February. The delegation will be hosting a number of workshops and facilitating the participation of three Indigenous Peoples from the Sawhoyamaxa and Yake Axa Paraguayan communities.

Amnesty International's team will be made up of: Colm O'Cuanachain, Senior Director of Campaigns; Evangelia Papada, Organiser of Dignity Campaign; Fernanda Doz Costa, Researcher on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Joanna Bernie, campaigner on South America and representatives of Amnesty International offices in Chile, Paraguay, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela.

During the Forum, Amnesty International's delegates will be taking part in various discussions and debates and will be leading two workshops, set up in conjunction with the organization CIVICUS.

The workshops "Civil society under threat" and "Rights as essential to poverty eradication" will touch upon some of the issues that Amnesty International has been looking at in advance of the launch of an international campaign for human dignity.

Rights as essential to poverty eradication

WHAT: Discussion on the human rights framework needed for understanding poverty and its causes.

WHEN: 29 of January, 08:30hs (Local Time)

WHERE: UFPA Professional-lp10

WHO:

Roberto Bissio -- Social Watch Coordinator

Cecilia Alemani -- Strategic Initiative Manager, AWID

Eriberto Ayala -- Representative of Yake Axa indigenous community in Paraguay

Jullie Middleton -- Civicus

Colm O'Cuanachain – Amnesty International

Civil Society under threat

WHAT: A workshop aiming to identify trends in the expansion or shrinkage of civic space.

WHEN: Thursday 29 of January, 15:30Hs (Local Time)

WHERE: UFPA Basico-LB1

WHO: To be confirmed.

Amnesty International delegates will be available for interviews in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

At the World Social Forum:

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