

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Advisory

AI Index: AMR 41/029/2005 (Public)
News Service No: 210
4 August 2005

Mexico: Amnesty International Secretary General to lead visit to the country

Amnesty International Secretary General Irene Khan will lead a High Level Mission to Mexico between 8th and 10th August 2005.

Amnesty International's delegation will include Susan Lee, Director of the Americas programme; Rupert Knox, Researcher on Mexico; Monica Costa, Campaigner on Mexico and Judit Arenas, Head of the Office of the Secretary General.

The delegation will visit the city of Chihuahua and Mexico City and will meet state and federal authorities and members of civil society. Amnesty International has invited representatives of the main political parties to a public discussion ahead of the upcoming Presidential elections.

The delegation's activities include:

Monday 8th August - Chihuahua

During the morning, the AI delegation will hold a private meeting with the mothers and relatives of women abducted and murdered in Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua, and activists campaigning on the situation.

13.00 - Meeting with Governor of Chihuahua and the state Attorney General.

15.00 – Zocalo - Irene Khan will lay flowers during a ceremony at the sculpture in memory of the abducted and murdered women of Chihuahua.

This event will be followed by the opportunity for the media to be briefed on the spot about the abductions and killings of women and girls in Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua and the outcomes of the meeting with the Governor and Attorney General.

Tuesday 9th August – Mexico City

7.30 – Irene Khan will meet Celsa Valdovino and Reyna Mojica, wives of prisoners of conscience Felipe Arriaga and Albertano Peñalosa.

10.30 - Meeting with the Foreign Minister (Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, Tlatelolco).

A meeting with the Minister of Defence and the Military Prosecutor has been requested and is pending confirmation.

16.00 - Following a ceremony to name a room at the *Comisión de Derechos Humanos del Distrito Federal* after Peter Benenson, the late Amnesty International founder, Irene Khan will hold a working meeting with

national human rights organizations.

18.10 Hs – Briefing with journalists ahead of the public event at the Club de Periodistas (Filomeno Mata 8, Col. Centro, Delegación Cuahutémoc).

19.00 – Amnesty International will host a public meeting where the organization will present some of the major human rights challenges to the three main political parties in the run-up to the Presidential election.

Wednesday 10th August – Mexico City

A press release on the outcomes and conclusions of the mission will be published to mark the end of the visit.

Media briefings and interviews will be available during the mission.

For updated information on the visit, including press material and photos, please visit: www.amnistia.org.mx/prensa or news.amnesty.org

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