EXTERNAL AI Index: AMR 22/08/96

20 August 1996

Further information on EXTRA 108/96 (AMR 22/06/96, 17 July 1996) - Death Penalty

CHILE Cupertino Segundo ANDAUR CONTRERAS, aged 46

Yesterday, 19 August, the Second Chamber [Segunda Sala] of the Chilean Supreme Court confirmed the sentence of death passed against Cupertino Segundo Andaur Contreras by the Santiago Appeals Court on 30 May 1996. Cupertino Segundo Andaur had been found guilty of the murder of nine-year-old Víctor Zamorano Jones during a robbery in December 1992.

All avenues of appeal against the sentence have now been exhausted and the only hope for clemency rests with President Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle. Amnesty International is urgently appealing to the president to exercise his constitutional powers to commute Cupertino Segundo Andaur's death sentence to a prison term.

Amnesty International condemns the use of the death penalty in all cases as the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and a violation of the right to life.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express or airmail letters in Spanish or in your own language:

- noting that President Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle has repeatedly expressed his opposition to the death penalty and urging that he exercise his constitutional powers to commute the death sentence against Cupertino Segundo Andaur Contreras;
 recognizing the right of governments to bring the perpetrators of violent crime to justice;
- explaining your opposition to the use of the death penalty as the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and a violation of the right to life, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- pointing out that the death penalty has never been shown to have a unique deterrent effect and state that you believe the use of the death penalty to be a retrograde step for the protection of human rights in Chile;
- calling for the total abolition of the death penalty in Chile, drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, the desirability of which was reaffirmed in Resolution 32/61 of 8 December 1977 of the United Nations General Assembly.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic
Señor Presidente de la República de Chile
Señor Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Fax: + 562 694 5080

Telegrams: Sr. Presidente, Santiago, Chile Salutation Sr. Presidente / Dear President

Minister of Justice
Sra. Maria Soledad Alvear
Ministra de Justicia
Ministerio de Justicia

Morandé 107

Santiago, Chile

Fax: +562 696 6952

Telegrams: Sra. Ministra Justicia, Santiago, Chile

Salutation: Sra. Ministra

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Señor José Miguel Inzulza
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores
Morandé 441
ex Edificio del Congreso
Santiago, Chile

Fax: +562 696 8796

Telegrams: Sr. Ministro Relaciones Exteriores

President of the Senate's Commission on Human Rights,

Nationality and Citizenship

Sr. Ricardo Martín Díaz

Presidente de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos,

Nacionalidad y Ciudadanía del Senado

Pedro Montt s/n

Edifico del Congreso

Valparaiso, Chile

Fax: +5632 232657

Human Rights Organization

CODEPU

Brown Sur 150

Ñuñoa, Santiago, Chile

Daily Newspaper

La Nación

Agustinas 1269

Santiago, Chile

Fax: + 562 698 1059

and to diplomatic representatives of Chile accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 September 1996.