

Monday, June 25th, 2013

LIC. MIGUEL ÁNGEL OSORIO CHONG

SECRETARIO DE GOBERNACIÓN

P r e s e n t e

Dear Mr. Chong,

Human rights defenders and journalists continue to suffer high levels of risk, one year on from the publication of the *Law for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists* (from hereon 'the Law') which created a Mechanism for their protection. Today, in spite of the efforts towards its implementation, we have observed with consternation the obstacles and failures which still prevent the Mechanism from functioning adequately and efficiently.

For this reason, the Civil Society Organisations Space (*Espacio de Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil*, from hereon *Espacio OSC*) decided to carry out a diagnosis of the state of implementation of the Mechanism. This diagnosis is based upon our experience as civil society organisations which have accompanied cases in the Mechanism, and was delivered today to Lía Limón García, Under-Secretary for Human Rights. Through this exercise we hope to find solutions which will strengthen the protection of human rights defenders and journalists in Mexico.

In our diagnosis, three principal problems were identified which must be resolved if the Mechanism is to function: 1) In order to be able to access the resources assigned for the protection of human rights defenders and journalists, it is necessary that you do everything possible to install the Technical Committee for the Fund for Protective Measures (*Fideicomiso*) established in the Law; 2) Today the Mechanism still does not have all the staff necessary to be able to carry its activities and function properly. Therefore it is vital that the Mechanism is ensured sufficient human resources and that they are ensured proper training; 3) The Mechanism has so far lacked the political and institutional support required for its full implementation at federal, state and municipal levels, for which we consider important that you give the orders necessary for an effective coordination between the federal and state

entities, and that you seek to ensure high-level statements of recognition of the duty of the Mexican State to guarantee the defence of human rights and freedom of expression.

Finally, we support the request made by the Mechanism's Consultative Council for a meeting with you, soon, in which solutions to these and other problems can be defined collectively.

Yours Sincerely,

Acción Urgente para Defensores de Derechos Humanos A.C.
Asociación Mundial de Radios Comunitarias, México
Casa de los Derechos del Periodista A.C.
Casa del Migrante Saltillo
Centro de Derechos Humanos de la Montaña Tlachinollan
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental
Centro Nacional de Comunicación Social
Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez A.C.
Comunicación e Información para la Mujer A. C.
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de Derechos Humanos A. C.
Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Francisco de Vitoria OP
Iniciativas para la Identidad y la Inclusión A.C.
Instituto Mexicano de Derechos Humanos y Democracia A.C.
Propuesta Cívica A.C.
Servicios y Asesorías para la Paz A.C.
SMR Scalabrinianas: Misión para Migrantes y Refugiados
Red Nacional de Organismos Civiles de Derechos Humanos “Todos los Derechos para Todas y Todos”