

---

Of equal concern is the notable increase in urban violence in Guatemala. We urge the government of Guatemala to stop this violence and bring to justice those who are responsible, including those who are members of the military. Recourse through due process of law is an essential step along the path toward respect for human rights. The independence and the effectiveness of the judiciary lie at the heart of a government's commitment to promote and respect human rights. Without an independent judiciary, the proposed new constitution will remain a hollow document unable to guarantee the full enjoyment of civil and political rights.

While there remains a great distance to travel before human rights are fully enjoyed in Guatemala, my government would like to thank the government of Guatemala for its full co-operation with the special rapporteur. This co-operation is a sign of respect for the concerns of the international community which charged the rapporteur with his mandate. Through this co-operation we have the opportunity to work together to bring about the needed improvements in Guatemala. We therefore hope that the next report will be able to reflect substantial improvements in the respect accorded human rights in Guatemala.

I noted earlier that international condemnation can isolate a state. However, a state may choose to isolate itself. Both these factors apply to some extent with the case of Chile. My delegation continues to be distressed that the government of Chile refuses to co-operate with the special rapporteur. Certainly, the rapporteur has produced a thorough report, based on information which has been made available to him from sources outside of Chile, and he has made useful recommendations. However, without the co-operation of the government of Chile, the United Nations remains unable to fully encourage and support the improvements necessary. We, therefore, appeal to the government of Chile to demonstrate its intention to fulfil its Charter obligation to promote and protect human rights by extending full co-operation to the special rapporteur. As a corollary, however, we equally appeal once again to member states to the Commission on Human Rights, to consider the situation of human rights in Chile under item 12 of the Commission agenda along with the consideration of the situations in El Salvador, Guatemala, Iran, Afghanistan, Poland and other countries.

Our appeal is an effort to break the deadlock which exists in consideration of this situation. Our appeal is not based on satisfaction that the situation in Chile has improved. The special rapporteur, in fact, notes that the situation with regard to the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms in Chile has continued to deteriorate. The recent declaration of yet another state of siege in which civil liberties have been suspended, and the recent widespread detentions of large numbers of individuals have not alleviated our concern. Our concern, however translates directly into a desire for peaceful change, for human rights to be fully respected in Chile. We therefore urge the government of Chile to take all steps possible to rescind the state of siege at the earliest date and to permit a resumption of the peaceful process of return to democracy.

We have commented upon the reports concerning the situation in three states where systematic and flagrant violations of human rights occur. But human rights violations are not restricted to these few countries. I would challenge any state in this room to claim with impunity that human rights are fully protected *and* realized within their borders. We all fail in some respects, my own country included.

---