

# THE GAZETTE

## OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS

The first printing press arrived in Honduras in 1829, being deployed in Tegucigalpa, at the San Francisco Headquarters. The first document to be printed was a proclamation by General Morazán, dated 4 December 1829.

Subsequently, the first official gazette of the Government was printed, dated 25 May 1830, known today as the Official “Gazette”.

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Decree No. 34-2015

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The National Congress,

**Whereas:** The Constitution of the Republic, in Article 59, recognizes that “the human person is the central subject of society and the State. Every person has

the obligation to respect and protect society. The dignity of the human being is inviolable.” Likewise, it recognizes in Article 65 that “The right to live is inviolable” and to that same effect, Article 68 reads: “Every person has the right to be respected in their physical, psychological and moral integrity. Nobody shall be subjected to torture, nor cruel, inhumane or degrading punishment or treatment...”

**Whereas:** The Government of Honduras is a High Contracting Party of most international instruments of the Universal System of Human Rights and the Inter-American System of Human Rights and is therefore committed to recognizing, respecting, protecting, promoting and above all, guaranteeing the full enjoyment of the rights and freedoms therein recognized for every person, without any form of discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, language, religion, political views or national or social background, financial status, birth, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other consideration.

**Whereas:** Judicial officers perform an important task for the strengthening of the Rule of Law, judicial security and the institutions within the field of Justice, which must likewise be recognized.

**Whereas:** Defenders of human rights, journalists, social communicators and judicial officers have become a large group, occupying a vulnerable position, hence it is necessary to adopt national laws and policies which protect any person, group or organization which works to promote and defend human rights, based on the contents of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, which establishes: “...That Governments have the obligation to create the necessary conditions to be able to exercise the right to defend human rights, including journalism.”

**Whereas:** The vulnerable situation endured by human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators has been pointed out at the national and international level as a concern and as requiring immediate action on the part of the Government.

**Whereas:** The Secretariat of State, in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, as the Institution that takes on the role of representing the Government regarding compliance with international commitments and obligations in the areas of Justice and Human Rights, has accepted the various recommendations made by the United Nations (UN), by means of its various bodies and agencies, as well as the Organization of American States (OAS) via the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Special Rapporteurships, with the purpose of creating conditions in order to avoid that the persons referred to in the previous paragraph continue to be exposed to the situation of risk that they have been living in for several years.

**Whereas:** The Government of Honduras appeared at a given time before the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council to sit for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), which it passed without any objection from any of the Member States of the United Nations (UN), where one hundred and twenty-eight (128) recommendations were issued, amongst which stands out the recommendation to adopt measures to overcome the risk endured by human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators, where “they voiced their concern regarding a series of obstacles which hinder the full execution of their work, amongst which stand out the risks of human rights defenders, the murder of journalists and other very serious acts of violence against those persons who disseminate information, ideas and opinions, and the general impunity in said cases.”

**Whereas:** The Government of Honduras is committed to implementing immediate measures for the efficient protection of human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators by means of passing a Law on the Protection of the aforementioned persons, which complies with the duty to guarantee rights on the part of the Government, assuming via the Secretariat of State, Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, by means of the Directorate-General of Protection Mechanisms and Social Conflict Analysis, the commitment

of the Government and the State in general, in order to guarantee the free and full exercise of the work of the people involved.

**Whereas:** This Law aims for the implementation of the following resolutions: 13/13 of the United Nations Human Rights Council, regarding the “Protection of Human Rights Defenders”, by means of which the Government of Honduras is urged to establish a coordination centre of the Human Rights Defenders within the Public Administration in order to determine concrete protection needs for Human Rights Defenders; 53/144 of the United Nations General Assembly, regarding the “Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms”; 62/152 of the United Nations General Assembly, which establishes the need to adopt bold and efficient measures to protect Human Rights Defenders; and Resolution 7/8 of the Human Rights Council regarding the “Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders,” amongst other important resolutions of the United Nations (UN), which the Government of Honduras accepts as a result of the follow-up to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the Human Rights Council.

**Whereas:** In accordance with Article 205, Part 1) of the Constitution of the Republic, it is within the powers of the National Congress to create, decree, interpret, reform and revoke laws.

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OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS

Leader of the Honduran Press

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Therefore,

It decrees

The following:

**LAW ON THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS,  
JOURNALISTS, MEDIA WORKERS AND JUSTICE OPERATORS**

**TITLE I**

**General Provisions**

**CHAPTER I**

**Nature, Objectives, Principles, Definitions and Scope of the Rights  
Accorded to Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Workers and  
Justice Operators**

**Article 1.- The Right to Defend Human Rights.-** The Government recognizes the right of every person to promote and foster the promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms, whether individually or collectively.

Every person, whether natural or legal, plays an important role in the strengthening of democracy, the promotion and advancement of society and

institutions, as well as in the promotion of a culture of human rights.

**Article 2.- Nature and Purpose of the Law.-** This Law concerns public order and is of social interest and for general compliance throughout the Republic. Its purpose is to recognize, promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms recognized and contained in the Constitution of the Republic and international law agreements, regarding every person, whether natural or legal, devoted to the promotion and defence of human rights, freedom of speech, and the jurisdictional workers subject to risk due to their activities.

**Article 3.- Principles of the Law.-** Implementation of this Law is based on the Constitution of the Republic, the international regulations on human rights and the following principles:

1. **Pro Persona:** Every regulation applicable to the functioning of the powers established in this Law shall be interpreted in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic and the international treaties regarding human rights signed and ratified by the Government of Honduras, encouraging at all times the most protection possible for the persons involved;
2. **Non-Restriction of Rights:** Laws or provisions set out by the Government or any other body are not applicable when they reduce, restrict or distort the exercise of the declarations, rights and guarantees established in the Constitution of the Republic;
3. **Good Faith:** The endeavours and resolutions derived from this Law are based on good faith;
4. **Efficiency:** The purpose of the protection or security measures is to prevent the manifestation of the risks or alleviate the effects of their possible realization;
5. **Suitability:** Protection measures must suit the situation of risk and aim to adapt to the specific conditions of the persons they protect;
6. **Coordination:** Protection measures must be decreed and implemented, ordered, systematized, coherent, efficient and standardized by the constituent institutions of the National System for the Protection of Persons who Defend Human Rights and other related authorities, for the preservation and protection of the rights to life, freedom, integrity and personal security of the persons involved;
7. **Concurrence:** The constituent institutions of the National System for the Protection of Persons who Defend Human Rights and other governmental authorities shall adopt the prevention and protection measures in accordance with their institutional, administrative and budgetary

competencies and capacities, for the effective guarantee of the rights to life, freedom, integrity and security of the persons involved;

8. **Voluntariness:** Both the request of protection measures and the acceptance of said measures are voluntary;
9. **Exclusivity:** Measures must be exclusively aimed at those persons who are in a high-risk situation or that are directly linked due to the defence activities they perform;
10. **Complementarity:** Protection measures shall be implemented without prejudice to other measures of an assistance, integral or humanitarian nature established by other bodies;
11. **Prevention:** The Directorate-General of the Protection System and other competent government agencies have the permanent duty to establish efficient measures which avoid any risk that may target the persons involved;
12. **Temporality:** Protection measures shall be decreed and maintained for as long as the situation of risk lasts;
13. **Causality:** Protection measures are based on risk factors and on the condition, activity, position or profession of the persons involved;
14. **Proportionality:** The protection measures granted shall correspond to the circumstances of manner, time and place of the specific risk of each person involved;
15. **Confidentiality:** Information regarding the protection of the persons involved and their families shall be kept strictly secret;
16. **Equal Treatment, Non-Discrimination and Targeted Approach:** Protection measures shall be applied equally, without any discrimination based on any consideration and with a targeted approach from one person to another; and,
17. **Respect:** Any protection measure decreed shall be aimed at guaranteeing respect for the life and dignity of the human being.

**Article 4.- Scope of Protected Rights.-** For the purposes of this Law, human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators, whether individually or collectively, have, among others, the following rights to:

1. Participate, individually or collectively, in peaceful activities against violations of human rights and fundamental liberties;
2. Establish non-governmental organizations, associations or groups, become members, participate in them and/or withdraw freely from said entities;
3. Efficient protection on the part of the Government, by means of the competent authorities, when protesting or opposing in a peaceful manner

the acts or omissions attributable to the Government which may cause a violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. Report and demand the termination of violent acts performed by groups or people which may affect the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
5. Communicate with non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations in order to achieve their purposes;
6. Receive specialized attention from the various authorities of the Legislative Power, Judicial Power, Executive Power, Public Ministry and other competent authorities while conducting their activities, or performing actions to search, obtain, gather, receive and possess the necessary information for the execution of their tasks;
7. Freely disseminate, publish and issue opinions, information and ideas of any type, without any limitations, whether orally, in writing or in printable or artistic expression or through any other channel they may choose;
8. Study and discuss whether fundamental rights and freedoms are observed in actual practice, adopt and maintain an opinion in that regard and request the attention of the public by any means possible;
9. Have the opportunity to participate effectively in the government of their country and in the management of public matters;
10. Present before the various Authorities and other Institutions of the State observations, criticisms and proposals in order to improve its performance;
11. File reports or call for attention to any aspect of their work which may hamper or prevent the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
12. Be protected and have access to efficient legal resources in the event that human rights and fundamental freedoms are violated;
13. File a claim or petition, in person or by means of a representative, before the competent, independent and impartial authorities, or any other authority established by the Law, so that said claim or petition is quickly examined, and obtain from said authority an answer without any delay and in accordance with the timeframes established under this Law;
14. Attend public hearings, proceedings and trials in order to form an opinion regarding compliance with applicable national standards and international obligations and commitments, except for the reservations decreed in accordance with the Law;
15. Offer and lend professional legal assistance or any other type of pertinent counseling, support or assistance, to defend human rights and fundamental freedoms;
16. Demand the Government perform expeditious and impartial investigations where there may be reason to believe a violation of human rights or



fundamental freedoms has been committed at any location within the national territory;

17. Request, receive and use, whether individually or collectively, resources with the express purpose of promoting and protecting, in a peaceful manner, human rights and fundamental freedoms; and,
18. Enjoy the other rights and freedoms which derive from the dignity of a human being.

**Article 5.- Definitions.-** For the purposes of this Law, the followings definitions shall apply:

1. **Human Rights Defender:** Any person that executes the right, whether individually or collectively, to promote or pursue the protection and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms within the framework of national and international law; amongst these are defenders of the environment and natural resources conservationists.
2. **Justice Operators:** Officers or employees who participate in the process of application or administration of the law such as policemen or policewomen, prosecutors of the Public Ministry, judges and magistrates of the Judicial Power and lawyers performing defence tasks in the exercise of their profession.
3. **Journalists, Media Workers, Photographers, Cameramen or Camerawomen and Graphic Reporters in Media:** Natural persons who perform tasks such as gather, generate, process, edit, comment, opine, disseminate, publish or provide information via any dissemination and communication method, which may be printed, radio-electronic, digital, in images or of any other type.
4. **Risk:** The probability of the occurrence of a danger or aggression that a person, group or community is exposed to as a direct consequence of exercising their activities or functions.
5. **Imminent Risk:** The existence of threats or aggressions which represent the imminent materialization of said threats or a new aggression which may seriously affect life, physical integrity or personal freedom.
6. **Risk Zone:** Area or location of the national territory where the person exposed to a situation of vulnerability resides, conducts his/her activity or performs his/her role.
7. **Aggressions:** The damage, threat, harassment or intimidation suffered by human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators due to their activity or position.
8. **Petitioner:** The natural person, group or community requesting the preventative measures, protection measures or urgent protection

measures from the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

9. **Person Involved:** The natural person, group or community to whom the preventative measures, protection measures or urgent protection measures to which this Law refers are granted.
10. **Protection Mechanisms:** The set of security actions or instruments developed/implemented by the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders by itself or with the concurrence of various government agencies, with the objective of preventing and reducing the risks and protecting the lives, personal integrity and security of the persons described in this Law.
11. **Preventative Measures:** The set of actions adopted with the objective of reducing the risk factors.
12. **Reactive Measures:** The set of actions and security measures to address the risk and protect the right to life, personal integrity, personal freedom and safety of the person described within the framework of this Law.
13. **Urgent Protection Measures:** The set of actions and means to safeguard, immediately, the life, integrity and freedom of the person described and in some cases his/her assets.
14. **Psycho-social Measures:** The set of actions aimed at coping with the psychological and social impact of violence on human rights defenders, as well as on their families and the organizational spaces in which they as individuals operate.
15. **Measures aimed at Countering Impunity:** The set of actions aimed at guaranteeing the efficient investigation, processing and sanctioning of the persons responsible for the attacks on the people that are the subject of this Law.
16. **Assessment Study for Immediate Action:** The immediate analysis of the risk factors, in order to determine the situation and level of said factors and the urgent protection measures to safeguard the life, personal integrity, personal freedom and safety of the person potentially involved.
17. **Risk Assessment Study:** The process by which an analysis of the various risk factors is performed in order to determine the level at which the person involved or petitioner may be, which for this purpose may be moderate, serious or very serious.
18. **Ordinary Procedure:** The procedure by which the request is received, and preventative and protection measures are decreed and applied in favor of the persons described.
19. **Extraordinary Procedure:** The procedure by which urgent protection measures are decreed with the objective of preserving the life, the integrity and the freedom of the person described.

## CHAPTER II

### Prevention in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

**Article 6.- Duty of Special Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** The Government has the obligation to respect the human rights of the defenders and to reasonably prevent the threats, harassment and aggressions which may be caused against them, regardless of whether these come from government or individual actors.

**Article 7.- Duty to Provide Cooperation.-** Every civil, police or military authority, as well as every person, has the obligation to provide information in an expeditious manner and provide all the cooperation required on the part of the various authorities in charge of compliance with this Law for achieving its objectives.

**Article 8.- Duty to Order the Necessary Measures for the Prevention of Violations of Human Rights.-** The Government has the primary duty, via its authorities, to prevent any act or omission constitutive of violations of human rights.

No public servant or employee, whether civil or military, is obliged to comply with illegal orders or orders which may involve the violation of human rights.

**Article 9.- Duty to order the Necessary Measures for the Promotion of Human Rights.-** The Government has the duty to promote the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms of every person, creating the conditions for the empowerment and enforceability to enjoy fundamental rights and freedoms. Government officials have the duty to contribute to this end.

**Article 10.- Duty to Order the Necessary Measures for the Protection of Human Rights.-** The Government has the primary duty to order the necessary personal protection and security mechanisms, by means of and in coordination with the Directorate-General for the Protection System, in accordance with the risk assessment of the persons who are the object of this Law. To this effect, the

other Government institutions, within the scope of their competencies, must provide the required cooperation for full compliance with the provisions of this Law.

### **Article 11.- Duty to Order the Necessary Measures to Guarantee Human**

**Rights.-** It is the duty of the Government to order the appropriate statutory, judicial, administrative or other measures to guarantee every person subject to its jurisdiction the respect and protection of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Amongst said measures are the following:

1. Publication and widespread dissemination of the laws, national regulations and basic international instruments regarding human rights; and,
2. Access, in equal conditions, to the official information derived from international obligations and commitments regarding human rights, including periodical reports by the Government to the institutions established by international agreements and treaties within which the Government of Honduras may be a party.

The Government must guarantee and support the development of other independent national institutions whose aim is to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the national territory.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **The National System for the Promotion of Human Rights and the Prevention of Violations Thereof**

**Article 12.- Prevention Tools.-**The following are considered helpful tools for the promotion and preservation of human rights:

1. Support institutional functionality with agencies devoted to the promotion and preservation of human rights;
2. Reinforce the Rule of Law and accountability mechanisms;
3. Foster equal and inclusive social structures;
4. Establish structures for operations and respond to early warning signs;
5. Ratify international instruments regarding human rights; and,
6. Impart a culture of respect for human rights.

**Article 13.- Prevention Actors.-** Actors taking part in the prevention are:

1. The Government;
2. Civil Society;
3. National institutions regarding human rights;
4. Investigators; and,
5. Mass Media.

**Article 14.- Prevention of Acts.-** It is the priority of the Government to establish prevention and education mechanisms and measures. Amongst the measures which contribute to this objective are: the promotion of the respect for human rights, the identification of risks by means of mapping and a general monitoring and surveillance system. Likewise, the establishment of an early warning system, which must compulsorily be accompanied by an immediate response structure.

As a foundation for prevention and education, analysis groups must be created with regard to the resolutions of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations General Assembly for the purpose of establishing actions and programs regarding the new human rights preservation strategies.

**Article 15.- New Actors.-** In response to the resolutions of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights, the institutionalization and creation of new actors must be brought about in order to establish actions which systematically may configure prevention plans so that the number of attacks on human rights are reduced under this perspective.

This new strategy entails the creation of reports and statistics, which relate the establishment of new institutions devoted to safeguarding to the rates of established incidents detrimental to human rights.

Civil society organizations and the tailoring of government policies shall be a part of promotion and preservation in the management of human rights.

**Article 16.- Performance Measurement.-** The Government shall establish Mechanisms which expedite the measurement of performance and the fight against impunity as a source for detecting or locating risk areas and identifying whether indeed there has been a reduction in the violation of human rights.

**Article 17.- Early Warning.-** The early warning is the instrument with which the information related to population vulnerability and risk situations is verified and analyzed in a technical fashion and alerts the competent authorities in charge of protection, in order to provide a timely and integral attention to the persons involved; it likewise alerts of risk situations and promotes the integral violation prevention of the Government with the objective of protecting and guaranteeing the fundamental rights of the population in a timely manner.

**Article 18.- Duty to Promote Education on Human Rights at All Levels.-** The Government, by means of the Secretariat of State in the Office of Education and the Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, as well as by means of the Higher Education Council, shall promote the teaching of human rights and of a culture of peace at all levels of the national education system, whether elementary, middle or high. Likewise, education on human rights shall be included in training programs for the civil servants of the Government.

## **SECTION II**

### **The National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Workers and Justice Operators**

## **CHAPTER I**

### **Law Enforcement Institutions**

**Article 19.- National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-**

The National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders is hereby created, whose role is to establish the basis for coordination with other public institutions and with society in general, for efficient protection within the framework of the public policies and national plan regarding Human Rights. It includes the set of actions, regulations and resources for the application of this Law.

The National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders is comprised of:

1. The Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, as the governing body;
2. The National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Workers and Justice Operators;
3. The Directorate-General of the System for the Protection;
4. The Technical Committee of the Mechanism for the Protection; and,
5. The Human Rights Department of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office.

For the operation of the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, the Secretariat of State in the Office of Finances shall implement the corresponding budgetary provisions.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders**

#### **Article 20.- National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-**

The National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders is hereby created, as a deliberative and advisory institution for the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

#### **Article 21.- Composition of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-**

The National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders is made up of a representative in charge and his/her deputy from the following government institutions and civil society organizations:

1. The Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization;
2. The Secretariat of State in the Office of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
3. The Public Ministry;
4. The Judicial Power;
5. The Attorney-General of the Republic;
6. The Secretariat of State in the Security Office;
7. The Secretariat of State in the National Defence Office;
8. A representative of the College of Lawyers of Honduras (CAH);

9. A representative of the College of Journalists of Honduras (CPH);
10. A representative of the Press Association of Honduras (APH);
11. A representative of the Associations of Judges and Magistrates;
12. A representative of the Association of Prosecutors; and,
13. Two (2) representatives of human rights associations of civil society accredited by the National Commissioner on Human Rights.

Likewise, the National Commissioner on Human Rights and the representative in Honduras of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as guests and observers with voice but without vote.

The representatives of the Government institutions at the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders shall be the head of the respective institution, and likewise, the person acting as deputy shall hold the position of Under-Secretary of State, Deputy Prosecutor General, Deputy Attorney General of the Republic, as the case may be.

The representatives of human rights defence associations shall be elected in public assembly convened by the Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization; and, with the support of the Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The mandate of the members of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders shall be for a period of two (2) years and they may only be re-elected for one additional term. Except for the representatives of the Government institutions, who shall maintain said status for the duration of their position.

**Article 22.- Coordination of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** The coordination of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders shall be performed alternately in each term. Each coordinator shall serve in his/her position for one (1) year and shall be elected in accordance to its internal regulations.

**Article 23.- Profile of the Counsellors of Human Rights Associations.-**

Counsellors of human rights associations and professional associations shall



have the following profile:

1. Be Honduran; ,
2. Be older than twenty-one (21) years; ,
3. Be recognized as an honorable person; and, ,
4. Have experience in or knowledge of the defence and promotion of human rights and preferably regarding the analysis or evaluation of risks and protection of persons. ,

**Article 24.- Attributions of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** The attributions of the National Council for the Protection of

Human Rights Defenders are as follows:

1. Act as the consultative, deliberative and advisory agency, in order to guarantee the rights established by this Law;
2. Perform monitoring, control, follow-up and evaluation tasks with regard to the National Protection System for Human Rights Defenders;
3. Advise Government institutions in compliance with public policies which guarantee the work of human rights defenders;
4. Promote or direct the design and implementation of instructions, public policies and programs to guarantee and fulfill the rights contained in this Law;
5. Present proposals and recommendations in order to improve the implementation of the National Protection System for Human Rights Defenders;
6. Analyze, debate, write and disseminate yearly reports with regard to the national context, the situation of human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators in the country, making the corresponding recommendations to the authorities in charge of taking the necessary measures;
7. Propose the creation of new preventative, protective and urgent measures which guarantee the life, integrity, freedom, security and exercise of the defence work of the persons involved;
8. Issue recommendations with regard to the special protocols which may be adopted within the framework of this law and/or recommend the adoption of new protocols;
9. Advise on the profile of the security personnel which may be assigned to protect the persons involved;
10. Issue recommendations for the annual report on the activities of the Directorate-General of the Protection System;
11. Participate in national or international events in order to exchange experiences and information regarding matters related to the application of

this Law;

12. Draft and approve its own internal regulations; and,
13. Any other necessary task for the fulfillment of its purposes.

**Article 25.- Meetings of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** The National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders shall meet in ordinary session once a month, convened by the Coordination of the Council, and quorum shall be achieved with the attendance of half plus one of its members.

There may be an extraordinary session with the attendance of one third (1/3) of its members.

The Directorate-General of the Protection System shall act as the Executive Secretariat of the Council and as its technical facilitator.

**Article 26.- Resolutions of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** Once there is quorum in the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, it shall adopt its decisions with the simple majority vote of those present and in the event of a tie, the Coordination of the Council has a casting vote.

**Article 27.- Ad Honorem Provision.-** The members of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders perform their services with an eminently *ad honorem* character.

### CHAPTER III

#### Directorate-General of the Protection System

**Article 28.- Directorate-General of the Protection System**

The Directorate-General of the Protection System is part of the organic structure of the Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, being the executive branch of the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

## **Article 29.- Attributions of the Directorate-General of the Protection**

**System.-** The attributions of the Directorate-General of the Protection System are as follows:

1. Receive all requests for protection and process them in accordance with this Law;
2. Request the implementation of the Protection Plans for the persons involved and monitor that they are duly executed;
3. Process *ex officio* the application of security measures when any person who is the subject of this Law faces a risk situation which calls for urgent measures;
4. Issue, in coordination with other Government institutions and the active participation of civil society, measures for preventing harm to the persons involved;
5. Coordinate with Government institutions, civil society and other institutions which may be considered pertinent, any matters in regard to compliance with the protection measures and plans;
6. Request and provide permanent follow-up to the provisional measures of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the precautionary measures of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the corresponding security measures decreed by the jurisdictional bodies of the State, respectively;
7. Present before the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders biannual reports regarding the general level of efficiency of the measures adopted and the actions conducted;
8. Draft the required Operational Protocols for the efficient application of this Law;
9. Provide support to the persons requesting or receiving protection measures regarding the procedures, complaints or claims for the investigation of the source of the risk which he/she is facing;
10. Serve as Executive Secretariat of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders;
11. Monitor at the national level claims regarding the violation of human rights of the persons involved, with the objective of identifying aggression patterns and making risk maps for the adoption of preventative measures;
12. Be informed of the recourses against decisions adopted by the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism, in accordance with the administrative procedure and this Law; and,
13. Any others which may be necessary for the effective fulfillment of its mandate.

**Article 30.- Facilitation of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** In its role as Executive Secretary of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, the Directorate-General of Protection shall:

1. Convene the calls for the ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders; and,
2. Widely disseminate among the people the function of the Protection Mechanism.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **Technical Committee for the Protection Mechanism**

**Article 31.- Creation of the Technical Committee for the Protection Mechanism.-** The Technical Committee for the Protection Mechanism of the Directorate-General of the Protection System in charge of making judgments on risk analysis, deliberations and decisions regarding protection requests filed with the Directorate-General is hereby created.

The Technical Committee is comprised of the Director-general of the Protection System, who also acts as the Chair, and a representative of the Attorney-General of the Republic, the Prosecutor's Office for Human Rights and the Human Rights Department of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office. The Technical Committee shall be advised by experts in risk analysis.

In the event of a tied vote in the decision making, the Director-General of the Protection System has a casting vote.

The members of the Technical Committee are obliged to maintain the full confidentiality of any information related to the procedure of protection and case analysis. Failing which, the person not complying with confidentiality shall be suspended from his/her position in the Technical Committee, and another person from the institution he/she represents must be appointed.

**Article 32.- Attributions of the Technical Committee for the Protection Mechanism.-** The Technical Committee for the Protection Mechanism has the

following attributions:

1. Perform the risk analysis of the persons requesting protection;
2. Issue the expert opinion with the suggested protection measures for the Directorate-General of the Protection System to proceed with their implementation by itself or in coordination with other applicable institutions;
3. Order, modify, suspend and/or cancel the protection measures which it may timely grant to the persons concerned;
4. Dictate new protection and prevention measures, whether urgent or ordinary, to guarantee the life, integrity, freedom and security of persons in a risk situation;
5. Perform any immediate action assessment study which may be required;
6. Immediately inform the Directorate-general for the Protection System on urgent measures which must be issued to the Secretariat of State in the Security Office;
7. Make, evaluate and update every six (6) months the risk analysis of the person involved; and,
8. Any other attribute that may contribute to the proper performance of its functions.

**Article 33.- Risk Assessment.-** The risk analysis and the immediate reaction shall be performed in conformity with the best methodologies, best practices and international standards contained in the approved protocols, which shall take into account:

1. The risk level and scope of the persons involved;
2. The ideal Protection Measures in order to minimize the risk identified; and,
3. The immediacy and expeditiousness in the adoption of protection measures.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **Intervention of the Secretariat of the State in the Security Office in the implementation of protection measures**

**Article 34.- The Role of the Human Rights Department of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office.-** In the event that the protection measures decreed shall be implemented, whether fully or partially, by the Secretariat of State in the Security Office, said measures must be referred to its Human Rights Department, which shall work as a technical body specialized in the implementation of the

measures which may be referred to it by the Directorate-General of the Protection System.

**Article 35.- Attributions of the Human Rights Department of the Secretariat of State in the Security office within the Framework of this Law.-** The Human Rights Department of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office, besides the attributions it already holds, shall have the following:

1. Implement the protection measures involving the police issued by the Technical Committee for the Protection Mechanism in the terms established in the respective protocols;
2. Coordinate with the police directorates and headquarters, who shall give a preferential treatment to the implementation of the measures ordered;
3. Appoint the number of agents in charge of giving personal protection in accordance with the measures decreed;
4. Recommend the procedure for the selection, admittance, training and professionalization of the security personnel assigned to the protection of people, in accordance with the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders;
5. Present before the Head of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office the draft budget which may be required for the efficient compliance with its responsibilities established under this Law, in each fiscal year;
6. Evaluate and inform periodically the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders of the level of compliance of protection measures involving the police;
7. Draft its internal regulations and protocols for the implementation of protection measures involving the police; and,
8. Any other attribution which may derive from the application of this Law.

### **TITLE III**

#### **Protection Measures**

#### **CHAPTER I**

##### **Measures Adopted in Accordance with the Risk Analysis**

**Article 36.- Purpose and Nature of the Protection Measures.-** The preventative protection measures, whether ordinary or urgent, which may be issued, have the purpose of deterring and minimizing the reported risk, for which reason they shall be immediately communicated to the competent authority.

Said measures are individual or collective, timely, efficient and temporary, in accordance with the best methodologies, best practices and international standards. They shall, moreover, be applicable to those persons determined by the Risk Assessment Study and be analyzed, determined, implemented and evaluated by mutual agreement with the persons receiving protection.

As much as possible, protection measures shall not restrict the everyday activities of the persons involved, nor imply undesired monitoring of or intrusions into their professional or personal life.

**Article 37.- Adoption of Protection Measures.-** The Directorate-General of the Protection System, in accordance with the binding judgment issued by the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism, shall adopt and order compliance with the protection measures recommended by the latter. The adoption of the measures shall be based on the risk analysis and the context in which the threat may take place, and the fact that said threat is linked to the activity performed by the person receiving protection.

**Article 38.- Establishment of the Protection Measures.-** The type, scope and characteristics of the protection measures which the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism may adopt shall be formulated under the respective Protocols which, in compliance with this law, shall be created by the Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization via the Directorate-General of the Protection System, taking into account the recommendations by the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

The Protocols adopted shall take into consideration the existing differences within the protected groups, such as gender, age, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexual orientation and gender identity, urban and rural geographic differences, as well as any other condition or situation which should be treated in a differentiated manner.

**Article 39.- Duration of the Protection Measures.-** The Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism shall determine the duration of the protection measures in accordance with the risk analysis previously conducted.

**Article 40.- Review of the Protection Measures.-** Every six (6) months, the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism shall conduct a new analysis, with the objective of measuring the risk level of the persons receiving protection and, if necessary, adapt the measures issued. Notwithstanding the aforesaid, the Directorate-General of the Protection System may request *ex officio* or upon the request of the person involved a review of the protection measures implemented.

When a review of the aforesaid protection measures is requested by the Directorate-General of the Protection System, the latter shall do so in writing and present the reasons for said request. When the review is presented by the person concerned, his/her direct family members or the organization representing him/her, this shall likewise be done in writing, specifying whether the request is for the measures to be extended, altered or revoked, as applicable.

Regardless of the Resolution adopted by the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism, this shall be notified by the Directorate-General of the Protection System to the person involved or the corresponding authority, for the relevant purposes.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Procedure to Receive, Adopt and Implement Protection Measures**

**Article 41.- Procedure to Receive Protection Measures.-** Any person, whether natural or legal, who benefits from this Law may likewise request the intended protection from the Directorate-General of the Protection System free of charge.

This request is presented in person, without the need of a power of attorney nor any other formality, orally or in writing, via any means of communication, at times or days inside or outside the hours of operation. When the person requesting protection may be impeded due to serious/exceptional causes, the request may



be presented on his/her behalf by family members, third parties, an organization representing him/her or any authority that may be aware of his/her risk situation. In any event, the request shall be formalized in writing as soon as possible.

**Article 42.- Locations Without Offices of the Directorate-General of the Protection System.-** In those locations where there may not be offices of the Directorate-General of the Protection System or in situations of emergency or at holidays or times outside the hours of operation, and there is a need to adopt urgent protection measures, said measures may be adopted by the Secretariat of State in the Security Office via the Preventative Police or, failing this, the competent authority for security matters. The aforesaid is without prejudice to referring the dossier within a period of twenty-four (24) hours to the Directorate-General of the Protection System so that the latter proceeds with the procedure established in this Law and the corresponding regulatory legislation.

The Secretariat of State in the Security Office, via the Human Rights Department and in coordination with the Directorate-General of the Protection System, shall create the respective protocols for said urgent responses.

### **CHAPTER III**

#### **Ordinary and Extraordinary Processing of the Protection Measures**

**Article 43.- Receipt of Requests.-** Once the request for protection measures is received, the Directorate-General of the Protection System shall review the following items in order to initiate the proceedings:

1. That the person requesting protection or the person for whom protection is requested is amongst the sector of people to which this Law offers protection;
2. That there is consent on the part of the potential person to protect, except if there are serious and/or exceptional grounds;
3. That there is a causal link between the risk situation and his/her activity as a human rights defender, or as a worker in the case of journalists, media workers and justice operators; and,
4. That there is evidence of the risk situation.

**Article 44.- Processing the Request.-** In the event that the requirements previously listed are met, the Directorate-General of the Protection System shall issue a Resolution, without any further delay, determining whether said request should be processed ordinarily or extraordinarily, depending on whether an imminent risk exists or not.

**Article 45.- Extraordinary Processing.-** When there are facts to determine the imminent risk, that is, the existence of threats or aggressions of immediate fulfillment, within the following twenty-four (24) to seventy-two (72) hours which could seriously affect the life, physical integrity or personal freedom of the requesting person, the Directorate-General of the Protection System shall urgently order in favor of the requesting person and issue the pertinent instructions to the Secretariat of State in the Security Office, for said measures to be implemented within a timeframe of no more than eight (8) hours following the receipt of the Resolution decreeing the respective measure.

For the implementation of the urgent measures, it is necessary to have the consent of the person to be protected, which may be given in person, by telephone or any other channel of communication, and the Directorate-General of the Protection System shall keep a written record of said consent. When the authority implementing the measures has contact with the person to be protected, it shall obtain the consent in writing, unless this is impossible due to serious and/or exceptional grounds. In this event, consent may be granted by his/her spouse, partner, daughter, son or any family member within the fourth degree of kinship and second of affinity.

The validity of the urgent measure shall be maintained until the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism determines its modification or cancellation after conducting a risk analysis, which must be made within one (1) or two (2) subsequent weeks.

**Article 46.- Ordinary Processing of the Request for Protection Measures.-**  
The Directorate-General of the Protection System shall inform the members of

the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism of the cases to be processed ordinarily and the latter shall meet weekly in order to conduct the respective assessment of the risk in each case.

**Article 47.- Risk Analysis.-** The Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism, with the information at its disposal, shall determine the risk situation based on the threats, vulnerabilities and capabilities of the person involved.

If the information or documentation initially given were insufficient to issue a risk analysis, the Directorate-General of the Protection System shall request the presence of the possible involved person and/or his/her family members or the organization representing him/her, or request further information.

While the requested additional information is being obtained, the Directorate-General of the Protection System may request the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism to issue interim measures, which shall serve to protect the person while the final measures are being determined.

In accordance with the respective Protocol, the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism shall make a risk assessment in each case in order to determine the level, whether moderate, serious or very serious, and determine the necessary protection measures. In all cases, the requesting person or his/her representative shall be heard, with a view to reaching an agreement on the measures to be adopted.

Risk analysis in the Ordinary Processing shall be conducted by the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism in a period of between two (2) to four (4) weeks.

**Article 48.- Implementation of Protection Measures.-** The implementation of protection measures ordered by the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism shall be implemented by the Directorate-General of the Protection System within a period of no more than forty-eight (48) hours following the receipt of the Resolution decreeing the respective measure.

The Directorate-General of the Protection System, depending on the type of protection measures decreed, shall coordinate with the pertinent public authorities, who are obliged to provide the necessary institutional resources, as well as those additional ones which may be provided by the Directorate-General of the Protection System.

**Article 49.- Communication and Assessment of the Protection Measures.-**

The Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism shall:

1. Immediately communicate the Resolution granted by the Directorate-General of the Protection System to the institution or organization which may have referred the case, to the person requesting protection and/or receiving the Protection Measure;
2. Ensure the informed consent of the beneficiary(ies), which may be granted in person, by telephone or by any other communication channel, always keeping a written record unless doing so is impossible due to serious and/or exceptional grounds. In that event, consent may be granted by his/her spouse, partner, daughter, son or any other family member within the fourth degree of kinship and second of affinity;
3. Communicate the Resolution granted by the Directorate-General of the Protection System to the authorities, who shall execute the protection measures within a period no longer than eight (8) hours in extraordinary cases and no longer than forty-eight (48) hours in ordinary cases; and,
4. Follow up on the implementation of the measures granted and determine their level of compliance and efficiency and order the corrective measures which may be deemed necessary.

**Article 50.- Ex officio.-** In accordance with the respective Protocols, the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism may decree ex officio protection measures which are preventive, reactive and urgent with a view to guarantee the life and the integrity of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and judicial officers, when the risk situation is a causal consequence of their work as rights defenders and upholders of the Law.

**Article 51.- Referral to the Prosecution Authorities.-** In the event that the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism becomes aware of an alleged commission of a crime, it shall direct the requesting and/or involved person to make a legal report of said facts before the corresponding Prosecutor's Office.

The aforesaid without prejudice to the obligation on the part of the Directorate-General of the Protection System to communicate officially with the competent authorities within a period of twenty-four (24) hours.

**Article 52.- Implementation of Precautionary and Provisional Measures of the Inter-American Human Rights System.-** The compliance with the precautionary and provisional measures of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights respectively is the competence of the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, which shall coordinate with the Attorney-General of the Republic as the representative of the State before the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights the receipt and processing of said measures.

When the respective notification is received, the Attorney-General of the Republic shall immediately transfer to the Directorate-General of the Protection System the mandate issued by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights or the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, with the objective to implement it in the timeframes, channels and manner determined by the latter.

The Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism shall perform an additional risk analysis with the objective of determining whether the protection measures ordered by said bodies are sufficient to prevent irreparable damage to their rights, ensuring at all times the informed consent of the persons involved, as well as their family members or the organization representing them.

Neither the Directorate-General of the Protection System nor the Technical Committee of the Protection System may suspend, revoke, or in any other manner reduce the protection granted by the precautionary or provisional measures of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights or the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, respectively.

**Article 53.- Obligation of Government Bodies, Institutions and Agencies to Cooperate.-** The three (3) Powers of the State and other institutions are obliged to facilitate, with a preferential and urgent character, the National System for the

Protection of Human Rights Defenders, with the objective of complying with this Law, as well as with the decisions of the bodies of the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights.

## CHAPTER IV

### Filing of Appeals against the Resolutions

**Article 54.- Presentation of objections to the decisions of the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism.-** Any person requesting or receiving protection who may not agree with the decisions of the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism has the right to challenge said decision before the Directorate-General of the National Protection System.

The appeals filed shall be resolved in a preferential and urgent manner, always based on the pro persona principle, within a period of twenty-four (24) hours, through the procedure established by the Law on Administrative Procedures.

**Article 55.- Request for New Facts.-** In the event that the final resolution determines not to approve the request, the requesting party shall have the right to file a new request for protection in the event that there is additional information or the appearance of new circumstances.

## CHAPTER V

### Sanctions

**Article 56.- Responsibility of Public Servants and Employees.-** Resolutions and recommendations issued within the framework of this Law are mandatory.

Public servants who due to omission or negligence may prevent the application of the protection measures in order to guarantee the life, integrity and security of the people subject to this Law, shall be committing the crime of violating the duties of public servants and others which may be applicable depending on the case, proceedings which shall be initiated *ex officio* by the Attorney-General's Office.

This without prejudice to the corresponding civil and administrative responsibilities.

**Article 57.- Referral to the Attorney-General's Office.-** The Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, by means of the Directorate-General of the Protection System, shall refer *ex officio* and immediately to the Attorney-General's office the claim in those cases in which there is evidence of non-compliance with the obligations arising from this Law on the part of public servants and employees and any civilian or military authority within the scope of this Law, for the purpose of proceeding to file the corresponding legal action.

## SECTION IV

### Technical and Financial Assistance

#### CHAPTER I

##### Cooperation Agreements

**Article 58.- Cooperation Agreements.-** The Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, via the Directorate-General of the Protection System, must sign cooperation agreements for the purpose of achieving the objective of guaranteeing the life, integrity, freedom and security of human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and justice operators.

It may sign said agreements with national and international humanitarian organizations and institutions and with other countries, following the corresponding legal channels which may provide resources, technical assistance and even asylum or refuge to safeguard the life and physical and psychological integrity of whoever may need it.

**Article 59.- Objectives of the Cooperation Agreements.-** Cooperation agreements have, among others, the following objectives:

1. Technical and financial assistance to the Secretaries of State and government institutions involved in the enforcement of this Law;
2. Technical and financial assistance to civil society organizations engaged in the matters covered by this Law;
3. Strengthening of the capacities of the staff at the Directorate-General of the Protection System and the Technical Committee of the Protection Mechanism to be applied in their various working areas;
4. Strengthening of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office with regard to human rights defence;
5. Reciprocal collaboration and assistance with public and private institutions;
6. Promotion, study, analysis, investigation and development of strategies, actions, systems and methodologies which integrate best practices in prevention and protection;
7. Academic research, promoting legislation and necessary legislative reforms in order to improve the situation of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and judicial officers, as well as groups in a vulnerable situation; and,
8. Any other that the parties may agree on for the enforcement of this Law.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Transparency and Access to Information**

**Article 60.- Access to Public Information.-** Access to and the dissemination of information related to this Law shall be in compliance with the provisions of the Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information.

The resolutions by means of which the Directorate-General of the Protection System may grant preventative measures, protection measures and urgent protection measures are considered classified information, therefore the applicable procedure must be followed.

**Article 61.- Presentation of Reports.-** Any information regarding this Law with respect to individual cases shall not be included in public reports. Special and annual reports, to which this Law makes reference based on the subject matter, shall be general in nature.

## **TITLE V**

### **Final and Temporary Provisions**



**Article 62.- Drafting of Regulations and Protocols of the Law.-** Within a period of three (3) months as of the date of entry into force of this Law, the Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, and the National Commission on Human Rights as an advisory body, shall issue the respective regulations and protocols for its implementation.

Within that same period, the Department of Human Rights of the Secretariat of State in the Security Office shall draft the protocols pertaining to its specific functions established under this Law.

**Article 63.- Call for Election of the Members of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** The Secretariat of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization shall convene, within a timeframe not exceeding thirty (30) days as of the publication of this Law, the constituent sectors of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights defenders, with the objective of holding the general assemblies in order to elect their respective main and substitute representatives. Likewise, this authority shall require the remaining institutions to accredit their respective representatives.

**Article 64.- Protection Measures for Justice Operators.-** The institutions of the judicial sector shall make modifications to their own budgets in order to include the item of protection measures for their officers.

With the objective of guaranteeing the independence of justice operators, the Judicial Power and the Attorney-General's Office shall progressively organize a protection mechanism for judges, magistrates, public attorneys and prosecutors, in accordance with the principles, risk analysis and standards established by this law.

The Directorate-General of the Protection System shall collaborate with the institutions in the judicial sector so that the latter may formulate their budgetary allotments in an efficient and realistic manner with respect to the financial situation and context of the country.

**Article 65.- Budget of the National Protection System.-** For effective compliance with this Law, the Secretariat of State in the Finance office is instructed to allocate the adequate and necessary financial resources from the General Budget of the Republic. Likewise, it shall allocate complementary budget items.

Likewise, the financing for the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders is comprised of the following resources and assets:

1. Contributions and subsidies from institutions;
2. Donations, estates and bequests, as well as national and international cooperation by legal means, by natural or legal persons, whether private or public, which shall be accounted for by means of a special report in accordance with the regulations and procedures governed by the High Court of Auditors and the institution or person granting the cooperation;
3. Those granted by special laws; and,
4. Others that may be obtained by other means.

**Article 66.- Creation of a Protection Fund.-** The Special Fund for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Workers and Justice Operators is hereby created, which shall be immediately funded with the resources available under the Population Security Fund once this Law comes into force. The description and implementation of said fund shall be subject to a special regulation.

**Article 67.- Continuity in the Operability of the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.-** In order to guarantee the continuity of the processes developed by the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, two (2) representatives of Human Rights organizations of the First Council established shall be kept in their positions and only those remaining shall be replaced.

**Article 68.- The College of Judges.-** The representation in the National Council for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders by the College of Judges and Magistrates is understood to be conferred to the College of Judges and Magistrates of Honduras as well as the Association of Judges for Democracy,

who shall rotate the main and substitute roles for the time that they remain on the Council.

**Article 69.- Validity.-** This Decree shall come into force as of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Given in the City of Tegucigalpa, municipality of the Central District, at the Hall of Sessions of the National Congress, on the sixteenth day of the month of April of the year two thousand and fifteen.

**Mauricio Oliva Herrera**

PRESIDENT

**Mario Alonso Pérez López**

SECRETARY

**Román Villeda Aguilar**

SECRETARY

To the Executive Power.

Therefore: To be executed.

Tegucigalpa, municipality of the Central District, May 14, 2015.

**Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado**

President of the Republic

The Secretary of State in the Offices of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization.

**Rigoberto Chang Castillo**

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Honduras. 2006. [Ley Contra la Violencia Doméstica con sus Reformas.](#)

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