

Santiago, 3 de Diciembre, 1997

Señor
Manuel Guzmán
Director Ejecutivo
HURIDOCS

Estimado señor Guzmán:

Hemos recibido su carta comunicándonos la realización de la "International Conference on Human Rights Information, Impunity and Challenges of the Post-Conflict Healing Process".

Evidentemente que agradecemos su comunicación y estaríamos verdaderamente felices de poder asistir, pues nuestro trabajo está circunscrito precisamente a este tema en el área de Infancia y creemos que podemos contribuir con nuestra experiencia tanto en el trabajo de Derechos Humanos como en el trabajo efectuado en nuestro Centro de Documentación "Infancia en América Latina".

Sin embargo es imposible para nosotros poder costear los gastos de pasaje. Sabemos ya por experiencia que la posibilidad de obtener apoyo de Agencias Donantes y/o Embajadas es en nuestro país un trámite finalmente inútil para la mayoría de los organismos no gubernamentales nacidos durante la dictadura.

Por lo tanto agradecemos su invitación y les deseamos éxito.

María Eugenia Rojas
Secretaria Ejecutiva
PIDEE - CEDIAL

HURIDOCs

HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION SYSTEMS, INTERNATIONAL

Continuation Committee

Kofi Kumado, Chairperson
(Ghana)

James Lawson, Treasurer
(France)

Supang Chantavanich
(Thailand)

Judith Dueck
(Canada)

Aída María Noval
(Mexico)

Agnethe Olesen
(Denmark)

International Advisory Council

François Tano Wouedje
(Côte d'Ivoire)

Harold Forster
(Ghana)

Olatokunbo Ige
(Nigeria)

Lydia Levin
(South Africa)

Frej Fenniche
(Tunisia)

Jonathan Kuttub
(Palestine)

Ravi Nair
(India)

Kumar Rupesinghe
(Sri Lanka)

Jo Jo Tam
(Hong Kong)
Koshi Yamazaki
(Japan)

Luis Perez Aguirre
(Uruguay)

Benjamin Cuellar Martinez
(El Salvador)

Patricia Orellana
(Chile)

Ramon Martinez Portorreal
(Dominican Republic)

Ivana Caccia
(Canada)

Charlotte McCann
(United States)

Debra Guzman
(United Kingdom)

Manfred Nowak
(Austria)

Mary Robinson
(United Kingdom)

Hans Thoolen
(Sweden)

Manuel Guzman
Executive Director

Ms. Maria Eugenia Rojas
Centro de Documentacion sobre la
Realidad de la Infancia - CEDIAL-
PIDEE
Casilla 599-11
Santiago
Chile

Geneva, 4 November, 1997

Dear Ms. Rojas,

HURIDOCs would like to thank you for applying to attend its *International Conference on Human Rights Information, Impunity and Challenges of the Conflict Healing Process*. We are happy to confirm that your application has been accepted. This important event will take place in Tunisia from 22 to 26 March 1998, and preparations are well under way. We are inviting a number of interesting speakers, and a suitable conference site has been found.

The focus of discussion will be on how human rights documentation and the work of human rights documentalists can contribute towards solutions to the variety of problems related to impunity, the challenges of the post-conflict healing process, and our unfinished human rights work in general. The conference will be enriched through the sharing of experiences, such as in terms of problems faced and in methods of work adopted, by NGOs on the ground.

As of today, we have received almost 200 applications from representatives of human rights organisations all over the world, and we try to see to it that the participants will represent the broad spectrum of human rights organisations. Altogether, we believe that this will be a major event for the human rights community during 1998, fifty years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. For your information, I enclose the draft programme of the Conference and the General Assembly.

We believe that you will be able to contribute substantially in the exchange of ideas and experiences, and sincerely hope that you will be able to take part in the Conference. You have informed us that you are able to cover the costs of your board and lodging in Tunisia, and we appreciate this very much. For your information: the costs of board and lodging are about 60 US dollars per day.

./.

International Secretariat: HURIDOCs 2, rue Jean-Jaquet CH-1201 Geneva / Switzerland

Tel.: [+41-22] 741.1767 Fax: [+41-22] 741.1768 E-mail: huridocs@oln.comlink.apc.org

Bank: Swiss Bank Corporation CH-1211 Geneva 20 Account # D7-102.741.0

HURIDOCS has submitted applications to a number of donor agencies. We hope that we will in the end be able to cover part of your travel expenses, however minimal. At the same time, we would like to request you to make the necessary efforts to obtain funding for your travel. In particular, we would like to suggest you to approach donor agencies and Embassies in your country or region for a travel grant. Some Embassies have funds available to allow representatives of non-governmental organisations to attend international meetings and conferences. Also suggestions from your side on possible funding sources for the Conference are welcome.

One thing is sure, we will not ask you for an application fee. I am sorry that we cannot promise anything more at this stage.

Please contact us again if you have any further questions.

Looking forward to see you in Tunisia,

with best regards,



Manuel Guzman

Executive Director, HURIDOCS

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION,
IMPUNITY AND CHALLENGES OF THE POST-CONFLICT HEALING PROCESS
22 - 25 March 1998**

Draft Programme

22 March (evening)

I. OPENING CEREMONY

- **Welcome address**
- **Introductory keynote address:**
Human Rights Information, Impunity and Challenges of the Post-Conflict Healing Process
- **Practical Information**
- **Dinner**

23 March (a.m.)

II. MAJOR CONFLICTS IN THE WORLD

- **Keynote address:** *Major Conflicts in the World from the Human Rights Perspective*¹
- **Panel discussion:** *What can be done?*
Early Warning Systems and Crisis Prevention
International Criminal Courts and War Tribunals
Education of Professional Groups

23 March (p.m.)

- **Group Workshops:** *The Role of Human Rights Information*
Its role in peace building / conflict resolution
Its role in civil society building / strengthening
- **Group workshop reports**

24 March (a.m.)

III. IMPUNITY AND THE POST-CONFLICT HEALING PROCESS

- **Panel discussion on the problem**
The Challenges of Impunity
States in Transition
Understanding the Healing Process and its Needs
- **Panel discussion:** *What can be done?*
Rehabilitation of victims of conflict and human rights violations
Restitution to victims of conflict and human rights violations
Improving human rights information work (towards ad hoc mechanisms)
Improving human rights information work (towards permanent mechanisms)

¹ Including the topics International Conflicts, Internal Conflicts and Nationalism, Racism and Xenophobia, and Religious Fundamentalism

- **Group workshops:** *Improving human rights work*
 - *Fact-finding*
 - *Survey design*
 - *Presentation techniques*
 - *Use of statistics in human rights*
 - *Computer programs for human rights NGOs*
 - *Issues for human rights libraries*

24 March (p.m.)

- **Group workshop reports**

IV. COMPLETING THE HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA

- **Panel discussion:**
 - The unfinished work*
 - The effects of globalisation*
 - The relationships among civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights*

25 March (a.m.)

- **Group workshops:** *What can be done?*
 - Monitoring economic, social and cultural rights*
 - Advancing womens' rights*
 - Responding to the major human rights needs of vulnerable groups*
- **Group workshop reports**

25 March (p.m.)

V. CHALLENGES FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION WORKER

- **Panel discussion:**
 - Issues in information access (inequities, security, etc.)*
 - Technological possibilities in the future*
 - The potential for information campaigns and other activities*

VI. CLOSING SESSION

- **Conference synthesis**
- **Closing Address**

NOTE: All afternoon sessions are to finish at 6:00 at the latest. The demonstration sessions of information handling tools are to be held from 6:00 until just before dinner. Regional meetings may be held after dinner.

HURIDOCS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
26 March 1998

a.m.

- **Report of Activities**
 - Chairman's report
 - Executive Director's report
 - Treasurer's report
- **Reports of Task Forces**
- **Regional Reports**
- **Proposed HURIDOCS 5-year plan (1998-2002)**
- **Discussions**

p.m.

- **Synthesis of discussions**
- **Composition of the Continuation Committee and the Advisory Council**
- **Closing**