

Asunción, 8 June 2011 – The latest Assembly of the Inter American Commission on Human Rights – the highest human rights authority in the southern hemisphere and member of the OAS, appointed Mrs Rosa María Ortiz from Paraguay as a new member for her broad experience in the field of human rights, with a special emphasis on Children and adolescent rights. Mrs Ortiz will come into office on 1st of January 2012 and will have a four-year mandate together with Tracy Robinson, from Jamaica; Felipe González, from Chile and Rose-Marie Bella Antoine, from Belize, who have also been newly elected members of the IACHR.

Ortiz highlighted her objective of prioritizing prevention and giving a central role to the voices of children and youth in the region. Upon her arrival in Paraguay she stated that the region had important pending homework to do: “Violence against children, we must work on how to tackle this violence. I would like to become Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Children to contribute my experience, and the voice of children is fundamental. They are the main actors, they must guide the State, the family, the school and society to offer them a violence-free life and development”. Founder of Global Infancia, a member organization of CDIA, Rosa María Ortiz has also been a member of the Geneva-based UN Committee on the Rights of the Child since 2003 and until February this year.