AMNESTYINTERNATIONAL



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MEXICO: OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT-ELECT ANDRÉS MANUEL LÓPEZ OBRADOR

SUBJECT: "100 DAYS FOR MEXICO" CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

Dear Mr. López Obrador,

Greetings from Amnesty International. We are writing to you today to present our campaign "100 days for Mexico", in which our movement proposes eleven concrete actions for you to take during your first 100 days of government, commencing on 1 December 2018.

This campaign builds on the analysis and recommendations concerning the human rights situation in Mexico that were presented in the memorandum that we submitted to you last September. The aim of the campaign is to offer recommendations on specific actions that our organisation believes you could carry out at the beginning of your presidency and that would have a positive impact on the enjoyment of human rights by all individuals in the country:

100 days of action: For security

- 1. Halt the proposed creation of a militarised National Guard to handle public security and, instead, develop and implement a national plan for the orderly withdrawal of the armed forces from public security tasks that would provide for the training, discipline and civilian command of public security forces as well as professionalising and enhancing the prestige of the police.
- 2. Submit a bill amending article 123(B)(XIII) of the Constitution in order to recognise the labour rights of police officers and improve the working conditions of their profession.
- 3. Issue a public statement declaring that your government will not tolerate abuse or the excessive use of force by police or the armed forces, in which you commit to opening a dialogue with civil society and experts in order to develop a public security model in line with international human rights standards, including a potential law on the use of force.

100 days of action: To protect the environment and those who defend it

- 4. Issue a public statement in the mass media acknowledging the legitimate work of human rights defenders, including defenders of rights relating to land, territory and the environment, and the importance of ensuring their adequate protection.
- 5. Submit the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Escazú Agreement) to the Senate for ratification.

¹ Amnesty International. <u>Mexico: Memorandum for the President-elect: human rights recommendations for the next government</u> (AMR 41/8911/2018).

100 days of action: For truth and justice

- 6. Chair a meeting with the National Search Commission, state governors and the mayor of Mexico City in order to drive forward the national search system and agree upon the prompt establishment of local search commissions, providing them with sufficient human and material resources to perform their duties.
- 7. Recognise the competence of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider reports filed by individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of disappearance, or on their behalf, or by other states parties, by virtue of articles 31 and 32 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances.
- 8. Order all public servants, regardless of their rank, to proactively collaborate on the Ayotzinapa case, and set up an investigative commission for the case, as ordered by a federal court.

100 days of action: For women

9. Instruct the Ministry of the Interior to adjust the procedure for the Gender-based Violence Alert mechanism in order to guarantee its effectiveness in combatting gender-based violence against women and children.

100 days of action: For migrants and refugees

- 10. Instruct the Ministry of the Interior to review the procedures for the return and deportation of irregular migrants in order to respect the right of all individuals to seek asylum and put an end to the illegal practice of refoulement, ensuring that such a practice is subject to administrative sanctions.
- 11. Stipulate that immigration detention should be a last resort, reasonable and proportionate, and for the shortest time possible, and guarantee that children and adolescents are not detained at any time.

While these actions do not cover all the items on the human rights agenda in Mexico, by carrying them out, you will pave the way for substantial progress to be made right at the start of your presidency and you will deliver a powerful message that human rights will be the focus of public policy in your administration.

The campaign will be made public on 28 November, at which time we will ask our activists and the general public to join the call for these eleven actions. Our organisation will keep track of which actions are implemented and we will publicly take stock of the situation at the end of the campaign.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to receiving your reply.

Sincerely,

Erika Guevara-Rosas Americas Director Tania Reneaum Panszi Director, Amnesty International Mexico