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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Title/Style of Cause:	Inmates Committed to the Penitentiary of the Province of Mendoza v. Argentina
Doc. Type:	Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated:	3 August 2004
Citation:	Penitentiary of Mendoza v. Argentina, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.122, doc. 5 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 11 (2004)
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11. On August 3, 2004, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the convicted and tried inmates committed to the Penitentiary of the Province of Mendoza and its offices. Available information indicates that, during the first half of 2004, there occurred 11 deaths in the facilities of the penitentiary: 5 because of a fire, and the others as a result of assaults or brawls, because of the lack of security and control measures by the authorities, overcrowding, and miserable health conditions in the wards. The incidents of violence and the conditions of confinement that jeopardize the psycho-physical safety and life of the inmates have not been clarified either by the judiciary or disciplinary measures. In view of the situation of the beneficiaries, the IACHR requested the Argentinean State to adopt the necessary measures to prevent irreparable harm to the life and personal safety of the penitentiary's inmates and the ones that are deemed suitable to guarantee access to adequate conditions of hygiene and health. On October 14, 2004, after the violent deaths of four inmates, despite the observance of precautionary measures, the Commission requested the Inter-American Court to adopt provisional measures in conformity with Article 63(2) of the American Convention. Provisional measures were granted on November 22, 2004 (see below the section on matters pending before the Inter-American Court).