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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Title/Style of Cause: 62 Children Held in the Juvenile Center of Provisional Confinement v.

Guatemala

Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures

Dated: 24 November 2004

Citation: Juvenile Center v. Guatemala, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.122, doc. 5

rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 36 (2004)

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36. On November 24, 2004, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of 62 children held in the Juvenile Center of Provisional Confinement. The ruling on the necessity of precautionary measures was based on on-site observations made by the Commission's Rapporteurs for Children and Detained Persons – Commissioners Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro and Florentín Meléndez — between November 18 and 20, 2004. On this occasion, information was gathered directly indicating that the physical and psychological safety and health of the confined children were severely threatened by the treatment of the staff and system and the unhealthy conditions of the solitary confinement cells. In view of the situation, the Commission requested the Guatemalan State to adopt the measures necessary to protect the lives and physical integrity of the beneficiaries, including measures aimed at preventing retaliation by the prison staff against the inmates and to report on the actions undertaken to investigate the facts and put an end to the assaults against the incarcerated children. The Commission continues to monitor the situation of the protected children.