

OPINION No. 10/1997 (MEXICO)

Communication addressed to the Government on 26 November 1996.

Concerning: Gonzalo Sánchez Navarrete, Gerardo López López, Ofelia Hernández Hernández, Patricia Jiménez Sánchez, Brenda Rodríguez Acosta, Celia Martínez Guerrero, Fernando Domínguez Paredes and Joel Martínez González.

Mexico is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

1. The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention was established by resolution 1991/42 of the Commission on Human Rights. The mandate of the Working Group was clarified and extended by resolution 1997/50. Acting in accordance with its methods of work, the Working Group forwarded to the Government the above-mentioned communication.
2. The Working Group conveys its appreciation to the Government for having forwarded the requisite information in good time.
3. The Working Group notes that the Government concerned has informed the Group that the above-mentioned persons are no longer in detention. This fact was not only denied by the source, to which this information was transmitted.
4. With regard to the accused persons Ofelia Hernández Hernández, Patricia Jiménez Sánchez, Brenda Rodríguez Acosta, Celia Martínez Guerrero, Fernando Domínguez Paredes and Joel Martínez González, the Government informed the Group that they were sentenced for the offence of storing weapons to one year and eight months in prison, which had elapsed during the period of their custody.
5. The accused Gerardo López López and Fernando Domínguez Paredes were sentenced to three years and three months and four years and three months respectively. Having already served half their sentences they benefited from a policy counting detention served on remand in lieu, and are now at liberty.
6. Although the Government has provided no information regarding the minor Gonzalo Sánchez Navarrete, and no further information has been forthcoming from the source, it is possible that he too has been released.
7. Without prejudging the nature of the detention, the Working Group decides to file the cases of Gonzalo Sánchez Navarrete, Gerardo López López, Ofelia Hernández Hernández, Patricia Jiménez Sánchez, Brenda Rodríguez Acosta, Celia Martínez Guerrero, Fernando Domínguez Paredes and Joel Martínez González under the terms of paragraph 14.1 (a) of its methods of work.

Adopted on 18 September 1997.