

INFORME EPU SOBRE SISTEMA PENITENCIARIO EN MEXICO 2013

Coalición por los derechos de las personas privadas de libertad en el Sistema Penitenciario en Mexicano.

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This inform presents the situation on the Penitentiary System in Mexico according to the recommendations made in 2009, about living conditions in prisons, human and economic resources, violence, and overcrowding. We also inform about the living conditions of vulnerable groups in prison. Finally we present few recommendations to continue efforts to transform the Penitentiary System in Mexico.

A. REFORM TO THE PRISON SYSTEM

1. As of June 8, 2008 the constitutional reform related to criminal justice took effect and was aimed at creating a new national prison system. From such reform, each state has the responsibility of, in no more than three years, promulgating a secondary legislation on the new integration system as well as new rules for the sentence modifications.

2. Currently, all federal entities have published their corresponding law; nevertheless, such laws face serious flaws due to the haste with which they were written. Some flaws are forcing new judges to prioritize, in their resolutions, technical-medical discretionary criteria (individualized progressive technical file) issued by prison authorities and braking intangible rights such as normalcy assumption and undermining the job that has constitutionally given to judges to determine the penalty's length. Therefore, the actual length of such criminal punishment would continue subjected to the administration and technical staff who depend on it.

3. Another serious flaw is that local laws have prevented judges from examining imprisonment living conditions. It has also prevented them from revising that the given punishment is not worsened as it indeed happens by living in conditions that affect human dignity. By doing so, both, the length as well as the nature of the given punishment rely on the prison's administration control and judgment. It also perpetuates its disposition and a judge and a party in regards to the possible claims that Imprisoned people might have; creating a disruption and breach of all constitutional sense that encouraged the appointing of an punishment execution judge as a leading institution from the judicial management to the length and type of punishment.

B. PRISON CONDITIONS

4. Undoubtedly, the last administration did enormous efforts to increase the current capacity of federal prisons facilities. At the beginning, the administration had 6 federal prisons; however, at the end, such administration had 14 and 3 in construction process. Nonetheless, this infrastructure improvement has not been able to definitely eliminate the problem since the total national number of inmates is 242, 754; placing the country in sixth

place worldwide¹. The total overpopulation rate nationwide is 28.32%. Currently, federal prisons can house 192,118 people, which mean a lack of 48,636 places for current inmates. 5. One of the most urgent actions to improve living conditions in the country's federal prisons and to attain the effectiveness of reintegration programs lies on solving overcrowding and overpopulation problems that affect the prison system. Currently, Mexico has a prison population of 126%². There are states in which the overpopulation rate in prisons is higher than 170%. Such is the case for Mexico City with 181% and Jalisco with 176.4%.³

6. 220 federal prisons, out of 420, have an overpopulation problem in the county. 48.5% of the total prison population is found in 7 states, what means that it is necessary to distribute this population in a better way.

7. A survey given to the inmates of the Islas Marias Prison shows that 34% of the surveyed inmates shares a dorm with between 20 and 22 people; 16% with 12 inmates and 9% with 4.⁴

8. The President of the Prisons Special Commission of D. F. Legislative Assembly found up to 40 inmates in one cell while visiting "El Reclusorio Sur" in D. F. The overcrowding problem has made inmates look for alternatives to sleep, such as tying up themselves to prevent them from falling down.⁵

9. In recent years, the increase of prisons' population is mainly due to the bigger extension of felonies and to the lack of criteria to implement precautionary measures different from preventive detention.

10. In Mexico, 40.33% inmates await a sentence⁶. The prison system crisis will not be solved until the preventive detention implementation is controlled; whose overuse breaks the presumption of innocence principle.

11. While the constitutional reform indicates a regime that guarantees the exceptionality of preventive detention, it also includes padlocks for which this precautionary measure will continue to be used as a rule in a big number of crimes. The current list of felonies allows irrational imprisonment for thousands of people that have not been tried but only accused of such crimes.

¹ World Prison Brief by the International Centre of Prison Studies,
See: http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/worldbrief/wpb_stats.php?area=all&category=wb_poptotal.

²World Prison Occupancy Rate. See:
http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/worldbrief/wpb_stats.php?area=all&category=wb_occupancy.

³Secretaría de Seguridad Pública, Federal Prison System Statistics, January 2013.
See: <http://www.ssp.gob.mx/portaWebApp/ShowBinary?nodeId=/BEA%20Repository/365162//archivo>

⁴Results of the first Survey to the Federal Prison Facilities done by El Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, 2012.

http://publiceconomics.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/encuesta_internos_cefereso_2012.pdf.

⁵Note written in El Periódico Universal <http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/notas/890470.html>, December 18th 2012.

⁶ Secretaría de Seguridad Pública, Federal Prison System Statistics, September 2012.
See: <http://www.ssp.gob.mx/portaWebApp/ShowBinary?nodeId=/BEA%20Repository/365162//archivo>.

12. In Mexico, 60% of punishments is related to misdemeanors and only 12% of such is connected to crimes such as murder, rape and violent robbery. This means that a huge amount of resources aimed at security and justice systems of states deals with misdemeanors. The ideal fact would be the implementation of alternative justice mechanisms and solutions to the criminal proceedings for this type of crimes. This way, the state Security and Criminal Justice Systems would be able to prioritize and focus their resources on addressing most serious crimes. Likewise, organizations and institutions in charge are required to effectively give a follow up to punishments, suspension conditions and processes. The creation of social program bail systems is advisable since at least 10% of people with the right of to be freed on bail faces problems to get the money.

13. The resulting overcrowding from criminal justice policies, the increasing list of crimes and the lack of criteria to implement new precautionary measures different from preventive detention have generated a serious situation of self-government, corruption, high levels of violence, and incidents that jeopardize the life and safety of those imprisoned under the State responsibility.

14. From 2009 to 2012, the number of incidents within prisons has increased. While in 2008 the official numbers on federal prisons showed 22 incidents in which 46 inmates participated, in 2012 the number reached 74 incidents with the participation of 364 people. This data only show the truth in the facilities under the federal government administration. In states and municipalities, figures of violent incidents have also increased. While between September 2008 and July 2009 incidents involving 829 people were identified (180 death, 507 injured and 142 fugitive inmates), between July 2009 and July 2010, the number of people involved increased to 3,681 (293 deaths, 216 fights, 47 suicides, 17 hunger strikes, 17 suicide attempts, 22 jailbreaks, 8 riots, 3 jailbreak attempts, 1 rape attempt, 1 rape, and 37 homicides). Between 2010 and 2011, 887 incidents involving 5,179 inmates were recorded: 3269 inmates involved in riots, 922 in fights, 316 were killed, 320 escaped from prison, 52 were killed, 83 committed suicide, 60 assaulted third parties, 107 went into hunger strikes, 11 attempted suicide, 14 committed self-assault, 10 tried to escape, 8 attempted homicide and 7 raped someone.⁷

15. Besides overpopulation, certain states—the majority in the north of the country— show more than the double in the number of incidents compared to the national rate.⁸

16. The most recent events resulting from the violence generated in these reintegration facilities due to self-government took place in the Altamira Prison in Tamaulipas, where a fight resulted in 31 people killed and 13 wounded, in 2012. In February 2012, 44 inmates were killed and 30 escaped from jail with the help of the penitentiary employees; all this happened in the Apodaca, Nuevo Leon Prison.

17. In Mexico, the self-government problem has worsened due to the higher number of inmates involved in organized crime and who are imprisoned in municipal as well as state facilities. These inmates control the inmate population by forcing them to a personal regime of favors and privileges available by paying fees. This situation is even accepted by some authorities. General public knows about the existence of several criminal activities which

⁷Quinto Informe de Labores, Secretaría Seguridad Pública 2010-2011

⁸It was registered in Nuevo León (8.7), followed by Tamaulipas (8.4), Coahuila (7.7), Distrito Federal (6.2) and Durango (5).

corrupt authorities with the goal of receiving any kind of help to plan and commit serious crimes within the prisons themselves.⁹

18. Besides this type of violence, we must visualize violence towards inmates themselves given by security staff in prisons. Violation to inmates' human rights, corruption acts as well as cruel, inhuman and humiliating treatment have been recorded by public commissions protecting human rights¹⁰, the United Nations sub-committee for the Prevention of Torture¹¹ as well as by several non-government organizations as several media.

19. Since 2006, the fact that "it is a common practice to beat and mistreat inmates (...) for officers and other inmates in Mexican prisons" was accounted for in the Especial Report of the Human Rights National Commission (HRNC or CNDH in Spanish). Mistreatment on the part of prison staff was registered in the National Assessment for Prisons' Supervision, between 2009 and 2010. One year later, the HRNC found that the majority of prisons do not register cases of torture and/or mistreatment nor do they have a system to deal with this problem¹².

20. The number of complaints against the Federal Prison System filed in the HRNC from 2009 to 2011 increased from 473 to 928, being the most common those related to poor medical assistance, irregularities to grant early release, conditioned visits and arbitrary transfers.¹³

21. It is urgent that the new laws for crime penalties enforcement derived from the constitutional reform to the criminal justice system in 2008 more specifically control the way of implementing disciplinary measures so that these are not discretionally implemented by authorities as it happens on a regular basis.

22. On the other hand, it is necessary to implement management mechanisms to make it possible to realize frequent visits to prisons—and to the isolation areas in such—by authorities of the facilities human rights administrations, by public commissions for human rights protection, by the imprisoned people's relatives and by civil organizations working in this field.

"In the place of punishment you are totally isolated. They introduce all the people that fit in there; at least 800 people. You find any kind of people: Murderers, rapists, brawlers, and renegades. It is really ugly there. In addition, since you do not get permission to take a shower, just guess what it smells like there after two weeks. In order to sleep, people tie themselves up to the bars to avoid falling down while sleeping." (Testimony from an inmate).

⁹General Recommendation No. 18, About the situation of Inmates' Human Rights within Mexican Federal Prisons.

See: http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/fuentes/documentos/Recomendaciones/Generales/REC_Gral_018.pdf

¹⁰ See Diagnóstico Nacional de Supervisión Penitenciaria en México presentado por la Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos de 2010. Considering several variables, a grade is given to prisons from 6.9 out of 10 points, found in: <http://200.33.14.34:1003/principal.asp>. General Recommendation 18: About the situation of inmate' human rights in Mexican Prisons on September 21, 2010, found in: <http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/33> and the reports on detention centers of the National System for Torture Prevention, from 2007 to 2011, founding: <http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/582>

¹¹ See Informe sobre la visita a México del Subcomité para la Prevención de la Tortura y Otros Tratos o Penas Crueles, Inhumanos o Degradantes. 31 May 2010. Found in: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/opcat/docs/ReportMexico_sp.pdf

¹² Result of the Analysis to the National Prison System Supervision, 2011.

¹³ General performance of the National Commission for Human Rights in response to complaints against the Federal Prison System. ITAM, FLACSO, March 2012, Mexico.

C. PRISON STAFF

23. Within the structure of the prison system is the security and custody team whose main function is to guarantee safety by respecting the inmates' human rights in prison facilities. However, prison staff shortage is a challenge since the national average is 7.3 inmates per officer. Nevertheless, across the territory, this ratio is from 3.1 to 19.2 inmates per officer¹⁴. Besides the disproportion in numbers, you must include lack of staff professionalization in regards to human rights and gender respect.

24. In spite of projects such as the National Academy for Penitentiary Management, we still can see cases of abuse, torture¹⁵, and corruption on the part of administrative authorities and prisons staff. In the last three years, at least 365 officers, security chiefs and prison directors have been investigated due to jailbreaks.

D. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

25. Figures from recent years account for a considerable increase in resources given to the prison system. The analysis to the authorized budget for the Prevention and Social reinsertion Decentralized Institution of the Federal Public Security Ministry shows that such budget moved from 2,280.1 in 2007 to 12,681.3 in 2012. The most significant increase started in 2009 when the original budget increased 197% compared to that of 2007. This was mainly because of the amounts aimed at the construction and maintenance of federal prisons.¹⁶ Thus, while this amount of money represented 14% of the budget for public security in the first three years of the last administration, for 2010 such figure reached 23% and almost 31% for 2011.

26. Even if it is true that we have observed a significant increase for the money given to this issue at the federal level, the resources availability is diverse in federal states; something that makes the amount of money given for each inmate variable; 50% of prisons managed by state governments have poor infrastructure.¹⁷

27. This situation results more severe if we consider that provision for almost 100,000 inmates who have not received a sentence in Mexico on the part of the State is almost 4.4 billion pesos.¹⁸ As stated in the magazine "Cámara": "In this region, a man in jail is more expensive than the money a family below the level of poverty receives. This indicates that,

¹⁴Elías Carranza, Director del Instituto latinoamericano de las Naciones Unidas para la Prevención del Delito y el Tratamiento del Delincuente (ILANUD) subrayó que "la relación numérica óptima estimada es 1:1, es decir, de un funcionario o funcionaria de seguridad por cada privado o privada de libertad. Aunque pudiera parecer elevada, ésta es la relación que existen normalmente en los países de Europa occidental y en algunos penales selectos de América Latina. En realidad, como explica Carranza, en razón de los necesarios turnos del personal, la mitad está en su domicilio y la otra mitad en el sistema penitenciario, y de esta última, un 50% se encuentra cumpliendo sus funciones, mientras el otro 50% está preparándose para el relevo, descansando, durmiendo o comiendo, con lo que, en realidad, la relación no es 1:1, sino 4:1. Elías Carranza, "Sobrepoblación penitenciaria en América Latina y el Caribe: situación y respuestas posibles" en Elías Carranza (coord.) Justicia penal y sobrepoblación penitenciaria. Respuestas posibles", México, Siglo XXI, 2001.

¹⁵Example: Recommendation 01/2012, *Torture inflicted by Prison staff Special GroupTiburón to inmates in CERESOVA for rioting to demand more visit days and improvement in found*. Comisión de Derechos Humanos del Distrito Federal.

¹⁶Sixth Government Report from Ex-President Felipe Calderón Hinojosa, 2012

¹⁷The governments of the states of Chihuahua and Oaxaca are considering the closing of approximately 4 state prisons due to the facilities deterioration and overpopulation in them.

¹⁸El Informador. Newspaper Report considers ananalysis to the "Centro de Estudios Sociales y de Opinión Pública de la Cámara de Diputados". See: <http://www.informador.com.mx/mexico/2010/212128/6/presos-en-mexico-cuestan-mas-de-cuatro-mil-mdp.htm>

in social terms, it is more profitable investing on improving the poor people's living conditions than continuing imprisoning criminals".¹⁹

28. The Mexican Government must prioritize budget distribution in both levels (federal and state) for facilities improvement, assurance of high-quality medical service, more job opportunities, technical—professional training, education, leisure time, and respect for human rights since these are conditions that help deter crimes in prisons, from prisons and after prisons.

E. HIGHLY DISCRIMINATED GROUPS

29. People from indigenous towns, members of the LGBTTTI community, people with mental disability and women are noticeable for belonging to groups in vulnerable situations.

30. **Indigenous towns.** From the information generated by the database of the Federal Ministry of Public Security, in August of 2011, there were 229,824 people imprisoned, from which 8,349 belonged to indigenous towns. In July of 2012, the National Committee of Human Rights reported that there were 8,530 indigenous people (7,715 for state crimes and 815 for federal crimes).

31. It is important to mention that from 2007 to 2012 through the Release of Indigenous Prisoners Project, the National Committee for the Development of Indigenous Towns managed the release of 5,228 indigenous people²⁰. The results were obtained by means of the use of economic resources²¹ through the payment of bail before the competent authority. Nevertheless, nowadays there are not enough budgets to meet the demands of imprisoned indigenous or those who are in risk of being imprisoned. Another aspect to take into account, according to the provided information by the responsible sector of the project, is that very low progress, lower than 35% of the planned target,²² is shown.

32. The government projects²³ to facilitate the access to justice for the indigenous towns have not been good enough since there are circumstantial and material factors that prevail, such as poverty that has had serious consequences like the up-to-six-years imprisonment, even when misdemeanors were committed, due to the lack of economic resources to pay a bail of a usual amount no higher than two thousand pesos. In other words, during the proceeding, even when the offense allows the application of a bail, which gives the offender the liberty, hardly ever will the indigenous be able to afford it. That is why the use of the measure is set against the benefit, becoming an authentic measure which represents the criminalization of poverty. Another aspect is the high level of illiteracy, the lack of Spanish comprehension and the absence of an interpreter during the criminal proceeding. This situation has triggered that public servants force imprisoned indigenous people to sign confessions that blamed them.

¹⁹ http://www3.diputados.gob.mx/camara/005_comunicacion/a_boletines/2012_2012/005_mayo/08_08/5143_enfrenta_una_grave_crisis_el_sistema_penitenciario_del_pais

²⁰ Documentary Memoir 2006-2011 Comisión para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas.

²¹ 64.7 million pesos were applied.

²² Results of the Assessment of Congruence and Results applied to the Project for the Release of Indigenous Prisoners 2011.

See: http://www.cdi.gob.mx/coneval/ecyr_2011_2012_posicion_institucional_excarcelacion_cdi.pdf

²³ Proyecto ssuch as "el Diplomado de Formación y Acreditación de Intérpretes en los Ámbitos de Procuración y Administración de Justicia realizado por la Comisión para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas" in collaboration with "El Instituto Nacional de Lenguas Indígenas".

33. There is an important precedent in Mexico that shows that most of the indigenous people have no access to proper defense that knows their language and culture; that is, there are just ten certified attorneys in the country, and there is no specialized, formative, educational program in the language and culture of the indigenous people in prisons.

34. **Women.** Imprison women face, since they are arrested, a situation of abuse, violence and corruption. Mixed prisons pose a risk for women and there are only 10 female prisons out of the 418 current existing facilities. In mixed prisons, we have found out that female inmates share several areas with male inmates such as workshops, grocery stores and visit yards where there are improvised areas such as small houses or cabins where forced prostitution is generated.

35. Regarding health, the transfer to a hospital means that women are taken there with unequal security measures such as the use of handcuffs and the mandatory contraceptive use for them to not give up their right to conjugal visits, without properly informing women and, most importantly, regardless of their consent. Pregnant women are highly discriminated by not providing them with appropriate medical assistance according to their needs. In prisons, there are no specialized doctors in obstetrics and gynecology.²⁴

36. Female inmates claim that most common sexual abuse forms are: molestation, obscene words, pestering, sexual harassment, prostitution and sexual favors that determine their rights. The 04/2010 recommendation on “gender institutionalized violence”: sexual harassment, third-party prostitution and female human trafficking in the prison system of “Distrito Federal” is just one example of what women live in such facilities. Some women claim they have been tortured with plastic bags to suffocate them, have received beatings, electric shocks in the breasts, psychological violence and raping.

37. The use of force as well as disciplinary measures becomes excessive in many of these facilities. Women are discretionally taken to punishment cells, whose conditions are completely unfavorable for the length of time they are kept there and the staff that enforces penalties is usually male. This is a female inmate testimony:

“The established punishment was two weeks in that room; women were isolated from the inmate’s population and taken to a cell. Those are rooms with a tiny window and women were in there; and there were some women who spent from two to three months there, who were called “zetas” and poor women, you could hear their screams, let me out please, have mercy, because they were very close to the punishment rooms, they were not with the population and when people got there to take them to the court, an eight-officer squad arrived to take them and you could hear them screaming and crying” (a prisoner’s testimony).

38. **Persons with intelectual and psicosocial disabilities.** The system that has prevailed in Mexico over many years, is a paternalistic system designed to "protect" people with mental and intellectual disabilities depriving them of their legal status and legal capacity. The ratification of the Convention on Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the Mexican State implies a paradigm shift in recognizing that persons with mental disabilities

²⁴ De la Peña, Cariño y Gutiérrez (2011). Mujeres privadas de libertad ¿Mujeres sin derechos? Diagnósticos sobre la situación de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos de las mujeres privas de libertad en los estados de Guanajuato, Guerrero, Puebla y Querétaro. México. Fouind in: http://dl.dropbox.com/u/79437401/Publicaciones%20ASILEGAL/diagnostico_sobre_los_derechos_sexuales.pdf

must have equal enjoyment of all rights and fundamental freedoms, including the legal due process and access to justice.

39. What is the magnitude of the problem? Official statistics point out that on November of 2011 of 40.411 inmates in Mexico City, 796 correspond to psychiatric and not imputable population. Of these, 736 are men and 60 women. With regard to their legal status, 56.46% have been sentenced, 14.95% are being processed, 4.67% have a security measure and 22.83% are already doing time. The total psychiatric and not imputable population represents 1.99% of the total prison population in Mexico City.

40. Regarding the offenses for which they are most commonly charged 30.12% were accused of aggravated robbery, 23.76% with robbery with a weapon and 12.23% homicide. The national data are scarce. For women we have statistics of 96 of the 226 prisons that house women. In these 96 centers the 10.91% have a mental or psycho-social disability.

41. Important advances have been achieved in the subject matter of persons with disability but nothing is available on the topic of the rights of persons with mental disability (pcdm, in Spanish) who are imprisoned. No real conditions exist to guarantee them a due process when they are subjected to prosecution after being accused of perpetrating a crime. Among the variety of problems they are confronted with, the following can be mentioned:

42. Supports received by disabled persons during administrative and/or judicial procedures to have access to justice are not sufficient to counterbalance the obstacles and barriers common to such environment not only in what refers to physical and regulatory issues and to information and communications infrastructure, but also attitude oriented.

43. Life in prison for persons with mental disability becomes even more difficult than in the rest of the imprisoned population, due to the unsuitable conditions of the facilities, to the lack of special installations to accommodate them, to the deficient integral⁶ medical⁵ care, to unsanitary conditions, to the lack of understanding⁷ and of training on the part of officers and custodians, as well as to the permanent isolation and lack of activities to which they are subjected that, considered as a whole violate their human right to receive a decent and non-discriminatory treatment.

44. The lack of segregated official information to become familiar with the legal situation, conditions and programs of attention to persons with mental disability that have been imprisoned, therefore hindering the review and amendment of public policies and monitoring of them by civil society. All of this is, beyond any doubt, consequence of the insufficiency of the legal framework and of inadequate institutional practices that should guarantee the defense and protection of human rights of persons with disability.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Request to the Mexican Government:

1. To pass the General Law for the Human Rights Protection in the realization of Criminal Measures and Punishments, making sure that independent jurisdiction is guaranteed considering both, life conditions within prisons and aspects regarding the length, modification and termination of the punishment given in the criminal proceedings,

and in which studies on personality and dangerousness are eliminated for being the most common deficiencies in the estate laws passed.

2. Avoid forced transfers and those that are made through deception, that is, offering female and male inmates different life conditions from the one they will really have or by offering sentence reductions that will not be met, especially in those facilities closer to the inmates' homes as indicated by The Nation Supreme Court to guarantee proximity to the family and reintegration.

3. To foster communication and family visits that will only be limited in necessary cases. Similarly, relatives should receive better treatment when visiting inmates.

4. To improve staff training and their working conditions in order to avoid mistreatment, beatings, abuse and humiliation that more than 50% of inmates expressed.

5. With the purpose of having a prison system model congruent with the new criminal justice model focused on punishing acts and the people, we must revise classification systems that cause restrictions to inmates' rights and that usually result unfair and unjustified and which impose additional sentences to the ones imposed by judicial branches.

6. To revise punishments which are usually discretionally and arbitrarily imposed without having a regulation that stipulates and regulates them. All this is doing everything except reintegrating the inmate, affecting confidence and legitimacy that penitentiary authorities need to properly carry out their job.

7. To design programs which provide the male and female inmates with working, educational, sports, training and healthy activities. Without the opportunity to developing these activities, the human condition deteriorates, and the positive social reintegration becomes unattainable, having the sentence as revenge, instead of justice.

8. To design a specific model for attending women which considers the disadvantage conditions of these people and the low-profile crimes for which most of them are sentenced

9. To take into account the offenses of the sentenced people and the conditions under which they are committed to evaluate the costs and the benefits as well as the justifiability and appropriateness of the use of imprisonment sanctions for each case.

10. To establish and guarantee in the law, mechanisms of civic social control and vigilance about prisoners' life conditions.

11. To issue and apply manuals for the procedures about the admission, stay and leave of prisoners with gender perspective.

12. To inform in due time about the measures of super ultra and maximum urgency and the efficacy which will be adopted to guarantee decent life conditions inside of the new federal prison complexes which are currently being built. The maximum security systems that impose harsh isolation conditions to inmates should be subjected to a serious scientific analysis allowing an evaluation of their results and allowing the indicated required changes. Up to now, such analysis has not been carried out, what indicates that the model, which has been noticeably applied in the levels of security with incalculable human costs, occurs without evidence which supports its benefits.

13. To intensify the training of the prison staff, in matters of human rights and gender perspective and invest in penitentiary staff to increase the number of guards and to improve their wages.