

TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET
CASE 12.699 PEDRO ANTONIO CENTURIÓN
FRIENDLY SETTLEMENT REPORT No. 130/18
TOTAL COMPLIANCE
(PARAGUAY)

I. SUMMARY OF THE CASE

<p>Victim(s): Pedro Antonio Centurión Petitioner(s): Asociación de Familiares Víctimas del Servicio Militar (AFAVISEM). State: Paraguay Start date of negotiations: N/A Friendly settlement agreement report No.: 130/18, published on November 20, 2018 FSA signing date: August 5, 2011 Admissibility report No. : 19/09, published March 19, 2009 Estimated length of negotiation phase: N/A Related rapporteurship: Rights of the Child Topics: Summary, extrajudicial, or arbitrary executions / right to life / right to fair trial / right to judicial protection guarantees / investigation / militarization / children and adolescents / obligatory military service</p> <p>Facts: The case concerns the events of March 2000, when Pedro Antonio Centurión, a 13-year-old child of Argentine nationality, was forcibly recruited to perform obligatory military service. Members of the Paraguayan military, who transferred him to a barracks, took the child from his home. The victim's mother went to the barracks to inform the authorities that her child was Argentine and a minor, in response to which a captain of the National Army told her that her child's nationality and age did not matter, and that "he would take charge of resolving it" and "that he already had the necessary height and body." The captain therefore prevented her from taking the child home from the barracks. Pedro Antonio Centurión was later transferred to Fort Cano, where he experienced "hunger and difficulties of all kinds." He tried to escape in July 2000, but was captured again 40 km from the barracks and taken to the Vista Alegre military unit, where, on September 12, 2000, he died under "strange circumstances." The petitioners note that according to the autopsy, Pedro Antonio Centurión died from a gunshot wound from a long gun. The petitioners noted that in order for Pedro Antonio Centurión to be drafted into military service, members of the military had to forge his identity document to show that he was old enough to be drafted and that he also was a Paraguayan national. They also noted that the commander at the time was ordered jailed for three months.</p> <p>Rights declared admissible: The Commission declared the case admissible for alleged violation of the rights enshrined in articles 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 19, and 25 of the American Convention on Human Rights.</p>

II. PROCEDURAL ACTIVITY

1. On August 5, 2011, the parties signed a friendly settlement agreement.
2. On November 20, 2018, the IACHR published Report No. 130/18, approving the friendly settlement agreement.

III. ANALYSIS OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE CLAUSES OF THE FRIENDLY SETTLEMENT

Clause of the Agreement	Status of Implementation
FIRST: RECOGNITION OF RESPONSIBILITY [...]	Declarative clause
<p>SECOND: PUBLIC APPOLOGY AND RECOGNITION</p> <p>The State of Paraguay, within four months of signing this Agreement, will carry out an act of public apology and acknowledgment of international responsibility, in relation to previously recognized violations of human rights.</p> <p>The apology and acknowledgement will be drawn up by mutual accord of the State and the victim's representatives. Said acknowledgement will be made at a public event where the Minister of Defense, the Commander of the Army, and a representative of the Commander of the Military Forces, and other high-level authorities will be in attendance. The State will guarantee the presence of the victim's relatives at the event and will inform their representatives, human rights organizations, and the media about the event at least 15 days in advance.</p> <p>The public apology and acknowledgement event will be broadcasted on <i>Radio Nacional</i> (in Spanish and Guaraní), and widely covered in other mass media outlets. At the same time, the State commits to publishing the Friendly Settlement Agreement in its entirety in a daily newspaper with national circulation and in the Official Gazette. It will also be published on the websites of the Office of the President of the Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Relations and maintained online for at least six months.</p>	Total¹
<p>THIRD: MEASURES FOR SOCIAL REHABILITATION</p> <p>The Paraguayan State commits to conveying to Ms. Semprioniana Centurion, the victim's mother, a plot of land selected by the petitioners that is located in Tarumandy Subdivision 8 of the Luque district. This plot of land will be conveyed by the Secretariat for Social Action (SAS).</p> <p>The State also undertakes the commitment to build a house in keeping with the standards proposed by the lead agency on housing issues, the National Housing Secretariat (SENAVITAT), on the plot of land mentioned above.</p>	Total²
<p>FOURTH: MEASURES OF SATISFACTION</p> <p>At the military detachment where the minor child died, the State shall hang a commemorative plaque with a text agreed to by the parties which refers to the child soldier's death. Furthermore, a street will be named for the minor child in the city of Luque-Loma Merlo, where the victim's relatives live.</p>	Total³
<p>FIFTH: PRIMARY CARE AND COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH MEASURES</p> <p>The Republic of Paraguay commits to providing free medical and psychological care to the victim's parents and siblings, as well as medication to treat the ailments that they suffer from. This care is to be furnished at the hospital or health clinic closest to the parents' domicile that offers the services and medication that are appropriate for the exact treatment required in each case, regardless of the care provided at the military hospital</p>	Total⁴

¹ IACHR Report No. 130/18, Case 12.699. Friendly Settlement. Pedro Antonio Centurión, Paraguay. November 20, 2018. Available at <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/decisions/2018/PYSA12699EN.pdf>

² See IACHR, 2023 Annual Report, Chapter II, Section C. Advances and challenges on negotiation and implementation of friendly settlements, Available at: https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/docs/annual/2023/chapters/IA2023_Cap_2_ENG.PDF

³ IACHR Report No. 130/18, Case 12.699. Friendly Settlement. Pedro Antonio Centurión, Paraguay. November 20, 2018. Available at: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/decisions/2018/PYSA12699EN.pdf>

⁴ IACHR Report No. 130/18, Case 12.699. Friendly Settlement. Pedro Antonio Centurión, Paraguay. November 20, 2018. Available at <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/decisions/2018/PYSA12699EN.pdf>

<p>SIXTH: MONETARY REPARATIONS</p> <p>For purposes of ensuring monetary reparations the State undertakes the commitment to:</p> <p>a. Pay the sum of US\$30,000 (thirty thousand US dollars) as compensation, which will be paid to the mother of the victim in this case within a year as from the signing of this agreement.</p> <p>b. Carry out the procedures leading to the formalization of the victim's relatives' pension within a year as from the signing of this agreement.</p>	<p>Total⁵</p>
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IV. LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE OF THE CASE

1. The Commission declared full compliance with the case and the ceasing of the follow-up of the friendly settlement agreement in the 2023 Annual Report.

V. INDIVIDUAL AND STRUCTURAL OUTCOMES OF THE CASE

A. Individual outcomes of the case

- The Paraguayan State recognized its international responsibility for violating the rights to personal integrity, to life, to not be subjected to slavery and servitude; to personal liberty; to a fair trial; to the rights of the child; and to guarantees of judicial protection, as established in articles 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 19, and 25 of the American Convention, to the detriment of Pedro Antonio Centurión.
- On October 29, 2018, the Paraguayan State assigned a lot located in the Central Department to Ms. Semproniana Centurión under the TEKOKHA program.
- On October 19, 2011, a ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to publicly apologize and acknowledge responsibility. It was broadcast on Paraguay's *Radio Nacional* and disseminated in other media outlets, including *Diario Última Hora*.
- On May 25, 2012, a ceremony was held to unveil the plaque at the Vista Alegre unit, and a commemorative monolith was inaugurated.
- Municipal Order 26 of July 3, 2012, of the Luque Municipal Council ordered north-south Karandayty Street along its entire length, from 12th Company Loma Merlo in the Luque jurisdiction, to be named "Soldado Pedro Antonio Centurión."
- The Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, through the Family Health Unit—which is under the General Office on Primary Healthcare—provided medical care to the beneficiaries periodically, both at its headquarters and at their homes.
- On July 23, 2019, the State held a formal ceremony, with the attendance of the President of the Republic and the Minister of Urbanism, Housing, and Habitat to sign the contract adjudicating the property to the mother of the victim.
- On August 5, 2019, the State formally delivered the home to Ms. Semproniana Centurión, as agreed with the petitioners.
- On October 6, 2022, the State confirmed the registration of the land located in Company 8 Tarumandy in the district of Luque, to Ms. Semproniana Centurión, in the public registry of the General Directorate of Public Registries.
- The State registered the property transferred in the name of Mrs. Semproniana Centurión with the General Directorate of Public Records.

⁵ IACHR Report No. 130/18, Case 12.699. Friendly Settlement. Pedro Antonio Centurión, Paraguay, November 20, 2018. Available at <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/decisions/2018/PYSA12699EN.pdf>