



# INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 40/2025

Precautionary Measure No. 469-25 Luis Roberto Somaza Castellano regarding Venezuela May 5, 2025 Original: Spanish

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. On April 16, 2025, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ("the Inter-American Commission," "the Commission" or "the IACHR") received a request for precautionary measures presented by *Observatorio Venezolano de Prisiones* Venezuelan Prison Observatory ("the requesting party" or "the applicant"), urging the Commission to require that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (the "State" or "Venezuela") adopt the necessary measures to protect the rights to life and personal integrity of Luis Roberto Somaza Castellano ("the proposed beneficiary"). According to the request, the proposed beneficiary is an opposition political leader. He has been deprived of his liberty at the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN), El Helicoide, with no information available on his detention conditions or current health, since February 12, 2025.
- 2. Pursuant to Article 25(5) of its Rules of Procedure, the IACHR requested information from the State on April 21, 2025. To date, the State has not replied to the Commission and the granted deadline has expired.
- 3. Upon analyzing the submissions of fact and law furnished by the applicant, the Commission recognizes that the proposed beneficiary is in a serious and urgent situation, given that his rights to life, personal integrity, and health are at risk of irreparable harm. Therefore, pursuant to Article 25 of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission requests that Venezuela: a) adopt the necessary measures to protect the rights to life, personal integrity, and health of Luis Roberto Somaza Castellano; b) implement sufficient measures to ensure that the beneficiary's detention conditions are compatible with applicable international standards. In particular, the following: i. immediately carry out a medical assessment of his health and guarantee access to medical care and necessary treatments; ii. guarantee regular contact with his family members and trusted attorneys, facilitating access to the criminal file that is being processed against the beneficiary; iii. inform the representation of the reasons why the beneficiary continues to be deprived of his liberty and the judicial decisions regarding his legal situation; c) consult and agree upon the measures to be adopted with the beneficiary and his representatives; and d) report on the actions taken to investigate the alleged facts that gave rise to this resolution, so as to prevent such events from reoccurring.

#### II. SUMMARY OF FACTS AND ARGUMENTS

## A. Information provided by the applicant

4. According to the applicant, the proposed beneficiary is an economist. It highlighted that in 2010, he was a member of the *Voluntad Popular* political party, and was coordinator and subsequently councilman for the municipality of Baruta In 2018, he joined the political party *Vente Venezuela*, served as its State Coordinator in Miranda, and undertook aid and donation projects. In 2019, he was appointed Director of Citizen Services for the National Assembly (2019-2023) and then Director of the Office of the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (2019-2023), headed by Juan Gerardo Guaidó Márquez, who was identified as the "acting president" of Venezuela.





- 5. In 2019, while working with Juan Guaidó, SEBIN officers repeatedly parked outside the proposed beneficiary's residence, and his parents' residence, in official vehicles with their lights flashing and sirens blaring, and blocked the entrance to all residents. On February 29, 2020, the proposed beneficiary accompanied Juan Guaidó to the city of Barquisimeto, Lara state, where they were attacked by armed groups who fired guns, stole vehicles, and kidnapped people. On April 2, 2020, Ms. Maury Carolina Carrero Mendoza, a member of the proposed beneficiary's team when he was a councilman, was detained. According to reports, her detention was in retaliation for having worked for him. In 2020, given that his relatives' house was being watched, the proposed beneficiary decided to relocate residences several times and remain in "hiding."
- 6. On July 12, 2021, there was an alleged kidnapping attempt against Juan Guaidó while in a vehicle. At that time, the proposed beneficiary, along with other leaders, were with him in the car. The proposed beneficiary reportedly claimed that he had been threatened with "long weapons." On July 13, 2021, in response to the events of July 12, the then president of the National Assembly stated that the security forces were seeking to execute an arrest warrant against the proposed beneficiary because he was one of "the instigators of the failed coup d'état of April 30, 2019" and was allegedly linked to violent acts involving criminal gangs from Cota 905, La Vega, and El Cementerio. In 2021, during the birth of his daughter, SEBIN officials were stationed at the entrance of the hospital. Fearing arrest due to his association with Juan Guaidó, he was unable to attend the birth for his own safety. In 2023, they argued that the proposed beneficiary took an "indefinite break from politics" for fear of reprisals from Nicolás Maduro's government.
- 7. After voting in the July 28, 2024 election, he allegedly began to notice cars without license plates parked near his residence. He added that his residence appeared to be under "permanent surveillance." That year, the Minister of Interior, Justice, and Peace, Diosdado Cabello, began naming the proposed beneficiary on his TV program "Con El Mazo Dando," describing him as "the leader of a group of *Voluntad Popular activists* responsible for sowing chaos in the country and creating violence in the municipality of Baruta." Moreover, Diosdado Cabello linked him to a "network of corruption" that involves the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In his program in December 2024, the Minister publicly revealed the proposed beneficiary's latest place of residence. He was in hiding at that location until the residence was raided on February 12, 2025.
- 8. On that date, five unidentified men, who were armed, hooded and dressed in black, showed up at the proposed beneficiary's residence in a van without license plates. They reportedly did not carry a search warrant or an arrest warrant. The proposed beneficiary was detained and his belongings were taken by these individuals. On February 19, 2025, he was reportedly electronically present before the Second Court of First Instance with Jurisdiction over Crimes Related to Terrorism. There is no information on which public defender represented him at his arraignment hearing, as he was not allowed to appoint his own attorney.
- 9. After being detained, he was missing for 15 days. His family members went to various detention centers, such as the headquarters of the General Directorate of Military Counterintelligence (DGCIM Boleíta), the Bolivarian National Police (PNB) in Maripérez, and the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN), El Helicoide. In all of these locations, the agents allegedly denied the proposed beneficiary's presence. On February 14, 2025, Minister Cabello allegedly stated that the proposed beneficiary was detained, but no further details were provided.
- 10. On February 27, 2025, following a meeting between the proposed beneficiary's family members and the public defender, the latter confirmed that he was being held in SEBIN cells. Despite this fact, according to the relatives, the information provided by the public defender on the status of the case was ambiguous. The public defender suggested that the proposed beneficiary is being charged with crimes of criminal association, conspiracy, and rebellion. However, his family members do not have access to the file nor are they allowed to appoint a trusted attorney.





- 11. Regarding health, the proposed beneficiary reportedly has a health condition called "hidradenitis suppurativa." It is a chronic skin disease in which recurrent outbreaks of inflammatory lesions (nodules and abscesses) appear, causing pain, suppuration, itching, and/or a foul odor, especially in areas with skin folds (armpits, groin, buttocks, genitals, or submammary region). Stress triggers outbreaks, and for several weeks (prior to the filing of this request for precautionary measures), family members began receiving his used clothes stained with the foul-smelling fluid oozing from his lesions. Despite the fact that he was provided with the medication prescribed by his physician, his clothing did not indicate any improvement in his health. His last medical check-up was allegedly in July 2024. Given this situation, his family members fear that the proposed beneficiary is not receiving his medication, or that he is receiving it but the health issue has progressed, and the prescribed medicine is no longer effective.
- 12. The applicant reported that on April 3, 2025, when delivering a package, a SEBIN agent told the family members that the proposed beneficiary allegedly presents difficulty walking and moving his hands. He is allegedly occasionally allowed outside for 30 minutes at random intervals to get sunlight, due to his mobility issues and joint pain. On April 10, 2025, his family members agreed with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) that they would process the necessary permits to visit the detention center and assess the proposed beneficiary. According to an ICRC physician, if the proposed beneficiary's condition is not treated in time, it could evolve into carcinoma or skin cancer. The physician also added that, depending on its progression, it could require surgery as the only possible treatment to alleviate his pain.
- 13. Regarding his detention conditions, the request indicated that the proposed beneficiary is in isolation and incommunicado for an indefinite period. It is presumed that he is in poor detention conditions given the nature of preventive detention centers such as SEBIN. Based on information provided by other family members, they learned that the cells have a "small kitchen" and a refrigerator, and families therefore attempt to deliver enough cooked food on Thursdays. SEBIN police officers notify family members by reading handwritten notes from the detainees, who request food, clothing, and medicine. Although they are not allowed to read it, the relatives reportedly identified the proposed beneficiary's handwriting. The applicant considered that, given these detention conditions and without receiving urgent and adequate treatment, the proposed beneficiary is at risk of developing a serious health complication.
- 14. Lastly, the request highlighted that several letters had been sent to government agencies: i) on February 17, 2025, a complaint regarding the theft of his belongings; ii) on March 13, 2025, a constitutional appeal, which received no timely response; iii) a request for the revocation of public defense and the appointment of an attorney of his choice on February 27, 2025, which the court clerk did not accept, arguing that it "had to be signed and bear the fingerprint of the person deprived of their liberty"; and iv) a letter submitted to the Ombudsperson's Office on April 2, 2025, requesting that due process, the right to defense, the right to receive visits, and access to timely and adequate medical care be guaranteed, but it was not accepted.

#### B. Response from the State

15. The Commission requested information from the State on April 21, 2025. To date, no response has been received from Venezuela, and the granted deadline has expired.

## III. ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS OF SERIOUSNESS, URGENCY, AND IRREPARABLE HARM

16. The precautionary measures mechanism is part of the Commission's function of overseeing compliance with the human rights obligations set forth in Article 106 of the Charter of the Organization of American States. These general oversight functions are provided for in Article 41(b) of the American Convention on Human Rights, as well as in Article 18(b) of the Statute of the IACHR. The mechanism of precautionary measures is set forth in Article 25 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. In accordance with





that Article, the Commission grants precautionary measures in serious and urgent situations in which these measures are necessary to avoid irreparable harm to persons.

- The Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ("the Inter-American Court" or "I/A Court H.R.") have repeatedly established that precautionary and provisional measures have a dual nature, both protective and precautionary.¹ Regarding the protective nature, these measures seek to avoid irreparable harm and protect the exercise of human rights.² To do this, the IACHR shall assess the problem raised, the effectiveness of state actions to address the situation described, and how vulnerable the proposed beneficiaries would be left in case the measures are not adopted.³ Regarding their precautionary nature, these measures have the purpose of preserving legal situations while under the study of the IACHR. Their precautionary nature aims at safeguarding the rights at risk until the petition pending before the inter-American system is resolved. Their object and purpose are to ensure the integrity and effectiveness of an eventual decision on the merits and, thus, avoid any further infringement of the rights at issue, a situation that may adversely affect the useful effect (*effet utile*) of the final decision. In this regard, precautionary or provisional measures enable the State concerned to comply with the final decision and, if necessary, to implement the ordered reparations.⁴ In the process of reaching a decision, according to Article 25(2) of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission considers that:
  - a. "serious situation" refers to a grave impact that an action or omission can have on a protected right or on the eventual effect of a pending decision in a case or petition before the organs of the inter-American system;
  - b. "urgent situation" refers to risk or threat that is imminent and can materialize, thus requiring immediate preventive or protective action; and
  - c. "irreparable harm" refers to injury to rights which, due to their nature, would not be susceptible to reparation, restoration or adequate compensation.
- 18. In analyzing those requirements, the Commission reiterates that the facts supporting a request for precautionary measures need not be proven beyond doubt; rather, the information provided should be assessed from a *prima facie* standard of review to determine whether a serious and urgent situation exists.<sup>5</sup> Similarly, the Commission recalls that, by its own mandate, it is not in its purview to determine any individual liabilities for the facts alleged. Moreover, in this proceeding, it is not appropriate to rule on violations of rights enshrined in the American Convention or other applicable instruments.<sup>6</sup> This is better suited to be addressed

<sup>1</sup> Inter-American Court of Human Rights (I/A Court H.R.), <u>Matter of the Yare I and Yare II Capital Region Penitentiary Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Order of March 30, 2006, considerandum 5; <u>Case of Carpio Nicolle et al. v. Guatemala</u>, Provisional Measures, Order of July 6, 2009, considerandum 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 8; <u>Case of Bámaca Velásquez</u>, Provisional measures regarding Guatemala, Order of January 27, 2009, considerandum 45; <u>Matter of Fernández Ortega et al.</u>, Provisional measures regarding Mexico, Order of April 30, 2009, considerandum 5; <u>Matter of Milagro Sala</u>, Provisional measures regarding Argentina, Order of November 23, 2017, considerandum 5 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Milagro Sala</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Argentina, Order of November 23, 2017, considerandum 5 (Available only in Spanish); <u>Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 9; <u>Matter of the Criminal Institute of Plácido de Sá Carvalho</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Brazil, Order of February 13, 2017, considerandum 6 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 7; <u>Matter of "El Nacional" and "Así es la Noticia" newspapers</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of November 25, 2008, considerandum 23; <u>Matter of Luis Uzcátegui</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of January 27, 2009, considerandum 19 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Members of the Miskitu Indigenous Peoples of the North Caribbean Coast regarding Nicaragua</u>, Extension of Provisional Measures, Order of August 23, 2018, considerandum 13 (Available only in Spanish); <u>Matter of children and adolescents deprived of liberty in the "Complexo do Tatuapé" of the Fundação CASA</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Brazil, Order of July 4, 2006, considerandum 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> IACHR, <u>Resolution 2/2015</u>, Precautionary Measure No. 455-13, Matter of Nestora Salgado regarding Mexico, January 28, 2015, para. 14; <u>Resolution 37/2021</u>, Precautionary Measure No. 96-21, Gustavo Adolfo Mendoza Beteta and family regarding Nicaragua, April 30, 2021, para. 33.





by the Petition and Case system. The following analysis refers exclusively to the requirements of Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure, which can be carried out without making any determination on the merits.<sup>7</sup>

- 19. As regards the context, the Commission has been monitoring the rule of law and human rights situation in Venezuela since 2005,<sup>8</sup> and has included the country in Chapter IV.B of its Annual Report. The Commission has also issued press releases and country reports, and established a special follow-up mechanism for the country, known as MESEVE.
- 20. In 2024, the Commission condemned the practices of institutional violence in the context of the electoral process in Venezuela, such as violent repression, arbitrary detentions, and political persecution. The strategy of detention and criminalization appears to be specifically targeted at individuals perceived as opponents of the regime, including journalists, opposition leaders, human rights defenders, and others. On December 27, 2024, the IACHR approved the report titled "Venezuela: Serious Human Rights Violations in the Electoral Context" and reaffirmed that the State has been engaging in practices such as the arbitrary detention of opponents, human rights defenders, and social leaders, while using "terror as a tool of social control."
- 21. On January 9, 2025, the Commission learned of arbitrary detentions carried out days before the peaceful protests called by the opposition. These acts represent a new wave of the repressive pattern. Furthermore, it urged the State of Venezuela to immediately cease the persecution of opponents, human rights defenders, and journalists, and to promptly release all individuals detained for political reasons. <sup>14</sup>
- 22. Therefore, the Commission understands that the circumstances in which the detention of the proposed beneficiary has taken place, along with the country contextual monitoring carried out by the IACHR, are relevant in the analysis of the procedural requirements.
- As for the requirement of *seriousness*, the Commission considers that it has been met. When analyzing the situation that the proposed beneficiary faces, the Commission observes that his current situation is preceded by a series of acts of harassment, intimidation, threat, and violence within the framework of public positions he held, or from coordination positions he had in the Venezuelan opposition, at least, since 2019. These acts have even been witnessed against people close to the proposed beneficiary due to their possible relationship with him. For example, a former member of his team, Maury Carolina Carrero Mendoza, was granted precautionary measures in 2020 after being detained and her whereabouts being unknown. The Commission also emphasizes that his current situation could represent retaliation for joining Juan Guaidó's work team in Venezuela. In this sense, the available information even reveals that he was the subject of various

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> In this regard, the Court has stated that "[it] cannot, in a provisional measure, consider the merits of any arguments pertaining to issues other than those which relate strictly to the extreme gravity and urgency and the necessity to avoid irreparable damage to persons." I/A Court H.R., Matter of James et al. regarding Trinidad and Tobago, Provisional Measures, Order of August 29, 1998, considerandum 6 (Available only in Spanish); Case of the Barrios Family v. Venezuela, Provisional Measures, Order of April 22, 2021, considerandum 2 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> IACHR, 2023 Annual Report, Ch. IV.b. Venezuela, OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc. 386 rev. 1, approved on December 31, 2023, para. 1.

<sup>9</sup> IACHR, Press Release 184/24, IACHR and SRFOE condemn State terrorism practices in Venezuela, August 15, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> IACHR, Press Release 184/24, previously cited.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> IACHR, <u>Venezuela: Serious Human Rights Violations in the Electoral Context</u>, OEA/Ser.L/V/II Doc. 253/24, December 27, 2024, para. 3.

<sup>12</sup> IACHR, Venezuela: Serious Human Rights Violations in the Electoral Context, previously cited, para. 5.

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  IACHR, Press Release 09/25, <u>The IACHR condemns the ongoing practices of state terrorism in Venezuela and recalls that María Corina Machado is a beneficiary of precautionary measures</u>, January 9, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> IACHR, Press Release 09/25, previously cited.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>IACHR, <u>Resolution 36/20, Precautionary Measure No. 516-20, Matter of Maury Carolina Carrero Mendoza regarding Venezuela, July 17, 2020.</u>





violent events experienced by Juan Guaidó. For example, as can be seen from the alleged kidnapping attempt in 2021, even though the latter was a beneficiary of precautionary measures.<sup>16</sup>

- 24. The Commission also notes that, prior to his detention, the proposed beneficiary took various measures to protect his rights, which included limiting his presence in family settings, such as the birth of his daughter, having to move residences, and ceasing to participate in the country's politics. In this context, the Commission was informed that, after the July 2024 elections in the country, the surveillance of his residence was resumed, and he was detained after his location was revealed in a program of a senior official of the country.
- 25. Taking into account the aforementioned information, the Commission identifies that the proposed beneficiary's current detention is part of a series of events against him in the context of persecution of the Venezuelan opposition. Currently, after being detained by state agents on February 12, 2025, the Commission warns that, although the proposed beneficiary is reportedly being held in SEBIN cells, as confirmed by a high-ranking official, his family members do not have comprehensive information about his legal situation, as the public defender assigned to him is not sharing precise details. According to the case file, the Commission understands that he is accused of crimes related to criminal association, conspiracy, and rebellion. However, his family members do not have access to the file and no steps have been taken to allow them to appoint an attorney of their choice for his defense.
- 26. The Commission understands that, after the proposed beneficiary was detained and, despite having information on where he is being held, he is reportedly in a state of isolation from the outside world. Regarding his detention conditions, the only information obtained stated that he is in solitary confinement and that the cells in the enclosure reportedly have a "small kitchen" and a refrigerator. He is also allowed 30 minutes outside at random. However, his family members reportedly still do not have official information on his current detention situation. The few details they were able to gather came from communication with relatives of other detainees. This lack of response prevents family members from ensuring that his fundamental rights are protected and from verifying his physical integrity and health.
- 27. In addition, it has been alleged that the proposed beneficiary has a chronic skin condition called "hidradenitis suppurativa." Consequently, he reportedly requires a series of medications to treat his condition. However, according to his family, his health condition could have worsened, and it is unknown whether the medicines sent to him are being delivered and administered. Moreover, according to information provided by a prison official, the proposed beneficiary also reportedly presents difficulties when walking and experiences problems in his joints, but there is no further information on these issues. Given this allegation, the Commission is unable to determine if the proposed beneficiary has undergone any medical evaluation or if he has received adequate treatment to attend to his health. Similarly, there is no response indicating whether he has received basic and specialized medical care to treat his possible health issues.
- 28. The Commission observes that the proposed beneficiary's family members filed a series of requests and took a number of actions domestically, before various State entities, with the aim of obtaining information about his legal situation and guaranteeing access to medical care and visits from his relatives. However, despite these efforts, the Commission identifies that they have not received a response, or that they have not been processed, meaning that the lack of communication between the family members and the proposed beneficiary continues. Given the above situation, the Commission considers that the proposed beneficiary is in a state of complete vulnerability against the situations he may currently be facing while in State custody. In this regard, the Commission recalls that the Inter-American Court has indicated, in the *Matter of Juan Sebastián Chamorro et al. v. Nicaragua*, that "detention without communication not only makes it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> IACHR, <u>Resolution 1/2019</u>, <u>Precautionary Measure No. 70-19</u>, <u>Matter of Juan Gerardo Guaidó Márquez regarding Venezuela</u>, January 25, 2019 (Available only in Spanish).





impossible to verify the current situation of the proposed beneficiaries, their conditions of detention, and their health status, but it also implies a curtailment of the procedural guarantees of all detainees."<sup>17</sup>

- 29. Upon requesting information from the State, the Commission regrets its lack of response. Although the foregoing is not enough per se to justify the granting of a precautionary measure, it prevents the Commission from being aware of the observations or measures taken by the State to address the alleged risk that the proposed beneficiary faces. Therefore, the Commission does not have elements that would allow it to dispute the facts alleged by the applicant, nor to assess whether the risk that the proposed beneficiary faces has been addressed or mitigated. In this regard, the Commission expresses its particular concern given that State agents, who hold a special responsibility as guarantors of the beneficiary's human rights, have been identified as reportedly responsible for the detention of the proposed beneficiary, since they have him in their custody.
- 30. In light of the foregoing considerations, the Commission concludes that, based on the applicable *prima facie standard*, the right to life, personal integrity, and health of the proposed beneficiary are at serious risk, given that his detention conditions and health remain unknown to date, following his arrest on February 12, 2025, and his subsequent incommunicado detention. Furthermore, the state authorities have not provided a timely response and have even obstructed the activation of domestic remedies to protect the proposed beneficiary.
- 31. With regard to the requirement of *urgency*, the Commission deems that it has been met given that, should the proposed beneficiary continue to face the situation described, he is likely to be imminently exposed to a greater impact on his rights. Therefore, the Commission warns that, given that he is deprived of his liberty, the lack of communication with his family members, and the possible lack of access to health care and necessary medical treatment, there is an imminent risk that this danger could materialize in the current context of the country. In addition, the Commission does not have information from the State to assess the actions that are being taken to address and mitigate the alleged risk faced by the proposed beneficiary. Therefore, it is necessary to immediately adopt measures to safeguard his rights to life, personal integrity, and health.
- 32. Regarding the requirement of *irreparable harm,* the Commission finds it met, given that the potential impact on the rights to life, personal integrity, and health constitutes the maximum situation of irreparability.

#### IV. BENEFICIARY

33. The Commission declares Luis Roberto Somaza Castellano, who is duly identified in this procedure, as the beneficiary.

# V. DECISION

- 34. The Inter-American Commission considers that this matter meets, *prima facie*, the requirements of seriousness, urgency, and irreparable harm set forth in Article 25 of its Rules of Procedure. Consequently, it requests that Venezuela:
  - a) adopt the necessary measures to protect the rights to life, personal integrity, and health of Luis Roberto Somaza Castellano;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> I/A Court H.R., Matter of Juan Sebastián Chamorro et al. regarding Nicaragua, Provisional Measures, Order of June 24, 2021, paragraph 36 (Available only in Spanish).





- b) implement sufficient measures to ensure that the beneficiary's detention conditions are compatible with applicable international standards. In particular, the following:
  - i. immediately carry out a medical assessment of his health and guarantee access to medical care and necessary treatments;
  - ii. guarantee regular contact with his family members and trusted attorneys, facilitating access to the criminal file that is being processed against the beneficiary;
  - iii. inform the representation of the reasons why the beneficiary continues to be deprived of his liberty and the judicial decisions regarding his legal situation;
- c) consult and agree upon the measures to be adopted with the beneficiary and his representatives; and
- d) report on the actions taken to investigate the alleged facts that gave rise to this resolution, so as to prevent such events from reoccurring.
- 35. The Commission requests that the State of Venezuela report, within 15 days from the date of notification of this resolution, on the adoption of the precautionary measures requested and to update that information periodically.
- 36. The Commission emphasizes that, in accordance with Article 25(8) of its Rules of Procedure, the granting of this precautionary measure and its adoption by the State do not constitute a prejudgment on any violation of the rights protected under the applicable instruments.
- 37. The Commission instructs its Executive Secretariat to notify this resolution to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the requesting party.
- 38. Approved on May 5, 2025, by José Luis Caballero Ochoa, President; Andrea Pochak, First Vice-President; Arif Bulkan, Second Vice-President; Roberta Clarke; Carlos Bernal Pulido; and Gloria Monique de Mees, members of the IACHR.

Tania Reneaum Panszi Executive Secretary