

## Biographical Note

**Rosa María Ortiz**

### **Commissioner and Rapporteur on the Rights of the Child of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights**

Rosa María Ortiz is Paraguayan. She graduated in social communications and is an expert in children's rights. She has been Vice-President of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child and adviser on human rights and cultural diversity for the Paraguayan Presidency's National Secretariat of Culture. She is founder and member of several human rights organizations, including Decidamos, Global infancia, Tekoha, Callescuela and the Workshop on Communication and Popular Education.

In 2003, she received the Paraguayan Woman award from the Women's Secretariat of the Paraguayan Presidency and in 2010, she was awarded the Peter Benenson prize for the Defence of Human Rights, by the Paraguayan chapter of Amnesty International.

Commissioner Ortiz has delivered many conferences and workshops and has written a number of articles on children's rights.

She has engaged in many wide-ranging activities for the promotion of child rights in the Americas.

Ms Ortiz was a promoter of the Niñ@Sur Initiative, a working group at the Meeting of Senior Authorities on Human Rights of Mercosur, which addresses children's issues at a regional level.

She was a member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child of the United Nations for eight years. Her administration was characterized by the open lines of communication she maintained with civil society and the governments in the region, which enabled her to make significant contributions to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In June 2011, she was elected member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and in view of her experience, she took up the Rapporteurship on the Rights of the Child.