



# World Chronicle

---

**PROGRAMME:** No. 610, recorded 21 November 1995

**GUEST:** José AYALA-LASSO  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

**JOURNALISTS:** Ian Williams, *Tribune* (London)  
Mercedes Hervas, *El Periodico* (Barcelona)

**MODERATOR:** Michael Littlejohns

## HUMAN RIGHTS

José AYALA-LASSO, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, reviews the work of his office to promote and protect human rights world-wide, which includes working with national Governments to establish legal instruments to protect those rights. Respect for human rights is considered a cornerstone for the achievement of international order, peace and cooperation. Education is a way to raise consciousness of human rights and to assert that having human rights also obliges one to respect the human rights of others. Mr. Ayala-Lasso commends NGOs for their effective work in exposing human rights violators. When violations are made known, the High Commissioner initiates a dialogue with the concerned Governments with the aim of achieving positive results through diplomatic channels. Mr. Ayala-Lasso's office receives more than 200,000 complaints of human rights violations a year; a fax line has been established to facilitate communications.

WORLD CHRONICLE is produced by the Media Division, Department of Public Information, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, U.S.A.

Duration: 28:00"  
Executive Producer: Kamil Taha  
Director: Ivan Stoykov  
Production Assistant: Ellen McGuffie