HUMAN RIGHTS

Francisco José AGUILAR URBINA, Chairman of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, discusses the work of this important UN semi-judicial body. It is composed of 18 members of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights. States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights are required to submit to the Committee reports on the measures they take to protect those human rights. The Committee examines the reports in the presence of representatives of the reporting States. So far, 133 States have become parties to the International Covenant. The Committee does not review certain rights, such as the right to life of the unborn foetus, because the Covenant is silent on this matter. Professor Aguilar Urbina believes that education is the most effective tool for the enjoyment of human rights.