

## Resolution

Presented by the Ligue française des droits de l'Homme et du citoyen

The International Federation for Human rights (FIDH), meeting at its 37th Congress in Yerevan, Armenia wishes to express its deepest concern regarding the political repression against members of the opposition in Cuba. Orlando Zapata, one of the 201 political prisoners in Cuba and a member of "Cuban Democratic Directory", an organisation which is not recognized by the Cuban government, died on February 23, 2010 after 85 days of hunger strike for having protested against the conditions of his detention.

According to Mr Elizardo Sanchez, president of the Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation, a FIDH member organization, the delay in providing appropriate care constituted " a virtual and premeditated assassination". Mr Oswaldo Paya, laureate of the Sakharov prize awarded by the European Parliament, also accused the authorities for having slowly killed Orlando Zapata, who was according to him victim of assaults and racist violence at the time of his detention.

Guillermo "Coco" Farinas, psychologist and independent journalist, took over the hunger strike after Zapata's death. Hospitalized in Santa Clara, he refused political asylum offered by Spain and requested release of the 26 sick political prisoners. He is supported by Franklin Pelegrino, also on hunger strike with Holguin, and by Darsi Ferrer, also a hunger striker at the prison of Valle Grande in Havana, who, after having investigated as a doctor the public health system and the situation of human rights in Cuba, is in prison since July 21, 2009 without any charges notified to him.

The "ladies in white", association of the political prisoners' wives, who daily demonstrate in the center of Havana, have been victims of repeated acts of harassment from the Cuban armed forces.

The 37ème congress of the FIDH, in solidarity with its Cuban organisation, condemns detention of political opponents, arrests and detentions without judgment and ill treatments directed against the citizens who peacefully demonstrate their dissent with the policy of the Cuban government.

The Congress calls upon the Cuban authorities to put a term to these repeated violations of human rights and to respect the principles which guarantee the democratic liberties under the Rule of law.