



BRIEF NEWS FROM THE IBCR

A simple and informal newsletter to keep you updated on the Bureau's latest news and happenings!

A new arrival at the Bureau!



Marco Antonio Sotelo

The IBCR is proud to welcome a new member to the team, Marco Antonio Sotelo, as Programme Manager for the Prevention of Child Sex Tourism. He will be joining the IBCR in October and will be working under the aegis of Catherine Beaulieu, a specialist lawyer renowned for her fight against Child Sex Tourism, who has committed herself to the development of the Bureau's programme.

Here is a brief presentation on our new recruit's impressive career...

Marco Antonio has ten years experience in the field of protection and defence of Human Rights and more specifically in the area of Children's Rights.

A lawyer by profession, he started off his career at the "Instituto de Defensa Legal" (IDL), a prestigious non-governmental organization in Peru, dedicated to the reestablishment of Human Rights and Rule of Law in Peru after the dictatorship of Fujimori.

He was also named main research assistant for the publication "Memoria y batallas en nombre de los inocentes", which analyzes the situation of hundreds of men and women who were unlawfully sentenced for the crimes of Terrorism and Treason in Peru, and who were subjected to torture in the early 1990s.

At the beginning of the year 2002, Marco Antonio worked as legal adviser for the National Council of Human Rights in Peru, where he followed up cases before the Commission and Inter American Court of Human Rights, once democracy had been reinstated in Peru.

He then became a member of the Department of Assessors of the Ministry of Interior of Peru in April 2002, where he was in charge of following up issues relating to Human Rights, Children's Rights, Citizenship Security and Immigration matters.

Following this, Marco Antonio worked for three years in the tourism sector at the Peruvian Vice Ministry of Tourism. There, he was in charge of the execution and follow up of the project, "Prevention of the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in travel and tourism in the cities of Iquitos, Lima, Trujillo and Cusco," financed by Italian cooperation and implementing the national campaign against Child Sex Tourism in Peru.

In October 2005, he was named international consultant of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean for Save the Children Sweden, thus conducting research and field studies for the "Systematization of good practices to prevent Child Sex Tourism in Latin America" program.

At the beginning of 2006, Marco Antonio was hired as regional coordinator of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of Save the Children Sweden, where he oversaw various projects and carried out numerous training and awareness workshops in the following areas: Prevention and fight against Sexual Exploitation of Children and against Discrimination, Institutional Development and Corporate Social Responsibility.

In March 2008, Marco Antonio was hired by the International Secretary of ECPAT International to work as regional associate for the Americas. He assisted in carrying out two crucial events in the children's rights field: The "Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents," which took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in August 2008; and the "Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents," which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in November 2008.

These numerous experiences allowed Marco Antonio to become thoroughly involved in the field of human rights, justice and democracy.

Thanks to him, the IBCR will have the possibility of extending its work in the protection and defense of children's rights in Latin America and the Caribbean, since both areas have become main destinations for sex tourism by Canadian travelers.

"My professional challenge is to work in a country of origin, as well as in a destination country of Child Sex Tourism, in order to achieve more efficient mechanisms for the protection of children internationally," Marco Antonio.

We wish Marco Antonio the best of luck in his new job, which we are certain, will be beneficial both to him and the organization!

For more information, please visit our website: www.ibcr.org

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