

UN visits Honduras to create anti-corruption commission

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The international delegation will diagnose the country's conditions and the context regarding corruption. | Photo: United Nations Honduras

Tegucigalpa, May 12 (RHC)-- The United Nations has sent a mission to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in charge of advising the creation of a commission against corruption and impunity in the Central American country.

The sending of the delegation responds to a request that for years the country has maintained due to the presence of government leaders involved in corrupt actions that damage Honduran public goods and funds.

"Taking into account the historical, deep-rooted and widespread corruption that has left many victims in the country, the installation of an independent, autonomous and powerful Cijih is urgent and mandatory,"

said the Anti-Corruption Coalition in a statement.

The visit began with a meeting between the UN delegates and members of the Honduran Anti-Corruption Coalition who shared the "minimum bases" they believe the future Commission should have.

It is proposed that the International Commission against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (Cicih), comply with "a clear legal framework, with a focus on human rights and the support of a strengthened Specialized Prosecutorial Unit Against Corruption Networks (Uferco)."

They also propose that it should have the support of other civil organizations committed to respect for the rule of law and that it should have "exclusive authority to select the corruption cases it will investigate and prosecute."

According to the UN Office in Tegucigalpa, the international technical team is integrated by the Department of Political Affairs and Peacebuilding, the Office of Legal Affairs.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office on Drugs and Crime, and the United Nations Development Program will be other international entities that, with their expertise, will support the process.

The prompt installation of the Commission will allow to put an end to the corruption and impunity procedures that prevail in Honduras.

The delegation will not offer statements to the press, but, according to the United Nations, will present the conclusions of the visit and recommendations to the UN Secretary that will allow to take the "next steps to support Honduras in the important area of the fight against impunity and corruption".

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