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Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Berlin, March 8, 2010
International Women's Day 2010

Dear Secretary of State,

**Re: This year's International Women's Day;
Denial of Visas to *Adriana Pérez O'Connor* (wife of *Gerardo Hernández Nordelo*) and *Olga Salanueva Arango* (wife of *René González Schwerert*),
both husbands being two of the so-called „Cuban Five“ or „Miami Five“,
granting multiple visas to all members of the families of the Five**

to your information you receive with this the copy of a letter which we sent today to the First Lady Michelle Obama.

We take the opportunity to call on you to overturn the decision that *Adriana Pérez* is „non eligible“ under the US „Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act 2002“ and we urge you to grant temporary visas on humanitarian grounds to *Adriana Pérez* and *Olga Salanueva* so that they may visit their husbands in prison in the USA. On July 15, 2009, exactly the day of her 21 wedding anniversary (pure chance or cynicism?), US authorities denied for the tenth time the visa application presented by *Adriana Pérez* and on December 18, 2009 *Olga Salanueva* was denied humanitarian parole; in July, 2008 she had been – not only in our opinion illegitimately - classified as „permanently ineligible“.

You should take into consideration that by denying temporary visas for visitation purposes the USA are imposing unnecessary punishment on the prisoners beyond the constraints of their imprisonment, in contravention of international human rights standards.

Last but not least, we note that the members of the families of all five prisoners (the so-called „Cuban Five“ or „Miami Five“) have experienced considerable delays in being granted visas to the USA and we urge that in future such visas are granted to them without undue delay and in the form of multiple visas.

Respectfully and sincerely yours,
By order

(Günter Belchaus)

2 Anlagen