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Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to inform you that Ms. Gabriela Rodriguez Pizarro, Special Rapporteur of the Commission of Human Rights on the Human Rights of Migrants, will undertake an official mission to Italy from 7 to 18 June 2004, upon the invitation of the Government. I am attaching herewith an Information Note on the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants.

For the preparation of the mission of the Special Rapporteur I would be most grateful if your organization could provide us with any relevant information pertaining to her mandate.

The Special Rapporteur is inter-alia interested in integrating a gender perspective when looking at the human rights of migrants, and would welcome information on the situation of women migrants. The human rights of irregular migrants is also a matter of particular concern to the Special Rapporteur, who would appreciate to be briefed on the situation of those migrants in conflict with the law.

The focal point in OHCHR for the organization of the visit is Mr. Javier Leoz, who will be accompanying the Special Rapporteur during the mission together with two interpreters. You might contact him or send him any relevant information regarding the visit. He can be reached at: 0041 22. 917.94.38 or by e-mail at: jleoz@ohchr.org

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and best regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raadi', written over a horizontal line.

Soussan Raadi Azarakhchi
Acting Chief
Special Procedures Branch