
U.N. COMMISSION

The 41st Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, Feb. 4 through March 15, 1985. All the official member countries of the commission will be attending to give testimony on human rights violations. The primary issues of concern are human rights violations in South Africa, Central America, and Arab territories. There will be a special emphasis on religious freedom and the situation in Chile. Various sub-commission member countries and non-governmental organizations such as the International Indian Treaty Council, the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, the South American Indian Council, and the Regional Indian Council of Central America will be participating.



SOFIA PAINQUEO

Sofia Painqueo, a Mapuche from Chile, will be visiting the United States during March under the sponsorship of the Institute of Policy Studies (1901 Que Street, Northwest, Washington, DC 20009). She will be singing traditional Mapuche music and speaking throughout the United States on the history and current situation of the Mapuche in Chile. From March 19-27 she will be in northern California, hosted by SAIIC in the Bay Area and by CASA (128 Pearl Alley, Santa Cruz, CA 95060) in Santa Cruz.

Since 1979, Sofia has helped to promote the establishment of the Mapuche cultural centers which were precursors to the Mapuche organization AD-Mapu. While living in Santiago, Sofia worked with other Mapuche to form a group which coordinated their activities with AD-Mapu. She says, "I have been especially active in organizing artistic events which reaffirm the Mapuche identity. We have performed in shanty towns and churches. I performed also at the Fourth Assembly of Indigenous Peoples in Panama in September, 1984, as a representative of Mapuche women."

For information regarding Sofia's visit or her speaking schedule, contact the Institute for Policy Studies or SAIIC.