

# *International Protect Life Award*

*International Protect Life Committee  
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February 25, 2011

His Excellency  
Sr. Sebastián Piñera Echenique  
President, Republic of Chile  
c/o Mission of Chile to the United Nations  
New York, NY

Dear President Piñera:

On the occasion of the 2011 Meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, and with deep respect and admiration, we leaders of NGOs active at the level of the United Nations and other concerned individuals wish to congratulate you and all the people of Chile for Chile's outstanding achievements in several areas relating to:

## **Women's Health and Respect for Life**

Chile has attained the lowest maternal mortality rate in all of Latin America! More Chilean women have safely delivered their babies than ever before! This is a great advancement in the area of women's health, and an example for other countries working to achieve the reduction of maternal mortality, a key element of the UN Millennium Development Goals.

As you announced during your "Message to the Nation" on May 21, 2010, your new "Comprometidos por la Vida" program will offer assistance to pregnant women in difficult circumstances in order to carry their babies to term. This supportive measure is a wonderful complement to the long-standing Chilean constitutional protection of the child before birth, and essential for the health and well-being of women.

The Chilean government's program "Chile Crece Contigo", begun during the administration of former President Michelle Bachelet and continuing under your administration, is a program meant to advocate for the well-being and protection of young children, and to assist parents in their responsibilities to nurture their children. We wish to congratulate Chile for the important emphasis this program has given since its beginning to promote awareness that the unborn child is a member of the family, and in need of care and protection. (We take note of two especially creative and sensitive TV spots, "Estamos conectados," aired by the Chilean government in the inauguration of this program which make this point very effectively: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lvi6v613pw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lvi6v613pw))

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We wish to express our solidarity with you and all Chileans for these wonderful programs and achievements which make Chile a model for other countries to follow in these areas, by announcing that our committee of NGOs has decided to give the people of Chile the first International Protect Life Award.

A representative of our organizations would welcome the opportunity to personally and formally deliver this award to you as president of the Chilean people. We will contact your office to see if your schedule would permit receiving this award in Santiago on March 25, 2011, the International Day of the Unborn Child, or if another date would be preferable. It would be a great honor for us to be able to recognize Chile in this way.

We send you and all Chileans our most sincere best wishes.

For Life,



Daniel Zeidler  
Coordinator  
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