



## **AMERICA/HONDURAS - Three hundred thousand poor children, without rights and sexually exploited**

Tegucigalpa (Agenzia Fides) - In Honduras, more than 300 000 poor children work to help support their families, often suffering violence, abuse and violation of their rights as human beings. Children who are born in rural areas have less chance of development because of poverty and misery affecting many regions of the country and do not benefit from the education services. The humanitarian organization Casa Alianza in the past 10 years has registered the violent deaths of over 6000 children, as well as hundreds of young children who are victims of violence and sexual exploitation, trafficking and consumption of drugs. Recently, a person in charge of the United Nations that deals with the protection of children, child prostitution and child pornography, said that to fight against exploiters, countries have to follow a legal system conformed to international standards. Honduras cannot fight alone against criminal networks that abuse and sexually exploit children, and it is necessary that the neighboring countries join. In addition, what worsens the problem in the country are economic disparities, poverty, insecurity, lack of education and violence. Poverty involves more than 60% of the 8.2 million inhabitants of the nation. (AP) (Agenzia Fides 11/09/2012)