

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 46/31/99

Further information on UA 32/99 (AMR 46/05/99, 23 February 1999) - Prisoner of conscience/arbitrary detention/torture

13 October 1999

PERU José Mercedes SÁNCHEZ TORRES - deputy mayor
Dulio Florián PACHAS

Prisoner of conscience José Mercedes Sánchez Torres was released without charge on 25 September 1999. In a letter to Amnesty International he thanked the organization for all their work on his behalf.

José Sánchez, deputy mayor (*teniente alcalde*) for the district of Imperial, in the province of Cañete, Lima department, had been arrested by the anti-terrorism police, the DINCOTE, on 10 February 1999, and accused of terrorism.

Throughout his political career José Sánchez had actively condemned the violent methods of the armed opposition groups *Sendero Luminoso*, Shining Path, and the *Partido Revolucionario Túpac Amaru*, Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Party, despite receiving numerous death threats from Shining Path. For many years he had been a member of the legally registered political party *Izquierda Unida*, United Left, which has publicly condemned the use of political violence by Peru's armed opposition groups.

Dulio Florián Pachas remains in Castro-Castro Prison, Lima, and has been charged with terrorism-related offences.

No further action is required by the network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.