

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 23/90/98

24 November 1998

Further information on UA 274/98 (AMR 23/80/98, 21 October 1998) - Fear for safety / Extrajudicial execution

COLOMBIANational trade union leadership

New names -Hector Fajardo, Tarcisio Mora, Gabriel Alvis, Jesús Bernal, Alexander López, Over Dorado, Rafael Baldoviano, Rafael Piña, Segundo Mora, Alvaro Pulido and Olimpo Cárdenas

The recent killing of Jorge Ortega García, vice president of the *Central Unitaria de Trabajadores* (CUT), Trade Union Congress, after he was subject to a long campaign of death threats, has raised concern for the safety of other members of the national trade union leadership who have all recently been subject to similar death threats.

Additional names of those under threat are:

Hector Fajardo- secretary general of the CUT

Tarciso Mora - President of the *Federación Colombiana de Educadores* (FECODE), Federation of Colombian Teachers.

Gabriel Alvis - vicepresident of *Union Sindical Obrera* (USO), Oil Workers' Trade Union.

Jesús Bernal - president of *Sindicato de Trabajadores de las Empresas Municipales de Cali* (SINTRAEMCALI) Cali Municipal Workers' Trade Union

Over Dorado - a leader of *Asociación de Institutores de Antioquia*, (ADIDA), Antioquia Teachers Association.

Rafael Piña, Segundo Mora, Alvaro Pulido and Olimpo Cárdenas - leaders of *Unión Nacional de Empleados Bancarios* (UNEB), National Bank Workers' Union (UA

Jorge Ortega García was killed at a time of great tension during a national strike. There is concern that legitimate trade union action intended to resist the impact of government economic policy will be met with an attempt to selectively murder members of national trade leadership.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or in your own language:

- expressing concern for the safety of Hector Fajardo, Tarcisio Mora, Gabriel Alvis, Jesús Bernal, Alexander López, Over Dorado, Rafael Baldoviano, Rafael Piña, Segundo Mora, Alvaro Pulido, Olimpo Cárdenas and other trade union leaders who have received death threats;

- calling for immediate steps, as agreed on by those under threat, to guarantee the safety of the threatened trade unionists;

- calling for prompt, full and impartial investigations into death threats made against those named above, for the results to be made public and for those responsible to be brought to justice;

- - reminding Colombia's new government of the country's commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular Article 3: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

APPEALS TO:

President of Colombia:

Señor Presidente Andrés Pastrana, Presidente de la República
Palacio de Nariño, carrera 8 No. 7-26, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

Telegrams: President Pastrana, Bogotá, Colombia

Tx: 44281 PALP CO

Fax: + 57 1 284 2186/289 3377/286 7434/

Email: pastrana@presidencia.gov.co

Salutation:Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente/Dear President Pastrana

Minister of Labour & Social Security

Hernando Yepes Arcila

Ministro de Trabajo y Seguridad Social

Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social

Calle 19, No. 6-68, piso 9, Santafé de Bogotá, COLOMBIA

Tx: 45445 MITRA CO

Fax: 571 285 7091

Salutation: Sr. Ministro/ Dear Minister

Minister of the Interior

Dr. Nestor Humberto Martínez, Ministro del Interior

Ministerio del Interior, Carrera 8, No.8-09, Piso 2

Santafé de Bogotá, COLOMBIA

Telegrams: Ministro del Interior, Bogotá, Colombia

Telexes:45406 MINGO CO

Fax:+ 57 1 281 5884 / 286 6524 / 286 0405

Salutation: Sr. Ministro/Dear Minister

Attorney General

Dr. Alfonso Gómez Méndez,

Fiscal General de la Nación, Fiscalía General de la Nación,

Diagonal 22B 5201, Apartado Aéreo 29855, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

Telegrams: Fiscal General, Fiscalía General, Bogotá, Colombia

Faxes:+ 571 570 2022

Salutation: Estimado Dr./Dear Dr.

COPIES TO:

Trade Union: Central Unitaria de Trabajadores de Colombia (CUT)

AA 221, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 January 1999.

*"Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."
Article 3 , Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

Visit the Amnesty International UDHR campaign website on <http://www.amnesty.excite.com>