

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

Index number: AMR 27/3742/2016

30 March 2016

Magaly Pineda: Amnesty International mourns the loss of a leading feminist and human rights activist in the Dominican Republic

Amnesty International movement is tremendously sad to learn that Magaly Pineda passed away after a long battle with cancer on 29 March. She was a prominent Dominican feminist, sociologist and human rights defender who tirelessly advocated for equality, access to education and respect for human rights in the Dominican Republic, the Caribbean and the Americas.

Magaly Pineda was the founder of the Research Centre for Women's Action (*Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina*, CIPAF), which has been producing high quality research about the status of women in the Dominican Republic from a gender perspective since the 1980s in order to promote women's empowerment. She also fought against the horrendous dictatorship of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo who violently ruled the Dominican Republic between 1930 and 1961, for which she was forced to live in exile in Puerto Rico for a few years. Magaly Pineda will be remembered as an exceptional leader of the feminist movement in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The world has lost an extraordinary human being and a human rights defender, but her legacy will live on. Magaly Pineda's achievements encourages all to keep working for the advancement of more equal societies where women and girls can fully enjoy and demand their human rights without discrimination in the Dominican Republic and elsewhere in the world.