

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 321/99 (AMR 19/30/99, 16 December 1999) - Fear for safety / Arbitrary arrest

BRAZIL

Gerson de Souza Melo, indigenous leader

Members of the Paxató Hã Hã Hã indigenous group

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Gerson de Souza Melo, a leader of the Paxató Hã Hã Hã indigenous group in the state of Bahia, was released on 23 December 1999, after a habeas corpus petition was filed on his behalf.

The *Conselho Indiginista Misionário* (CIMI) an indigenous rights organization which had been campaigning on his behalf, sent Amnesty International the following message:

"We have received 68 letters and more arrive every day. The campaign is fantastic! Congratulations!" (*Recebemos 68 correspondências e todos os dias chegam mais. A campanha é fantástica! Parabéns!*)

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