

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 23/098/2001

25 September 2001

Further information on UA 227/01 (AMR 23/090/2001, 10 September 2001) - Fear for Safety/Possible Disappearance

COLOMBIAAlvaro Laiton Cortes (m), teacher and trade union leader

It has just been confirmed that Alvaro Laiton Cortes was released, shortly after his reported abduction.

Alvaro Laiton Cortes, who teaches social sciences at the *Pio Laberto Ferro de Chinchiquira* school, is the leader of the Boyacá teachers' union. He had reportedly been abducted on 8 September at 9:30am by four heavily-armed gunmen thought to be army-backed paramilitaries. According to reports just received, he was released later that same day.

No further action is required by the Urgent Action network at present. Many thanks to all those who sent appeals.