

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 24/04/96

19 December 1996

Further information (3) on UA 216/96 (AMR 24/01/96, 5 September 1996) and follow-ups AMR 24/02/96, 16 October, and AMR 24/03/96, 5 November) - Fear for safety

COSTA RICA Reina Xiomara ZELAYA GONZÁLEZ, and her daughters:  
Maryuri Johanna ZELAYA GONZÁLEZ, aged 6 (f)  
Stephanía Xiomara CABALLERO ZELAYA, aged 12 (f)  
Cynthia Lorena CABALLERO ZELAYA, aged 13 (f)

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Reina Xiomara Zelaya González and her daughters continue to be harrassed and intimidated by unidentified men, believed to be members of the Honduran security forces.

On Tuesday 3 December, Stephanía Xiomara Caballero Zelaya was about to leave her school when she noticed a pick-up truck with darkened windows and no licence-plates parked outside. There were three men inside who started winding down the windows of the truck when they saw her come out. Stephanía immediately went back inside the school building and did not attempt to leave again for about an hour. She came out again at around 1pm, by which time the vehicle had gone.

On Thursday 12 December, between 1 and 6 pm, Reina Xiomara Zelaya González was followed by a man, from her home in the San Joaquín district of San José to the city centre. When she got onto a bus, the man followed her. She went into a beauty salon where a friend of hers worked. The man waited outside for a while and then went away. Xiomara Zelaya gave a description of the man and said that she had not seen him before.

On Monday 16 December, around 7pm, Stephanía Xiomara answered the telephone at her home. A caller, reportedly speaking in a Honduran accent, asked her if she was alone, was she in bed, sitting on the floor, or in the living-room. The caller told her to make sure to keep quiet, not to say anything to her mother, because if she did they would get her and kill her [*¿estás sola, dónde estás, en la cama, en el suelo o en la sala?...*] Stephanía Xiomara hung up. The telephone calls continued, but when the phone was picked up the caller did not speak.

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

- continuing to express extreme concern for the safety of Reina Xiomara Zelaya González and her daughters;
- expressing dismay at the fact that those responsible, believed to be members of the Honduran security forces, have not yet been apprehended;
- asking what concrete steps have been taken in investigating these disturbing incidents;
- urging the Costa Rican authorities to take every necessary measure to protect the family from further harassment and possible harm and what measures have already been taken to protect the family.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President of Costa Rica  
Dr. José María Figueres Olsen  
Presidente de la República de Costa Rica  
Casa Presidencial

Apartado 10089

1000 San José, COSTA RICA

**Telegrams: President Figueres, San José, Costa Rica**

**Faxes: + 506 253 9078**

**Salutation: Señor Presidente / Dear President**

2) Interior Minister in Costa Rica

Bernardo Arce Gutiérrez

Ministro de Seguridad y Gobernación

Ministerio de Seguridad y Gobernación

Apartado 4768

1000 San José, COSTA RICA

**Telegrams: Ministro Gobernación, San José, Costa Rica**

**Faxes: + 506 253 6243**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

1) Human Rights Commissioner (Honduras)

Lic. Leo Valladares Lanza

Comisionado Nacional de los Derechos Humanos

Avda. Los Próceres 3623

Tegucigalpa MDC., HONDURAS

**Fax: + 504 36 7213**

**E-mail: conadeh1@ns.gbm.hn**

2) Office for the Defence of the People (Costa Rica)

Sr. Rodrigo Alberto Carazo

Defensoría de los Habitantes de la República

Apdo Postal 1240-1007

San José, COSTA RICA

**Faxes: + 506 296 2512**

3) UNHCR in Costa Rica

ACNUR

Apartado Postal 12

Ferrocarril Pacífico

1009 San José, COSTA RICA

**Faxes: + 506 234 0431 / 224 4891**

4) Newspaper in Costa Rica

La Nación

Llorente de Tibás

Apartado 10138

San José, COSTA RICA

**Faxes: + 506 240 6480**

5) Newspaper in Honduras

Diario Tiempo

Altos del Centro Comercial Prisa

Colonia Miramontés

Tegucigalpa, HONDURAS

**Faxes: + 504 31 0422**

and to diplomatic representatives of Costa Rica accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 January 1997.