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Further information on UA 306/94 (AMR 41/15/94, 19 August 1994) - Health Concern / Prisoner of conscience

MEXICO

Manuel MANRÍQUEZ SAN AGUSTÍN, musician

Manuel Manríquez San Agustín gave up his hunger-strike at the end of August 1994. On 31 August, the Ninth Chamber of the Federal District's Supreme Court, rejected Manuel Manríquez's last appeal against his sentence. This appeal, known as *reconocimiento de inocencia* (literally "acknowledgement of innocence), allows defendants to present new evidence which may have emerged since their trial, to prove their innocence. His lawyer is currently appealing against the result of this *reconocimiento de inocencia*.

On 11 November, Manuel Manríquez was transferred from the *Reclusorio Norte* prison to the *Santa Martha Acatitla* prison in Mexico City, apparently because of his involvement in a prison sit-in at the *Reclusorio Norte*. *Santa Martha Acatitla* is reported to be overcrowded and have deficient sanitation facilities, and Manuel Manríquez is reportedly forced to sleep on the floor of his cell.

Manuel Manríquez is believed to be well despite his current prison conditions and his prolonged hunger-strike. He has remained active in his campaigning against deteriorating prison conditions, torture and other human rights violations in Mexico.

Amnesty International continues to call for Manuel Manríquez to be immediately and unconditionally released as a prisoner of conscience.

Manuel Manríquez has received many thousands of letters of support from Amnesty International members. Thank you to all who sent appeals on his behalf. At present no further action is required from the Urgent Action Network.