

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 41/024/2003

03 June 2003

Further Information on UA 36/03 (AMR 41/005/2003, 7 February 2003) and follow-up (AMR 41/008/2003, 20 February 2003, AMR 41/018/2003, 11 April 2003) - Fear for safety/possible abduction

MEXICO

Marisela Ortiz Rivera (f) human rights defender

Killed:

Viviana Rayas (f), aged 16

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Viviana Rayas, who was reported missing on 16 March, has been found dead near a road which leads to the town Delicias, in Chihuahua State. Her body was discovered in an isolated area on 28 May by two passers-by. According to reports, she may have been there for two to three months.

Her family identified the clothes found on the body as those that Viviana was wearing on the last day they saw her. According to the authorities, an analysis of the dental remains confirmed her identity. Viviana's body presented an advanced state of decomposition and had visible signs of torture.

According to reports, the Attorney General of the State of Chihuahua (*Procurador General de Justicia del Estado de Chihuahua*) announced the arrest of three men and a woman on 31 May and 1 June in connection with the murder. There is no further information at this stage.

There is also presently no further information about Marisela Ortiz Rivera who featured in the last update.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Spanish or your own language:**

- expressing deep sympathy for the murder of Viviana Rayas, who has been found dead on 28 May;
- calling for an immediate investigation with the full collaboration of state and federal institutions into the murder of Viviana Rayas, and for those responsible to be brought to justice;
- calling on the authorities to guarantee that any judicial process on the case is subject to international fair trial standards;
- reiterating to the authorities the urgent necessity of a full, effective and impartial investigation of all cases of women who have been murdered or gone missing in Chihuahua state in similar circumstances;
- calling on the authorities to take effective steps to prevent, investigate and punish violence against women in Chihuahua state.

**APPEALS TO:**

Governor of Chihuahua State

Lic. Patricio Martínez

Aldama 901

Colonia Centro

Chihuahua State

Mexico

**Telegram: Governor of Chihuahua State, Chihuahua State, Mexico**

**Fax: + 52 614 429 3464**

**Salutation: Dear Governor / Señor Gobernador**

Attorney General of Chihuahua State

Lic. Jesús José Solís

Procurador General de Justicia del Estado de Chihuahua  
Calle Vicente Guerrero 616  
Col Centro  
Chihuahua State  
CP. 31000  
Mexico

**Telegram:** Attorney General of Chihuahua State, Chihuahua State, Mexico

**Fax:** +52 614 415 0314

**Salutation:** Dear Attorney General/ Señor Procurador General

Attorney General of the Republic

General Rafael Marcial Macedo de la Concha  
Procurador General de la Republica  
Procuraduría General de la República  
Reforma Norte esq.Violeta 75  
Col. Guerrero  
Delegación Cuauhtémoc  
México D.F., C.P. 06300  
Mexico

**Telegram:** Attorney General of the Republic, Mexico D. F., Mexico

**Fax:** +525 55 346 0983 (if someone answers, ask for the fax: *pedir tono de fax, por favor*)

**Salutation:** Dear Attorney General/Señor Procurador General

**COPIES TO:**

Mexican Comisión for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights

Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos A.C. (CMDPDH)  
Tehuantepec 155  
Col. Roma Sur  
Mexico DF  
CP 5584 2731, Mexico  
**Email:** [cmdpdh@laneta.apc.org](mailto:cmdpdh@laneta.apc.org)

and to diplomatic representatives of Mexico accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 July 2003.