

## **AMNESTY**INTERNATIONAL



## Dear Minister.

Thousands of undocumented migrants in transit through Mexico, including children, fall victim to beatings, abduction, rape and even murder. Criminal gangs are responsible for the majority of these crimes, but serious abuses are also committed by state officials. Criminal investigations into abuses almost never result in perpetrators facing justice, leaving migrants vulnerable to further attacks.

I welcome your promise to improve protection for migrants in Mexico following the massacre of 72 migrants in Tamaulipas state in August 2010, but am concerned that this promise has not translated into concrete action.

I urge you to send a clear message that abuses against irregular migrants will not be tolerated in Mexico, by ensuring implementation of an action plan to protect migrants in transit and report on its progress. As a first step, I ask you to ensure effective investigation and prosecution of those responsible for abuses against migrants and the collection and publication of nationwide data on criminal investigations.

Yours sincerely,

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Image: Rubbish gathers over the unmarked graves of migrants in Tapachula cemetery, Chiapas state, Mexico, June 2009. Relatives may never discover the fate of their loved ones.

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