

PUBLIC

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UA Death threats/fear for safety

PERU **Mario Huaman Rivera (m), President of the *Confederación General de Trabajadores del Perú* (CGPT), Peru General Workers' Confederation**  
**His family**  
**Other CGTP members**

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Trade union leader Mario Huaman Rivera has received death threats, believed to be linked to his union activities. He is the president of the *Confederación General de Trabajadores del Perú* (CGPT), Peru General Workers' Confederation, which is organizing a general strike for 14 July. Amnesty International believes that he and his family are in grave danger.

On 6 July his wife received a bouquet of flowers and a wrapped package from a delivery man. Ten minutes later, she received an anonymous phone call, from a man who asked if she had received a present and recommended that she should not open it because it contained a bomb. She called the police, who took the package away, and later confirmed that the package contained a grenade.

Two weeks earlier, on 19 June, his neighbours saw two men acting suspiciously near his house, and called the police. The police came and questioned the men, who apparently said they were police officers. On another occasion, a white car with tinted windows stopped for some time near Mario Huaman's home. When his family asked the occupants what they were doing there, they drove away at speed.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Amnesty International believes that these threats and intimidation are directly linked to the national strike that the CGPT is organizing. According to the Peruvian press, several demonstrations are being organised on the day of the national strike throughout the country by civil committees, created to preserve order and keep the strike peaceful. Opposition political parties and social organizations have asked the Peruvian authorities to guarantee the demonstrators' safety.

In June 2004, the Minister of Interior reportedly stated that the government would not negotiate with the CGPT while they continued demonstrating against the government's economic policy. The Interior Minister also warned that there would be a strong police presence in the streets to repress any possible violence.

Peruvian trade unions have been striking and protesting for better living conditions and against some of President Alejandro Toledo's economic policies for the past two years. According to the Peruvian Institute of Statistics, over 50 percent of the population live below the poverty line.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Mario Huaman, his family and the members of the *Confederación General de Trabajadores del Perú*, Peru General Workers' Confederation;
- urging the authorities to guarantee the safety of Mario Huaman and his family, in line with their international obligations;
- calling on the authorities to open an immediate investigation into the alleged death threats and bring those responsible to justice;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that the police do not use excessive force during the 14 July demonstrations;

- reminding the authorities of their duty to ensure that human rights violations are investigated and punished;
- urging the authorities to do everything in their power to ensure that such acts of intimidation do not take place again, so that trade unionists in Peru can carry out their legitimate work without fear of reprisals.

**APPEALS TO:**

Interior Minister  
Ing. Javier Reátegui Roselló  
Ministro del Interior  
Ministerio del Interior  
Plaza 30 de Agosto s/n  
Urb. Córpac  
San Isidro  
Lima 27, Peru

**Fax:** +511 225 7234 / 224 2405

**Salutation:** Sr. Ministro/ Dear Minister

Attorney General  
Dra. Nelly Calderón Navarro  
Sra. Fiscal de la Nación  
Fiscalía de la Nación  
Av. Abancay, cuadra 5 s/n  
Lima 1, Peru

**Fax:** +511 428 0969

**Salutation:** Sra. Fiscal/ Dear Attorney General

**COPIES TO:**

Confederación General de Trabajadores del Perú  
Plaza 2 de Mayo, puerta nº 2  
Lima, Peru

**E-mail:** cgtp@cgtp.org.pe  
mhuaman@cgtp.org.pe

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 19 August 2004.