

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 90/00 (AMR 41/19/00, 20 April 2000) - Fear for safety

MEXICO David MOLINA FRANCISCO

Opposition political activist David Molina Francisco was released in the early hours of Friday 21 April, 40 hours after he was abducted by armed men in Acapulco, Guerrero state.

He reported that he was beaten, tortured with electric shocks and put through a lengthy interrogation in which he was accused of links with armed groups. He was told that his time had come ("*ya le había llegado la hora*") and that other members of the opposition would receive the same treatment.

He said that in the days leading up to the abduction he received a number of threats and warnings to be careful. He was abducted in similar circumstances in 1996.

An investigation into the abduction is reportedly underway. Amnesty International will follow this case closely and urges the authorities to ensure that the investigation is independent and thorough, that the findings are made public, and that those responsible are brought to justice.

Amnesty International remains concerned for the safety of political activists in Guerrero state and will monitor the situation closely.

No further action is needed from the Urgent Action Network. Thank you to all those who sent appeals.