

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 41/24/99

9 September 1999

Further information on UA 233/99 (AMR 41/23/99, 6 September 1999) - Fear for safety/ death threats

**MEXICO Digna Ochoa y Plácido (human rights lawyer)
Members of the PRODH (human rights organization)**

On 8 September 1999, four more letters containing death threats arrived at the offices of the *Centro de Derechos Humanos "Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez"*, AC (PRODH), "Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez "Human Rights Centre, in Mexico City. Members of the organization have also been receiving threatening phone calls at their homes.

The anonymous letters were made up using newspaper cuttings. One was addressed to the PRODH legal team which is run by human rights lawyer Digna Ochoa y Plácido.

The PRODH have also reported other incidents which they fear may be related to the threats. These include repeated power cuts and interruptions to telephone lines affecting calls, e-mail and internet-related work.

Those taking part in this action who have not yet sent an appeal, please continue action taking into account the above information. Please send

telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or in your own language:

- expressing concern for the safety of Digna Ochoa y Plácido and other human rights defenders working with the Mexican City-based PRODH, following Digna Ochoa's abduction on 9 August 1999, and the issuing of death threats to PRODH staff on 3 September and 8 September 1999;
- calling for the authorities to take necessary steps to guarantee the safety of Digna Ochoa and all the members of PRODH;
- calling for a thorough, prompt and impartial investigation into her abduction, as well as the death threats against members of PRODH, that the findings be made public, and that those responsible be brought to justice;
- urging the Mexican government to adhere to its commitment to the resolution on Human Rights Defenders in the Americas, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) on 7 June 1999, especially point 2: "To urge member states to persist in their efforts to provide Human Rights Defenders with the necessary guarantees and facilities to continue freely carrying out their work of promoting and protecting human rights, at the national and/or regional levels, in accordance with internationally recognized principles and agreements";
- urging that the Mexican government ensures that the principles and spirit contained within the 'Declaration on the Right and Responsibility Of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote And Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms', adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1998, are fully adhered to.

APPEALS TO:

Attorney General of the Republic
Lic. Jorge Madrazo
Procurador General de la República
Av Reforma, esq. Violeta
Col Guerrero
Mexico DF, CP 06300
MEXICO

Telegrams:Procurador General de la República

Faxes: + 525 626 4419 / 626 4426

Salutation:Señor Procurador General / Dear Attorney General

Attorney General of Mexico City

Lic Samuel Villar

Procurador General de México DF

Niños Héroes 61, 3er piso, Col. Doctores

Mexico DF, CP 06720

MEXICO

Telegrams:Procurador General de México DF

Faxes: + 525 625 7081

Salutation:Señor Procurador / Dear Attorney General

Human Rights Commission of Mexico City

Dr Luis Barreda Solórzano

Presidente de la CEDHDF

Av. Chapultepec 49, Col. Centro

México DF, CP 06040

MEXICO

Telegrams:Presidente de la CEDHDF.

Faxes: + 525 687 7199

Salutation:Estimado Dr. / Dear Dr.

COPIES TO:

Human Rights organization

Centro de Derechos Humanos "Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez"

Serapio Rendón 57-B, Col. San Rafael

México DF., CP 06470

MEXICO

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 21 October 1999.