

PUBLIC

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Fear for

**COLOMBIA** Agustín Jiménez Cuello (m)  
Flor Munera (f)  
and other members of the *Comité de Solidaridad con los Presos Políticos (CSPP)*,  
**Political Prisoners Solidarity Committee**

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Amnesty International is seriously concerned for the safety of Agustín Jiménez Cuello and Flor Munera, members of the non-governmental human rights organization *Comité de Solidaridad con los Presos Políticos (CSPP)*, Political Prisoners Solidarity Committee in Bogotá, following recent death threats made against them.

On 15 September Agustín Jiménez, president of the CSPP, was at a baseball game in Bogotá when he received a call on his mobile. Agustín Jiménez asked the caller to identify himself; he received the response: "*Te estamos esperando donde Flor, para darte piso*" ("we are with Flor, waiting to bury you"). This was followed by laughter. Agustín asked the man to identify himself again; he was concerned that the message might have been for someone else. He was then told in a threatening tone; "*Así ahora no sabes quien te habla, perro Hijo de Puta te vamos a dar es piso*" ("You don't know who you are talking to now, you son of a bitch, we are going to bury you").

At the time of the call Flor Munera, treasurer of the organization was in fact in the CSPP office. Concerns for her safety were raised by Agustín Jiménez and other colleagues.

In the past, both Flor Munera and Agustín Jiménez have been followed and harassed by individuals who have later been identified as participants in attacks against trade unionists and human rights defenders.

The seriousness of threats that other members of the CSPP have received in the past has prompted the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to urge the Colombian government for special protection measures for all CSPP members.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The CSPP is an internationally respected non-governmental human rights organization which works for the legal defence of political prisoners and the promotion and protection of civil and political rights. CSPP workers have previously suffered serious human rights violations at the hands of paramilitary groups.

Human rights organizations, particularly those seeking to uphold the legal rights of people accused of "subversion", are frequently labelled as guerrilla collaborators or supporters by the security forces and their paramilitary allies. These organizations are thus presented as legitimate targets in the counter-insurgency war. Such accusations are often followed by serious human rights violations such as "disappearances", murders or torture, committed by army-backed paramilitary groups, and also by soldiers. Armed opposition groups have also been responsible for threats against and killings of human rights defenders.

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

- urging the Colombian authorities to take immediate and effective action to protect Agustín Jiménez Cuello and Flor Munera and other members of the Comité de Solidaridad con los Presos Políticos (CSPP);
- asking them also to take immediate and effective action to ensure that members of the CSPP can carry out their legitimate and important work for the defence of human rights in safety;
- reminding the authorities of their obligations to human rights defenders, as laid out in the United Nations Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognised Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the Human Rights Defenders in the Americas resolution of the Organization of American States and in repeated recommendations made to them by the United Nations;
- urging the government to issue a public statement recognizing the legitimacy of work for respect of the human rights of the civilian population affected by the armed conflict;
- urging the authorities to take immediate action to dismantle paramilitary groups, in line with repeated United Nations recommendations.

**APPEALS TO:**

Vice-President of the Republic of Colombia  
 Vicepresidente de la República de Colombia  
 Dr. Francisco Santos Calderón  
 Vicepresidencia

Carrera 8A No 5-57

Santafé de Bogotá, COLOMBIA

**Telegrams: Vice-Presidente Santos, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Fax: + 57 1 334 1138**

**Salutation : Excelentísimo Sr. Vicepresidente/ Dear Vice-President**

Attorney General

Dr. Luis Camilo Osorio,

Fiscal General de la Nación, Fiscalía General de la Nación,

Diagonal 22B 52-01 (Ciudad Salite),

Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegram: Fiscal General, Bogota, Colombia**

**Fax: + 57 1 570 2022 / 2017 (if someone answers say "me da tono de fax por favor")**

**Salutation: Dear Dr. Osorio / Estimado Dr. Osorio**

National Advocate for the people

Sr. Eduardo Cifuentes Muñoz, Defensor del Pueblo, Defensoría del Pueblo,

Calle 55, No. 10-32/46 office 301,

Santafé de Bogotá, COLOMBIA

**Telegram: National Advocate, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Fax: + 57 1 640 0491**

**Salutation: Dear Mr. Cifuentes Muñoz / Estimado Sr. Cifuentes Muñoz**

**COPIES TO:**

Non-governmental human rights organization

Fundación Comité de Solidaridad con los Presos Políticos

AA 22803

Santafé de Bogotá

Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 November 2002.