

4 April 2001

Further information on UA 73/01 (AMR 28/010/2001, 29 March 2000) - Fear for safety/Death threats

ECUADOR Human rights defenders:

*Quitogay*, Quito

*Equidad* (Equality), Quito

*Fundación Amigos por la Vida* (FAV - Friends for Life Foundation), Guayaquil

*Fundación Ecuatoriana de Minorías Sexuales* (FEMIS - Ecuadorean Sexual

Minorities Foundation), Guayaquil and Quito

New names: Neptali Arias Zambrano, Director, FAV

Members of the FAV AIDS prevention group *Juventud Arco Iris* ("Rainbow Youth")

Cristhian Landeta, Rainbow Youth Coordinator

Other FAV members

---

Another organisation defending the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people has received email death threats from a group that has threatened to kill LGBT people in Ecuador.

The group *Juventud Arco Iris* (Rainbow Youth) is part of the *Fundación Amigos por la Vida*, Friends for Life Foundation. It promotes safe sex practices, and gives free health advice, to prevent the spread of AIDS.

On 3 April they received an e-mail whose subject box read: *Exterminio de Sodoma y Gomorra*, "The Extermination of Sodom and Gommorah".

The writer said the group knew about an event that Rainbow Youth was organizing, and where it would take place. The message read: "You believe that you will succeed [in staging this event] this Friday, 6 April, do not waste your time, we know who is in charge [of this event], a queer whose name is Christian Landeta ... and that the president of this [perverts'] sect is Neptali Arias..."

(...creen ustedes que la van a realizar este viernes 6 de abril, no pierdan su tiempo ya que sabemos donde lo van a realizar y sabemos que está a cargo de un marica que se llama Cristhian Landeta ... y que la presidenta de esta secta de perversion se llama Neptaly Arias..)

The message compares Ecuador's two main cities, Quito and Guayaquil, with Sodom and Gommorah, promising to clean both cities of queers. The message ends: "We will wait until this Friday 6 April, for you to know what we are capable of doing with the queers we will capture ..." (*Estaremos esperando este viernes 6 de abril, para que sepan de lo que somos capaces de hacer con las maricas que capturemos.*)

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:**

- expressing concern for the safety of all the people and organizations named above;
- asking the authorities to do everything necessary to protect them, so they can continue their legitimate activities in safety;
- asking the authorities to order a prompt and effective investigation into the homophobic intimidation and threats they have been subjected to, to publish the findings and bring those responsible to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

Minister of the Interior and Police

Dr. Juan Manrique Martínez  
Ministerio de Gobierno y Policía  
Benalcázar y Espejo  
Quito  
ECUADOR

**Fax: + 593 2 580 067**

**+ 593 2 583 397 (when voice answers, ask "por favor, me puede dar tono de fax")**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro/ Dear Minister**

Head of the National Police

Ing. Jorge Guillermo Molina Nuñez  
Inspector General de la Policía Nacional  
Ramírez Dávalos 612 y Av. 10 de Agosto  
Quito  
Ecuador

**Fax: + 593 2 508 724 (when voice answers, ask "por favor, me puede dar tono de fax")**

**Salutation: Señor Inspector General/Dear Chief Inspector**

**COPIES TO:**

Human Rights Organizations

*Fundación Amigos por la Vida*  
Pedro Carbo 1106 y Colón, 10° piso  
Guayaquil  
Ecuador

**E-mail: famivida@yupimail.com**

*Quitogay*

**E-mail: quitogay@quitogay.com**

*Equidad Quito*

Rabida N 26-32 y Santa María  
Quito, Ecuador

**E-mail: equidad@ecuanex.net.ec**

and to diplomatic representatives of Ecuador accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 May 2001.