# **URGENT ACTION**

COLLEAGUES AND FAMILY STILL RECEIVING THREATS Human rights defenders working on behalf of trade unionist Marcelino Coache, and his family, continue to be threatened and intimidated in Oaxaca, Mexico in a pattern of threats that has been occurring since 2009. Fears continue for their safety.

Alba Cruz Ramos has represented trade union and political activist, Marcelino Coache, since he was temporarily detained and tortured in 2009. On 30 March she was in her car after she had left a meeting at the Oaxaca State Attorney General's Office (Procuraduría General de Justicia del Estado, PGJE), when three unknown men tried to ram the car with their van. The aggressors drove away as she tried to take a photograph of them. Then, on 13 April she received a threatening text message which said "...be warned, you die with him for being assholes" (...quedas advertida te mueres junto con el por pendejos"). The next day she received another message which said "start now whore" ("empieza ahora putos"). Formal complaints on all the incidents have been filed with the PGJE. Alba Cruz Ramos has been repeatedly threatened in relation to her work with Marcelino Coache.

Around the same time that Alba Cruz Ramos received the telephone threat, Marcelino Coache's wife was also threatened. On 12 April Marcelino Coache's wife **Reyna Rivera** received a telephone threat during which the caller said "we warned you, remember assholes? Now take care of yourselves" ("*Te lo advertimos se acuerdan o se hacen pendejos, ahora cuídense ya acabaro [sic]*"). In 2009, the Inter American Commission of Human Rights issued precautionary measures for Marcelino Coache and his family as a result of the threats they had been receiving. Despite this ruling, the threats against his family and those that work with him continue.

Another human rights defender who has worked on Marcelino Coache's case in 2009, **Wilfrido Mayrén Peláez** (known as Padre Uvi), also received a message on his mobile on 14 April which said: "Start now whore..." (*"Empieza ahora putos...[sic]"*). Threats to all three people originated from the same telephone number.

#### Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

 Demanding that the authorities provide protection to Alba Cruz Ramos, Marcelino Coache, Reyna Rivera and Wilfrido Mayrén Peláez;

Urging the authorities to carry out a full and prompt investigation of the threats received by Alba Cruz Ramos, Marcelino Coache, Reyna Rivera and Wilfrido Mayrén Peláez, and bring those responsible to justice;
Calling on authorities to adopt and implement the mechanism of protection for human rights defenders.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 30 MAY 2012 TO:

Minister of the Interior Dr. Alejandro Poiré Romero Bucareli 99, 1er. piso, Col. Juárez México D.F., C.P.06600 México Fax: +52 55 5093 3414 (keep trying) Email: <u>secretario@segob.gob.mx</u> Salutation: Dear Minister Governor of Oaxaca State Lic. Gabino Cue Monteagudo Palacio del Gobierno (Planta Alta), Plaza de la Constitución, Centro Histórico Oaxaca de Juárez, Oaxaca, C.P.68000 México Fax: +52 951 502 0530 (ask for "tono ") Email: gabinocue@oaxaca.gob.mx Salutation: Dear Governor And copies to: Local partner NGO: Comité de Defensa Integral de Derechos Humanos Gobixha AC Email: contacto@codigodh.org

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below: Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the fifth update of UA 68/09. Further information: <u>http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR41/004/2011/en</u>





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### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Name: Alba Cruz Ramos, Marcelino Coache, Reyna Rivera, Wilfrido Mayrén Peláez known as Padre Uvi Gender m/f: Alba Cruz Ramos (F), Marcelino Coache (M), Reyna Rivera (F), Wilfrido Mayrén Peláez (known as Padre Uvi) (M)

Further information on UA: 68/09 Mexico Index: AMR 41/023/2012 Issue Date: 17 April 2012