

via fax: 011 57 1 337 58 90/ 342 05 92 Senor Presidente Alvaro Uribe Velez President of Colombia	via fax: 011 57 1 562 7822 Dra. Maria Consuelo Araujo Minister of Foreign Relations, Colombia
via fax: 011 57 1 570 2000 (a message in Spanish will ask you to enter extension 2017) Dr. Mario German Iguaran Attorney General of Colombia	

November 22, 2006

Dear Madame and Sirs:

We are deeply concerned for the safety of members of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes in Sucre Department in northern Colombia. The following names appear on a "death list" compiled by army-backed paramilitaries: **Arnold Gomez, Carmelo Agamez, Juan David Diaz, Adolfo Berbel, Jackeline Moguea, Roberto Serpa, and Amauri Vidual.**

Members of the Victims' Movement became aware of the "death list" after they demonstrated on August 26 against the re-arming of paramilitaries in Sucre. The people named on the list may be individuals whom the paramilitaries fear could provide evidence against them in criminal proceedings. For example, one member of the Victims' Movement, **Luis Guevara**, was killed by paramilitaries on August 22 in the Covenas hamlet of San Onofre municipality in Sucre.

Victims' Movement members regularly denounce links between paramilitary structures and local politicians. In October they presented a report to the Colombian Senate that lists names of local and national politicians with such links. They also demand criminal investigations into human rights violations committed by these groups. The Victims' Movement is calling for the Senate's Commission on Human Rights to visit San Onofre on November 27.

As a result of our concern for the safety of the above-named people, and other members of the Victims' Movement in Sucre, we strongly urge you to:

- Take effective action to protect those named above, and other members of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes, as deemed appropriate by those under threat, thus allowing them safely to continue their legitimate and important work in the defense of human rights;
- Immediately conduct a full and impartial investigation into links between the security forces, local politicians and paramilitary groups, make the public and bring to justice those found responsible for supporting and participating in such groups;
- Take immediate action to dismantle paramilitary groups, in line with stated government commitments and recommendations made by the UN and other intergovernmental organizations;
- Elaborate policy and plans, in conjunction with human rights defenders, regarding the implementation of the principles of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, and make these plans public.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
 Coordinator

Copies: Volmar Antonio Perez Ortiz, Human Rights Ombudsman of Colombia ~ via US mail
 Ambassador Carolina Barco Isakson, Colombian Ambassador to the US ~ via fax: 1 202 232 8643
 William B Wood, US Ambassador to Colombia ~ via fax: 011 571 315 2197
 Heather Merritt, Desk Officer for Colombia ~ via fax: 202 647 4173
 Paolo Carozza, US member of the Inter- American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: 202 458 3992

The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter:

According to reports, criminal investigation authorities recently discovered a computer owned by a paramilitary leader, containing documents highlighting close links between paramilitaries and local political leaders, which could potentially incriminate both paramilitaries and political leaders in cases of human rights violations and other crimes. We fear that paramilitaries and their allies will take all possible action to prevent serious investigation into the evidence found on the computer. Efforts by the