

Via fax: 011 57 1 337 58 90/ 342 05 92 <b>Sr. Presidente Alvaro Uribe Velez</b> President of Colombia	via fax: 011 57 1 570 2000 <b>Dr. Mario German Iguaran</b> Attorney General of Colombia
Via fax: 011 57 1 565 7682 <b>Dr. Francisco Santos</b> Vice-President of Colombia.	

December 24, 2006

Dear Sirs:

We are extremely concerned for the safety of SINALTRAINAL food and beverage union members **Euripides Yance, Limberto Carranza and Campo Quintero** in Barranquilla, Atlantída Department.

On December 14 a written death threat was left at the home of Euripides Yance. The communiqué was entitled "Black Eagles" and threatens various student, social and trade union leaders, giving them a week to leave the city. Euripides Yance, Limberto Carranza and Campo Quintero were included in the list.

This death threat occurred just days after Colombia's Vice-President Francisco Santos made a public declaration referring to what he called "absurd" campaigns to discredit Coca-Cola, Nestlé and other private corporations that employ SINALTRAINAL workers. Dr. Santos called these union leaders "sectors of the extreme left, radicals infiltrated into trade union sectors..." The recent threats occurred during negotiations between SINALTRAINAL and Coca-Cola bottling plants.

At least nine SINALTRAINAL leaders have been assassinated over the past several years. We have written to Colombian officials on several previous occasions to urge protection for SINALTRAINAL leaders and workers:

- July 30, 2002: threats against William Mendoza Gómez, bottling plant in Barrancabermeja
- September 1, 2003: assassination attempt on Juan Carlos Galvis, vice-president of SINALTRAINAL
- March 14, 2004: threats and harassment of Erasmo Castro (in Barranquilla), Ricardo Córdoba, and German Catano
- September 22, 2005: assassination of Luciano Enrique Romero Molina (in Valledupar, Cesar Department)

We urge your government to

- thoroughly investigate the threats against **Euripides Yance, Limberto Carranza and Campo Quintero** and bring the perpetrators to justice
- take measures to protect the lives of trade unionists, social leaders, students, and human rights defenders

Thank you for your prompt attention.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
 Coordinator

Cc: Ambassador Carolina Barco Isakson ~ via fax  
 William B Wood, US Ambassador to Colombia ~ via fax  
 Heather Merritt, Desk Officer for Colombia ~ via fax  
 Paolo Carozza, US member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax  
 Programa Derechos Humanos Presidencia de la Republica / Presidential Human Rights Program ~ via e-mail