



via fax: 503 2244 4850 <b>Luciano Calvo Pumpido</b> Legal representative of Calvo Conserves Enterprises	via fax: 503 2257 5713 <b>Dr. Jorge Hevia Sierra</b> Ambassador of Spain in El Salvador
via fax: 503 2209 3728 <b>Jose Roberto Espinal</b> Minister of Labor of El Salvador	

February 12, 2007

Dear Sirs:

We hope that the Ministry of Labor will recognize the newly-formed local section of the General Union of Workers of the Fishing Industry and Related Activities (SGTIPAC) in the port city of La Union, Department of La Union. Workers at the Calvo Conserves tuna cannery formed the local section of the union on February 5 and submitted their registration to the Ministry of Labor on February 5.

We are concerned by the response on behalf of the Calvo Group to previous attempts to unionize and improve working conditions. Last June, Calvo Group, a Spanish company, fired some 600 workers and announced that it would pull out of El Salvador if the country lost its preferential trade status with the European Union as the result of failing to ratify ILO Conventions 87 and 98. (The Conventions were ratified by the Salvadoran legislature in September.) In 2004, a spontaneous work stoppage at the El Salvador plant, as part of efforts to form a union due to miserable work conditions, was answered with the firing of 300 workers.

We believe that this is a very important opportunity for the Calvo Group in El Salvador to demonstrate practical compliance with Conventions 87 and 98 of the ILO. We understand that the Calvo Group engages in open dialogue and collective negotiation with workers in Spain. We hope that this will also be the case in El Salvador.

Thank you in advance for your efforts on behalf of the workers' right to unionize.

Thank you for your prompt attention.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
Coordinator

- cc: President Elías Antonio Saca ~ via fax: 011-503- 2-243-9930
- Workers of CALVO~ via e-mail: [ceal.dlca@gmail.com](mailto:ceal.dlca@gmail.com)
- Lic. Félix Garrid Safie, Attorney General ~ via fax: 011 503 2249 8613
- H. Douglas Barclay, U.S. Ambassador ~ via fax: 011-503-2-234-2001
- René Antonio Leon Rodríguez, Ambassador ~ via fax: (202) 232-3763
- Paolo Carozza, US member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: (202)458-3992
- U.S. Senators Brown and Voinovich ~ via email
- U.S. Representatives Gillmor, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Regula, Ryan, Sutton, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

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