

via fax: 011 57 1 337 58 90/ 342 05 92 Señor Presidente Álvaro Uribe Vélez President of the República of Colombia	via fax: 011 57 1 565 76 82 Dr. Francisco Santos Calderon Vice-President of the Republic, Colombia
via fax: 011 57 1 570 2000 Dr. Mario Germán Iguaran Arana Attorney General of Colombia	

November 12, 2007

Dear Sirs:

We, members of the InterReligious Task Force, continue to be deeply concerned for the safety of **José Domingo Flórez**, his family, and other members of the food and beverage trade union **SINALTRAINAL**. At about 4:00 p.m. on October 26, the girlfriend (domestic partner) of Florez opened the door of their home in the Andes barrio of Floridablanca, a municipality in the metropolitan region of Bucaramanga in Santander Department. She saw a man about 20 years old with his hair shaved on the sides and wearing blue jeans and a blue and white striped shirt. He tried to leave a folded yellow envelope between the bars that separated the door of the house and the street. He stayed a few seconds, but when he saw a guard and a camera installed on the house, he left quickly, got into a black XT (license No. CKS58B) and left the barrio. A short time later a taxi (license No XVV292) was seen passing by several times and looking suspiciously at the house.

This incident is similar to one that occurred at 9:00 pm on October 20 when Andrés Damian Flórez Rodríguez, the son of Jose Domingo Flórez, opened the door of his house and found a yellow envelope containing death threats to the entire family from Aguilas Negras (Black Eagles paramilitary group). This followed the September 27 incident, about which we wrote to you on October 14, in which Andrés was seized, taken for a ride, beaten, and left on the street with a message containing death threats to his family.

Because of these continuing threats, we **again strongly urge** you to:

- take immediate action to protect **José Domingo Flórez**, his family and other members of SINALTRAINAL, in accordance with their wishes;
- take decisive action to ensure that the Coca-Cola corporation, its bottling companies and the Colombian State cease all repression against the workers;
- take immediate steps, in line with repeated UN recommendations, to confront and dismantle paramilitary groups operating in the region and to break their links with the security forces;
- produce policies and plans, in conjunction with human rights defenders, to guarantee that the rights to life, association and trade union freedom are guaranteed.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
 Coordinator

cc: SINALTRAINAL ~ via fax – 011.571.245.5325
 Carolina Barco Iskson, Colombian Ambassador to the US ~ via fax: 202.232.8643
 Ambassador William Brownfield, US Ambassador to Colombia ~ via fax: 011.571.315.2197
 Heather Merritt, Desk Officer for Colombia, US State Department ~ via fax: 202.647.4173
 Dr. Michael Frulin, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Colombia office ~ via fax: 011-571. 658-3300
 Paolo Carozza US member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: 202.458.3992
 President of Coca-Cola Enterprises, Atlanta, Georgia USA ~ via email
 Ombudsman Office, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Atlanta, Georgia USA - ~ via fax: 678-589-5426
 Juan Carlos Jaramillo, President of Coca-Cola FEMSA, Bogotá, Colombia ~ via fax: 011-571-401-1687
 US Senators Brown & Voinovich ~ via email
 US Representatives, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Regula, Ryan, Sutton, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

10/27 SINALTRAINAL/Colombia

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