

via fax: 011 504 2221 5667 Sr. Luis Alberto Rubi Attorney General of the Republic of Honduras	via fax: 011 504 2220 1756 Sr. Pompeyo Bonilla Minister of the Interior of Honduras
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May 2, 2012

Dear Sirs:

We are extremely concerned for the safety of journalist **Dina Meza**, who works with the website *Defensores en Línea* (Defenders Online) and is a member of the Committee of Families of Detainees and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH). She has received a series of threats of sexual violence in recent weeks:

- **February 22:** two text message threats. The first said, "We'll burn your pussy with lime until you scream and the whole squad will enjoy it [...] CAM. The second said "[...]You'll end up dead like people in the Aguan. . ." Álvarez Martínez was a general in the armed forces between 1982 and 1984 at the time of grave human rights abuses, and has been linked to paramilitary death squads in that period. CAM (Comando Álvarez Martínez) is his acronym used in threats to human rights activists and journalists since the 2009 coup d'état.
- **April 6:** two men took photos of Dina Meza and her children as they were walking in her neighborhood.
- **April 14:** she received three silent calls to her mobile phone from the same number. As she answered a fourth call, a male caller asked her, "What's new?" and hung up. When she called back and asked the man who he was and what he wanted, he said his name was Miguel, claimed he had dialed the wrong number, and ended the call by telling Dina "Look after your pussy."

Dina Meza has worked on the land conflict in the Lower Aguán region in Colón Department where journalists and human rights defenders are constantly harassed and threatened (cf our most recent letters Feb 3 and March 1). She is a beneficiary of Precaution Measures granted by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) in 2006 and 2009 to safeguard her security. To date, the authorities have not implemented the orders.

Her safety continues to be at risk. Therefore, we **strongly urge you** to:

- ❖ conduct an independent, thorough and impartial investigation into the threats against Dina Meza, make the results public and bring those responsible to justice;
- ❖ provide immediate protection to Dina Meza in accordance with the IACHR orders and in agreement with her wishes.

We again remind you that human rights defenders have a right to carry out their activities without any unfair restrictions or fear of reprisals, as set out in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
Coordinator

cc: COFADEH ~via fax 011 504 222- 5280
Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro, Honduran Ambassador to the US ~ via fax 202 966 9751
Lisa Kubiske, US Ambassador to Honduras ~ via fax
Nathan Anderson, Attache for Human Rights and Labor, US Embassy to Honduras ~ via email
Benjamin Gedan, Honduras Desk, US State Dept ~ via fax 202.647.2597
Christopher Johnson, Diplomacy Officer for Central America, US State Dept. ~ via email
Dinah Shelton, Chair, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: 202 458.3992
US Senators Brown & Portman and US Representatives Fudge, Gibbs, Johnson, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Latta, Renacci, Ryan, Sutton ~ via email

UA 106/12 Honduras

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