

# URGENT ACTION



UANetwork Office AIUSA 600 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Washington DC 20003 T. 202.544.0200 F. 202.675.8566 E. uan@aiusa.org amnestyusa.org/urgent/

21 January 2010

UA 19/10

Fear for safety

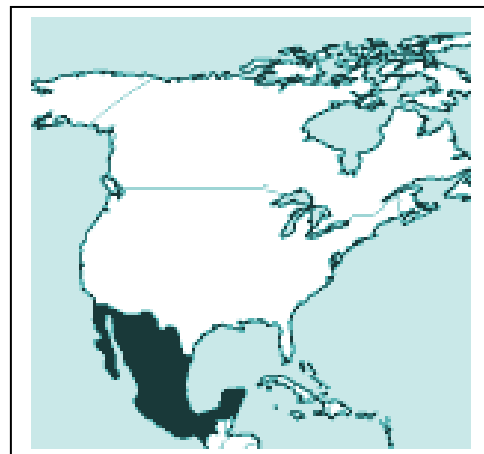
MEXICO

Isabel Rosales (f) ]  
Miriam Altamirano (f) ]  
Javier Monroy (m) ]

members of TADECO

Members of Taller de Desarrollo Comunitario (Community Development Workshop, TADECO) a community development and human rights organization in Chilpancingo, capital of Guerrero state, southern Mexico, have received death threats and have been followed. The Mexican authorities have offered no protection to the activists.

On 19 December 2009, a mobile phone was stolen from one of the TADECO workers. On 25 December, one of the female workers, Isabel Rosales, received a text message on her mobile phone, saying, "Take care, we are watching you" (*Cuidense, las tenemos bien vigiladas*). On 27 December she received another message which said: "Listen bitch, I know your movements, one of these days you'll be part of the mural of the disappeared. Yours, the family" (*Olles hija de puta lla se tus pasos, un día de estos vas a formar parte del mural de desaparecidos ok. Att. la familia ok [sic]*).



On 27 December, Miriam Altamirano, another female TADECO worker, received a text message while she was in the office "It would be so easy to take the one with the black trousers and brown sweater. Would you mind?" (*¿Q. fácil sería yevarnos a la de pantalón negro y sueter café. Te importaría? [sic]*). The message referred to the outfit worn by Isabel Rosales, who was walking a few blocks away. On the same day another male worker with TADECO, Javier Monroy received this text message "We will get the one that will hurt you most" (*Te vamos a dar en la persona que mas te podría doler [...]*). The messages came from the stolen mobile. Since the beginning of January 2010, workers with TADECO have been noticing men watching their office or following them in cars. TADECO have reported the threats to the authorities, but so far no protection measures have been put in place.

TADECO offers community social and economic development training for rural communities in central Guerrero. In the last few years it has also been working on cases of abductions and killings in the state, whether those suspected of involvement are common criminals or authorities. TADECO also helped set up the Committee of Relatives and Friends of Kidnapped, Disappeared or Murdered people (Comité de Familiares y Amigos de Secuestrados Desaparecidos y Asesinados).

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Human rights defenders in Mexico face threats, attacks, politically motivated criminal charges and imprisonment for leading protests, promoting respect for human rights or speaking out against abuses committed by criminal gangs.

---

**Amnesty International's mission is to undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of the rights to physical and mental integrity, freedom of conscience and expression, and freedom from discrimination, within the context of its work to promote all human rights.**

The government has agreed to provide protection measures ordered by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to several human rights defenders, but some have reported that no effective protection has been provided. Substantial efforts have not been made to investigate cases of abuses against human rights defenders; impunity is the general rule in these cases, leaving open the possibility of further attacks.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible:**

- provide immediate and effective protection measures for all members of TADECO, in accordance with their wishes, so they can carry out their work without fear;
- conduct a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into the threats and surveillance against members of TADECO, with the results made public and those found responsible brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

**Minister of the Interior**

Lic. Fernando Francisco Gómez-Mont  
Secretaría de Gobernación

Bucareli 99, 1er. piso,

Col. Juárez, Del. Cuauhtémoc,

México D.F., C.P.06600, MEXICO

**Fax: 011 52 55 5093 3414**

**E-mail: secretario@segob.gob.mx**

**Salutation: Señor Secretario/Dear Minister**

**Governor of Guerrero**

Lic. Zeferino Torreblanca Galindo

Gobernador del Estado de Guerrero

Palacio de Gobierno,

Blvd.René Juárez Cisneros No. 62,

Ciudad de los Servicios, Chilpancingo, C.P. 39075,

Guerrero, MEXICO

**Fax: 011 52 747 471 9956**

**Email: gobernador@guerrero.gob.mx**

**Salutation: Señor Gobernador/Dear Governor**

**Guerrero State Human Rights Commission**

Lic. Juan Alarcón Hernández

Presidente de la CODDEHUM

Avda. Juárez, Esq. Galo Soberón y Parra

Col. Centro, Chilpancingo, Guerrero

C.P. 39000, MEXICO

**Fax: 011 52 747 47 74 71 03-78**

**Email: presidencia@coddehumgro.org.mx**

**Salutation: Señor Procurador/Dear Attorney**

**COPIES TO:**

Taller de Desarrollo Comunitario

**Email: tadecoac@hotmail.com**

Ambassador Arturo Sarukhan Casamitjana

Embassy of Mexico

1911 Pennsylvania Ave. NW

Washington DC 20006

**Fax: 1 202 728 1698**

**Email: mexembusa@sre.gob.mx**

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.**

**Check with the AIUSA Urgent Action office if sending appeals after 4 March 2010.**