



DANSK METAL



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Mrs. Martha Elena Federica Bárcena Coqui
Ambassador
The Mexican Embassy in Denmark
Bredgade 65, 1.
1260 København K

København den 11 December 2006

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Dear Mrs. Ambassador,

Also distributed to Secr. Members by e-mail

On behalf of the 136.000 members of the Danish Metalworker' Union, I am shocked by your government's repeated use of intimidation, illegal arrests, deadly violence and murder in dealings with the Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores Mineros, Metalúrgicos y Similares de la República Mexicana (SNTMMSRM).

As you know, Napoleon Gomez Urrutia, the democratically elected general secretary of the National Miners' and Metalworkers' Union (SNTMMSRM) was forcefully removed from his position in March 2006 after speaking out against gross government and company negligence regarding the health and safety of the Pasta de Conchos mine, that left 65 miners dead after an explosion. Mexico's own National Human Rights Commission that investigated the accident in the weeks to follow has confirmed this negligence.

The IMF has launched a complaint with the International Labour Organization against the Mexican government citing violations of ILO Convention 87.

The Danish Metalworkers' Union is committed to supporting the SNTMMSRM as they fight to protect their union autonomy and oppose government interference of any kind in union affairs.



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As metalworkers, unionists, and people who believe that social and economic justice are not just words, but ideals to live by and fight for, we ask that you use your considerable influence with the Mexican Labour Ministry and Mexican government and encourage them to reinstate Napoleon as the democratically elected leader of the SNTMMSRM as he so rightfully is. We ask that the Mexican government allow for Mexican unions to work within their structures to decide what is best for their membership and the workers of Mexico.

Yours sincerely,

Thorkild E. Jensen

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cc: SNTMMSRM

International Metalworkers' Federation

ILO Committee on Freedom of Association

U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus