



**IMF IMB Fiom**  
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INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS' FEDERATION  
INTERNATIONALER METALLGEWERKSCHAFTSBUND  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ORGANISATIONS DE TRAVAILLEURS DE LA METALLURGIE  
INTERNATIONELLA METALLFEDERATIONEN  
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES DE LAS INDUSTRIAS METALURGICAS  
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MM/kp

August 14, 2007

Felipe Calderón  
President of Mexico  
Presidencia de La Republica  
Residencia Oficial de Los Pinos  
Puerta Central  
Mexico, DF 11850

The International Metalworkers' Federation is shocked and saddened to learn of the murder of Reinaldo Hernandez González near the La Caridad copper mine in Nacozari, Sonora. I understand that at 8:30 pm on August 11, 2007, about 90 workers who were unjustly dismissed by Grupo Mexico were holding a meeting in the vicinity of the mine when several buses branding Grupo Mexico's logo ambushed the workers.

According to witness accounts, individuals from the company buses began throwing stones at the group of workers and a moment later gunshots were fired. Workers then tried to flee the area in vehicles only to be intercepted again by the company thugs. According to reports, it was during this second confrontation that gunshots were again fired, which is when the workers noticed that González had been fatally shot by a bullet to the forehead.

I am horrified to learn that police were absent during the 2 hour long confrontation in which 20 workers were wounded in addition to the murder of González. I have learned that at least 15 SNTMMSRM members are being held by authorities and that there are reports of torture being used against some of the detainees.

The international labour community has witnessed with shock and outrage an escalation in government and Grupo Mexico-sponsored violence and persecution of SNTMMSRM members. The Mexican government cannot continue to ignore such gross human rights violations nor should it continue to protect and abet Grupo Mexico's criminal role in the assassination of González. This must stop now!

The IMF and the 25 million workers we represent strongly urge you to investigate this matter thoroughly and transparently, to hold accountable its perpetrators, and to immediately and unconditionally release all SNTMMSRM members currently detained.

Sincerely,

Marcello Malentacchi  
General Secretary

cc: SNTMMSRM  
Karen Curtis, International Labour Organisation  
National Commission of Human Rights