

Leo W. Gerard  
International President

August 24, 2009

**By Fax (202) 232-8643**

President Alvaro Uribe Velez  
Republic of Colombia  
c/o Embassy of Colombia  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Re: Continued Violence Against Unionists in Colombia

Dear President Uribe:

I am writing to express my grave concern about the murder of Gustavo Gomez, a Nestle worker and member of the Sinaltrainal, a union we have been working with for almost a decade. We have just learned that Mr. Gomez was gunned down in his home in Dosquebradas, Colombia on August 21, 2009. This brings to a total of 25 the number of unionists killed so far in Colombia this year.

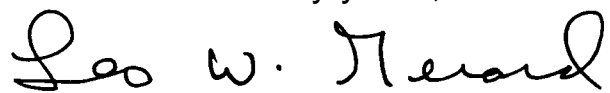
We urge the Colombian government to investigate and punish the perpetrators and instigators of this crime and to protect the lives of members of SINALTRAINAL and their families.

In addition to this crime, we wish to express our concern about the arrest and continued imprisonment of both Alirio Garcia -- a legal officer of the Colombian Agricultural Workers Union (FENSUAGRO) -- and his wife, Rosalba Gaviria Toro -- a leading FENSUAGRO member. We believe that the imprisonment of these two individuals is both illegal and immoral and contravenes Colombia's duty to uphold ILO Conventions 87 & 98

which guarantee workers the right to organize and collectively bargain without reprisal, and we demand the immediate release of these two individuals.

We will be following these matters very closely and would appreciate an update on these matters. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leo W. Gerard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leo W. Gerard  
International President

c: Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House  
The Honorable Charles Rangel  
The Honorable Sander Levin  
The Honorable Michael Michaud  
The Honorable James McGovern  
The Honorable Steny Hoyer