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### FAX TRANSMISSION

To: Rafael Bustamante Pérez, Director, Human Rights Division, Colombian  
Ministry of the Interior  
Fax: (571) 282-7440  
From: Jessica Eby, WOLA  
Date: May 15, 2007  
Pages: 3 (including cover)

**Re: Amended letter re: Security concerns for Mr. Carlos Rosero and Ms.  
Elizabeth García of the Black Communities Process (PCN)**

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Please see the attached letter.



**CRLN**



**U.S. Office on Colombia**  
connecting civil society to policymakers



Rafael Bustamante Pérez  
Director, Human Rights Division  
Ministry of the Interior  
Cra. 8a No. 8-09, Piso 2  
Bogotá, Colombia

Via facsimile: (571) 282-7440

May 11, 2007 (amended May 15, 2006)

Dear Mr. Bustamante,

We, the undersigned organizations, are greatly concerned for the safety of Mr. Carlos Rosero and Ms. Elizabeth García, both of the Black Communities Process (PCN) in Colombia. On May 7, 2007, Mr. Rosero and Ms. García returned to their apartment in Bogotá to discover that it had been entered by unknown persons without their authorization, and that their belongings had been searched and tampered with, including their home computer. They believe that sensitive information and documents may have been copied from their home computer files, including information on ongoing human rights cases and names of victims and witnesses of such cases, which could put these individuals in danger of threats, intimidation, and violent retribution.

This is particularly concerning given the history of personal threats received by Mr. Rosero and Ms. García and other members of the Black Communities Process over the past several months. On June 16, 2006, the day that Mr. Rosero was scheduled to travel to Washington, DC to participate in an international human rights conference, Ms. García, his common law wife, was in a taxi in Bogotá when two unknown men forcibly boarded the vehicle, seized her cellphone and copied names and numbers from it, and threatened her to fear for her safety. On October 30, 2006, Washington Vladimir Angulo Cuero of the Black Communities Process (PCN), who had previously received numerous threats, was abducted in the center of Bogotá by alleged paramilitaries. According to the best of our knowledge, no one has been arrested in connection with any of the aforementioned incidents.

We urge the Ministry of the Interior to take immediate action to fully investigate the unlawful entering of the Rosero/García residence in Bogotá, including visiting the premise and obtaining all necessary evidence – fingerprints, photographs, and other documentation of the break-in – in order to successfully identify and prosecute those responsible. In addition, we urge the Ministry of the Interior to consult with Mr. Rosero and Ms. García to assure that they and other members of the PCN are provided with adequate protection mechanisms during the course of this investigation, until those responsible for the break-in are identified and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to receiving an update on the progress of the investigation, and information on increased protection mechanisms made available to Mr. Rosero, Ms. García, and other PCN staff. Their safety and security is of great concern to our respective organizations, in order that they might continue the brave work of the Black Communities Process in defense of the human rights of Afro-Colombians.

Sincerely,

Marino Cordoba and Charo Mina Rojas  
Association of Internally Displaced Afro-Colombians USA

Gary L. Cozette and Danielle E. Wegman  
Chicago Religious Leadership Network

Carlos Quesada  
Global Rights

Arturo Escobar  
Institute of Latin American Studies  
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Heather Hanson  
U.S. Office on Colombia

Gimena Sanchez and Jessica Eby  
Washington Office on Latin America

Norma Jackson  
Benedict College

Nicole Lee, James Early, and Joseph Jordan  
TransAfrica Forum

John Garces  
Un Día de Esperanza Organization

(amended May 15, 2006 to include additional signatures)