



NORDIC IN

Oslo and Stockholm, 10 March 2006

H.E. Vicente Fox Quesada
President of Mexico
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GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST NAPOLEON GOMEZ

Dear Mr President,

We have been informed by the International Metalworkers' Federation (IMF) that on March 1, Mexican Minister for Labour Francisco Javier Salazar Sáenz called for the expulsion of Napoleón Gómez Urrutia, the General Secretary of Mexican National Miners' and Metalworkers' Union (SNTMMS). The Minister's action came after Brother Gómez criticised the government and the transnational Grupo Mexico for their role in the Pasta de Conchos coal mine disaster in the northern region of Coahuila state in which 65 miners died. The Labour Ministry has since announced they no longer recognise Napoleón Gomez as the General Secretary of SNTMMS identifying an alternative leadership of the union.

It is not the business of any government to interfere with a trade union's internal affairs. The SNTMMS is an independent and democratic body, and widely respected in our global union family. Brother Napoleón Gómez is a prominent member of the IMF Executive Committee. The IMF has pledged to file a complaint to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) informing it of the Minister's actions.

On behalf of Nordic IN's 23 affiliated unions representing 1.2 million workers in the five Scandinavian countries, we express our full support to Brother Napoleón Gómez and urge you, Mr President, to use your influence to stop your government's campaign to threaten and discredit Brother Gómez and to make sure that he is reinstated as the General Secretary of his union.

Yours Sincerely,

Nordic IN

Kjell Bjørndalen
President

Jyrki Raina
General Secretary

cc *Mr Napoleón Gómez Urrutia, General Secretary, SNTMMS*
Mr Marcello Malentacchi, General Secretary, IMF
Mr Fernando Estrada Sámano, Ambassador of Mexico in Sweden,
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Nordic IN's affiliated unions