

To: Juan Fernando Cristo  
Minister of Interior  
Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Colombia  
Carrera 8 No. 7 - 83  
Bogotá DC, Colombia

Copy to:  
Embassy of the Republic of Colombia  
H. E. Mrs. Carolina Olarte Bácares  
Groot Hertoginnelaan 14  
2517 EG Den Haag

Driebergen-Rijsenburg, .....

Dear Minister of Interior,

I am writing to express my deep concern with risk faced to the life, the safety and the security of the members of civil society organisations and communities at the Magdalena Medio region of Colombia. I am particularly concerned about the situation of the Corporación Regional para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos – CREDHOS, and the Federación de Pescadores Artesanales Ambientalistas y Turísticos del Departamento de Santander – FEDEPESAN, located in Barrancabermeja. Their members continue to be attacked for defending the rights of the communities of Magdalena Medio, and the state's response remains insufficient.

I therefore urge you and other authorities to protect human rights defenders through mechanisms of prevention and collective protection, and to guarantee the safety of organisations such as CREDHOS and FEDEPESAN.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely,

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The Netherlands