



Centro de Derechos Humanos
Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, AC.

San Cristobal de Las Casas, Chiapas
October 11, 2020
Urgent Action No. 14
Versión inglés

The Mexican State persists in its failure to protect life in the Chiapan highlands.

- **One injured during at least 39 armed attacks on 10 communities of the Tsotsil Mayan People of Aldama, in two days**
- **We warn of the risk of a massacre in the territory of Aldama and hold the government of Mexico responsible.**

Today, October 11, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., Hugo Alfredo Pérez Hernández, 37 years old, from Tabak, in Aldama, Chiapas, Mexico, was wounded by a bullet impact, at the top of his ribs and in his arm, on a road in his community, when he was driving to the center of his municipality. Due to the severity of the injuries, he is at the Hospital de Las Culturas in San Cristóbal de Las Casas.

According to a report by the Permanent Commission of the 115 Displaced Community Members of Aldama, this morning the commission stated: "High caliber shots were fired from different points of attack, specifically from Volcán and T'elemax Santa Martha Chenalho, in the direction of the community of Tabak. Shots were also fired at passing cars and people. In this attack there is one new wounded person."

Throughout Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11, 2020, the Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas Human Rights Center registered at least 39 armed attacks on the following communities in Aldama: Koko', Stselejpotobtik, Juxton, Ch'ivit, Tabak, San Pedro Cotsilnam, Yeton, and Xuxch'en, Ch'ayomte' and Cabecera; from 27 points of attack in Chenalhó¹. The attacks persist up to the moment of writing.

The Permanent Commission of the 115 Displaced Community Members of Aldama denounces that the members of the National Guard and the State Police in Santa Martha, Chenalhó and Aldama are not acting effectively to stop the armed attacks and protect the population.

With Hugo Alfredo Pérez Hernández, 29 people have been injured, in addition to six killed, during high-caliber weapons attacks on communities of the Tsotsil Mayan People of Aldama, by armed civilian groups of the paramilitary court in Santa Martha, Chenalhó, since March 2018. In addition to the disappearance and subsequent execution of then Aldama municipal mayor Ignacio Pérez Girón, whose body was found on May 5, 2019, at the entrance to the Yalebtoy site in the municipality of Zinacatán.

¹ Yaxaltik, Tok'oy, Tojtik, Tulantik, Volcán, T'elemax, Tijera Caridad, El Puente, El Templo, Xchuch te', Ontik, Vale'tik, Xchuch te', K'ante', El Ladrillo, Chalontik Caridad, El Basurero, Sotzte'tik, Slumka, Pajaltoj, T'ul Vits, Telesecundaria, El Colado, Chino, Rancho Fracción Ak'tik, Panteón and Centro Santa Marha.



The persistent omission and complicity of the government of Chiapas and the federal government provokes the escalation of violence in the Highlands region; and increases the risk to the lives of the population in 13 communities in the municipality of Aldama, the majority of whom are women, children, adolescents and the elderly.

For this reason, we urge the Mexican State to:

- Provide access to comprehensive medical care for Hugo Alfredo Pérez Hernández and Artemio Pérez Pérez, as well as follow-up health care for other people injured during attacks on communities in Aldama.
- Immediately guarantee the rights to life, security, and physical and psychological integrity of the families of the Tsotsil Mayan People of the municipality of Aldama.
- Apply the United Nations Guiding Principles on Forced Displacement to provide humanitarian assistance to the forcibly displaced families of 13 communities in Aldama.
- Promptly and adequately investigate, sanction, disarm and dismantle the armed civilian groups of paramilitary nature in Chenalhó, which are directly responsible for the attacks that have caused forced displacement in the Chiapan Highlands region.
- Investigate and sanction the authorities responsible for the impunity of these acts, as well as the intellectual authors of violence of this magnitude that can lead to a massacre like that which occurred in Acteal and therefore create relations that are difficult or impossible to repair.

We ask for national and international solidarity in signing the urgent action that you will find on our website www.frayba.org.mx and/or make appeals to the Mexican State:

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