



ENHET/HANDLÄGGARE
INT/Mikael Nilsson

DATUM
2014-07-07

Juan Manuel Santos
President of the Republic of Colombia

Dear Mr President,

The Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) condemns the attack against **ÁLVARO JOSÉ VEGA**, executive member and director of the legal affairs department of the Central Unitaria de Trabajadores de Colombia (CUT).

Trade union leader **ÁLVARO JOSÉ VEGA** was hospitalised after being attacked by individuals who threw an unknown chemical substance over him, causing burns to his face, on the morning of 26 June in the city of Cali.

The Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) is outraged by this physical assault on a trade union colleague, which once again demonstrates the lack of guarantees for trade unionists and the persistence of the violence against the Colombian trade union movement.

This latest incident illustrates that the violence against trade union leaders in Colombia remains a serious problem and that Colombian trade unionists do not enjoy the basic guarantees required to exercise the right to freedom of association.

The Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) condemns this fresh attack against the Colombian trade union movement and supports the urgent appeal made by the **National Executive of the CUT**, urging the national, departmental and local governments to respond to this crime, ensuring that it is properly investigated and that those responsible are brought to justice, and to take every action necessary to guarantee the constitutional right to freedom of association.

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Landsorganisationen i Sverige

Yours sincerely

THE SWEDISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (LO)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson', written in a cursive style.

Karl – Petter Thorwaldsson
President