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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Title/Style of Cause:	Oscar Gonzalez Anchurayco and members of the Community of San Mateo de Huanchor v. Peru
Doc. Type:	Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated:	17 August 2004
Citation:	Gonzalez Anchurayco v. Peru, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.122, doc. 5 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 44 (2004)
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44. On August 17, 2004, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of Oscar González Anchurayco and members of the Community of San Mateo de Huanchor. Available information indicates that the living conditions, health, food, farming and livestock of five indigenous campesino communities, comprised of more than 5,000 families, would be severely affected by deposits from an open-air mine in the vicinity of the Rimac River. The studies conducted by the Department of Environmental Health of the Ministry of Health conclude that the cumulative power and chronic effect of arsenic, lead, and cadmium in the deposits generated a high risk of exposure for the communities of the zone; that environmental pollution is affecting the health of the dwellers of the communities; and that children are suffering from very high levels of lead concentration in their blood. In view of the risks to the beneficiaries, the Commission granted precautionary measures to protect the life and personal safety of Oscar González Anchurayco and the members of the Community of San Mateo de Huanchor. Likewise, the Commission requested the Peruvian State to implement a health assistance and care program for the population, particularly for children, to identify the persons who might have been affected by the consequences of pollution and provide the relevant medical care; and to begin transferring the deposits in accordance with the best technical conditions as determined by the relevant environmental impact study.