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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
Session: Hundred Twenty-Second Regular Session (23 February – 11 March 2005)  
Title/Style of Cause: Tacana Indigenous Community v. Bolivia  
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures  
Dated: 11 March 2005  
Citation: Tacana Indigenous Community v. Bolivia, Inter-Am. C.H.R.,  
OEA/Ser.L/V/II.124, doc. 5, Ch. III, para. 12 (2005)

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12. On March 11, 2005, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the Tacana indigenous community of Miraflores (Riberalta), a group comprising 53 families (270 people) settled on Multiethnic Indigenous Territory II (“TIM II”) in Gonzalo Moreno municipality of Madre de Dios province, Pando department, in the Northern Amazon region of Bolivia, and on behalf of members of the Center for Juridical Studies and Social Investigation (CEJIS). The information available indicates that on December 17, 2004, armed individuals attacked and violently evicted 50 members of the Miraflores indigenous community, set fire to their homes, made threats against them, and occupied a part of the community’s land. Subsequently, on January 5, 2006, thirty armed individuals with ties to the Riberalta Agroforestry Association (ASAGRI) forcibly entered the offices of the CEJIS, made death threats, and ransacked and destroyed office equipment and documents that proved the existence of a large estate in the Northern Amazon region. During this incident the armed individuals gave the CEJIS a deadline of “48 hours to get out of Riberalta” and threatened to harm Cliver Rocha, the person responsible for the office, if he ever returned to the municipality. In light of the risks facing the beneficiaries, the IACHR asked the Bolivian State to adopt the measures necessary to ensure the lives and personal integrity of the Tacana and Cavineño indigenous community of Miraflores (Riberalta) and to guarantee the physical integrity of CEJIS members Carlos Gustavo Romero Bonifaz, Leonardo Tamburini, Ignacio Franco Semo, Mónica Lijerón Aponte, Mabel Herrera Montaña, Leslie Peñarrieta Justiniano, Juan Carlos Mérida Romero, and Margot Céspedes, including the installation of a police guard post for the indigenous community during the nut harvest and a permanent police guard post at the offices of CEJIS in the municipalities of Riberalta (Beni department) and Cobija (Pando department). The Commission also asked the State to conduct an exhaustive investigation of the reported acts of intimidation and threats. On May 11, 2005, the IACHR requested that the precautionary measures be amplified in favor of Cesar Blanco Álvarez and Oscar Vargas Herrera, two lawyers connected with the CEJIS office in Santa Cruz de la Sierra. The Commission continues to monitor the situation of the beneficiaries.