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Title/Style of Cause: Four Families of COTRAGROBLAN v. Colombia
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19. On September 1, 2006, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the Mause, Rodríguez, Bravo Pertuz, and Tordecilla Cordero families, all members of the Blanquicet Agricultural Workers' Cooperative (COTRAGROBLAN) in the municipality of Turbo. The available information indicates that in 1998, 12 families belonging to the COTRAGROBLAN cooperative were violently ejected from the "La Esperanza" farm in the municipality of Turbo. Four of these families, who are still living in the area, were subjected to intimidation by armed civilians who wanted to legalize their ownership of the property belonging to the evicted families. The four families fear reprisals for not obeying the paramilitaries who took possession of the farm and for taking judicial action to recover their property. The IACHR requested that the Government of Colombia adopt the measures necessary to protect the life and physical integrity of the beneficiaries and report on the action it has taken to judicially investigate the events that gave rise to the precautionary measures. The Commission is monitoring the beneficiaries' situation.