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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
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Title/Style of Cause: Inhabitants of the Community of Santo Domingo Ixcatlan v. Mexico
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated: 19 May 2008
Citation: Community of Santo Domingo v. Mexico, PM 113/08, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.134, doc. 5 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 30 (2008)

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30. On May 19, 2008, the IACHR granted the request for precautionary measures for 60 inhabitants of the municipality of Santo Domingo Ixcatlan in the state of Oaxaca. The request seeking precautionary measures alleges that the people of the town of Santo Domingo have been victims of serious acts of violence committed by lawless armed groups with ties to local authorities. The request further alleges that on April 30, 2008, 40 armed men killed Gustavo Castañeda Martínez, Melesio Martínez Robles and Inocencio Medina Bernabé, who were burned to death and dismembered. The request names 60 witnesses, relatives and friends of the victims, said to have received death threats from the alleged perpetrators. The Commission asked the Mexican state to take the measures necessary to guarantee the life and physical integrity of the 60 people on whose behalf the precautionary measures were granted, and to report what measures have been taken to conduct a judicial inquiry into the events that prompted adoption of precautionary measures. On June 8, 2008, the Commission decided to amplify the precautionary measures to cover another 117 inhabitants of Santo Domingo Ixcatlan who had allegedly received death threats. The Commission continues to monitor the situation.