

Dear Brother LaVenture:

By this communication, the National Executive Committee, General Council of Vigilance and Justice, as well as the Special and Zone Delegates of the National Miners' and Metalworkers' Union of the Mexican Republic, express our solidarity with the comrades of the United Steelworkers and the other unions that find themselves in the process of negotiations with the company ASARCO, affiliate of Grupo Mexico, in five locals in Arizona and Texas.

We understand that our Steelworker brothers and sisters have maintained a permanent mobilization against the Company's intentions to nullify gains for workers, which include the imposition of drug and alcohol testing, changes in the attendance policy, a reduction in the number of permitted absences in the case of a family medical emergency, elimination of labor-management civil rights committees and radical changes in the grievance procedure, among other things.

These actions do not surprise us, given Grupo Mexico's permanent campaign against our union and against me personally, which ultimately includes the repeated refusal to retrieve the bodies of our brothers who perished in the Pasta de Conchos mine and the repression of three strikes in Section 17 of Taxco, Guerrero; 201 of Sombrerete, Zacatecas, and 65 of Cananea, Sonora, which comprise of more than six years of resistance against the Company's harassment and aggression. There is no doubt that there is no other possible response to the repression of Grupo Mexico and its owner, the criminal Germán Larrea Mota Velasco, except a common front of all the workers and unions of the USA, Mexico, and Peru.

The National Miners' and Metalworkers' Union and all of our affiliates reaffirm our disposition of supporting and accompanying our brothers and sisters of the Steelworkers at ASARCO in the way and at the moment that they deem it convenient, so that our past will be respected and our future assured.

We bid farewell to you, repeating our support and the best wishes for a fast and favorable resolution.

In solidarity,

Executive National Committee  
Napoleón Gómez Urrutia  
President and Secretary General

Sergio Beltrán Reyes  
Secretary of the Interior, Exterior, and Acts

Juan Linares Montufar  
Secretary of the General Council of Vigilance and Justice