



Good Food, Good Life

Colombia: trade unionist attacked, life at risk, Amnesty International, June 19 2014, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AMR23/025/2014/en/f338da48-edf9-4ecb-a7a7-6e1bff2841b0/amr230252014en.html>

Background

On 16th June 2014, armed assailants confronted an employee of Nestlé's Bugalagrande factory, José Onofre Esquivel Luna, while he was travelling by car in the city of Medellín. Mr. Esquivel Luna is also the vice president of the Sinaltrainal trade union. His bodyguards shot and killed one of the attackers and injured the other. The driver of a passing bus was also injured in the incident. The Ministry of Labour has issued a communication condemning this act of violence and has requested that the judicial authorities investigate with celerity. Nestlé Colombia has asked the local authorities to pursue their investigation and to bring to justice all who may have been involved.

Nestlé response

The security and safety of all of our employees are the top priorities for our company.

We are relieved that José Onofre Esquivel Luna was not harmed in this extremely disturbing incident and we have assured him of our continued solidarity and support.

We have asked the local judicial authorities and police to pursue their investigation and to bring to justice all who may have been involved.

Unfortunately violence has been widespread in Colombia in the past years; affecting trade union leaders, members of our local management team, other employees and their relatives. We emphatically reject any form of violence or intimidation against any employee of our company and will continue to work with local trade unions to ensure the safety of all of our employees.