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## Pronouncement

### The Lutheran World Federation Condemns Murder in San Mateo Ixtatán, Huehuetengo, Guatemala

The Lutheran World Federation, World Service, Central America Program (Federación Luterana Mundial, Servicio Mundial, Programa Centro América (FLM/SM CA)) condemns the murder of 72 year-old Sebastián Alonzo Juan last Tuesday, January 17, 2017 in San Mateo Ixtatán, Huehuetengo, Guatemala.

The event happened during a peaceful demonstration in San Mateo Ixtatán, Huehuetengo in which the citizens were expressing their discontent regarding the hydroelectric projects Pojom I y II, San Andrés led by the Enterprise “Promoción y Desarrollo Hídrico” S.A. (PDHSA) with its power plants Rio S.A., San Matero S.A. and San Andrés S.A.

As faith based organization we request:

- To respect the rights of communities and to respect and comply with the human rights of the citizens when they demand them. Under this framework, we believe that all people have the right of peaceful demonstrations to demand protection of their natural resources in order to live in a dignified manner.
- To respect the rights of the indigenous communities that historically has been violated.
- To conduct a prompt, just and efficient investigation to clear up and explain the murder of Sebastián Alonzo Juan.
- To end the violence against the communities when they organize demonstrations to demand respect and compliance of their rights.
- To stop these types of projects because they do not help in the development of the communities, but instead they violate their rights causing more injustice, exclusion and poverty.
- That the international community pronounces before the government of Guatemala and the international human rights protection organizations and demand to stop these acts that violate vulnerable people and communities.
- We demand to guarantee the means to save people’s lives that are affected by this type of violent acts. According to the information gathered regarding the death of Alonzo Juan, there was no assistance given and his death resulted in an agonizing process because of the lack of assistance.

San Salvador, 18 de enero de 2016  
Federación Luterana Mundial/Servicio Mundial  
Programa Centroamérica