

Dear Secretary Buenrostro:

The United States requests, pursuant to Article 31-A.4.2 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), that Mexico conduct a review of whether a Denial of Rights is occurring to workers at a facility operated by Manufacturas VU (the Company), located in Piedras Negras, State of Coahuila (the Facility). As defined in USMCA Article 31-A.2, a Denial of Rights occurs when workers are being denied the right of free association and collective bargaining under laws necessary to fulfill a Party's obligations under the USMCA.

The United States is concerned that workers at the Facility are being denied the right of free association and collective bargaining in relation to the Company's policies and practices that interfere with workers' union activities. Specifically, the Company's actions support and tend to favor one union, CTM,<sup>1</sup> and disfavor the newly representative union, LSOM.<sup>2</sup> For instance, it appears that the Company is affording CTM greater and easier access to the Facility and LSOM more limited and restricted access; that the Company has a practice of permitting supporters of CTM to engage in union activity during working hours, while disciplining or preventing supporters of LSOM from the same; and that the company has a practice of criticizing LSOM and expressing to workers the Company's preference for CTM. The United States is concerned that this apparent Denial of Rights has negatively affected the ongoing collective bargaining process between the Company and LSOM.

The actions, statements, and omissions encompassed by this request for review include those of any person or entity, including the Company and the unions, and any of their employees, representatives, or agents.

If Mexico were to determine that there is a Denial of Rights, the United States further requests, pursuant to USMCA Article 31-A.4.2, that Mexico attempt to remediate within 45 days of this request.

We look forward to receiving Mexico's notification of whether it intends to conduct the requested review.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria Maquiladora y de la Industria Nacional de Accesorios y Maquinaria Pesada y Manufactura de Muebles Metálicos del Estado de Coahuila, C.T.M.

<sup>2</sup> La Liga Sindical Obrera Mexicana.

<sup>3</sup> USMCA Article 31-A.4.2 ("The respondent Party shall have 10 days to notify the complainant Party as to whether it intends to conduct a review.").