UNITED STEELWORKERS

UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS •

July 22, 2008

Dr. Ray R. Irani Chairman, President & CEO Occidental Petroleum 10889 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90024-4201

Re: <u>Human Rights Violations in Colombia</u>

Dear Dr. Irani:

We are writing to express our concern with Occidental's complicity in human rights abuses in Colombia, abuses which have been the subject of numerous human rights reports, including by Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, and which are now the subject of the Popular People's Tribunal (PPT) in Colombia. We stand in solidarity with the labor and human rights groups involved in the PPT and with their desire to get to the bottom of the participation of companies such as Occidental in serious abuses in Colombia.

First, we would like to express our continued concern with the role of Occidental in the December 13, 1998 bombing of Santo Domingo, a role well-documented by Amnesty International and the *Los Angeles Times*. To this day, Occidental has failed to account for its role in that bombing, much less offer reparations to the town of Santo Domingo and to the families of the 17 civilians, including 7 children, killed in that incident. We urge Occidental to come clean about the full extent of its involvement in that massacre and to make reparations to those who continue to suffer from it.

We are also concerned about Occidental's support for Colombia's 18th Army Brigade, a unit which has committed numerous atrocities in Arauca, including the August 2004 murder of three union leaders in cold blood. We also remain concerned with Occidental's past support for the Colombian military's attempts to have individuals from Colombia's U'Wa tribe forcibly removed from their land to make way for Occidental's pipelines, and by the current threats of Ecopetrol, with which Occidental has partnered in Colombia, to do the same.

We urge Occidental Petroleum to act responsibly in Colombia with regard to its labor and human rights policies. And, in this regard, we urge Occidental to abide by the findings and recommendations of the PPT in Colombia.

Thank you for your attention in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Gerard International President Gary Beevers

Vice President - Oil Sector