Media release, Rights Action July 5, 2009, 7am

HONDURAN PRESIDENT MEL ZELAYA TO RETURN TODAY! HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF HONDURANS WILL GO TO AIRPORT TO MEET HIM

FOR INFORMATION & INTERVIEWS, Contact Grahame Russell (Rights Action co-director) in Honduras. From North America, dial: 011 504 9507-3835

After an extra-ordinary session of the OAS (Organization of American States) late last night, President Mel Zelaya of Honduras declared he would return to Honduras today.

The de facto government of Honduras, in place since the military coup of June 28, have vowed that if President Zelaya enters Honduras, he will be detained, arrested and charged with a laundry list of crimes.

Yesterday, between 100,000 and 200,000 Honduran marched from the center of Tegucigalpa, near the National Palace (seat of the government) to the airport to wait for "Mel" (as the President as known as).yesterday's march was peaceful and upbeat. Honduras has never seen such a massive groundswell movement. It was more than inspiring to be accompanying and observing this process.

Today, as many, if not more Hondurans will do the same – in support of their returning President.

LIKELY SCENARIOS?

No one is clear what will happen.

Will the army and police crack down on the pro-democracy and President Zelaya supporters?

Will the army and police shut the airport, and not let any planes land? Will they let planes land, and if President Zelaya appears, arrest him? ???

For back ground, see Honduras Military Coup Alerts at www.rightsaction.org

Grahame Russell will try and send updates through the day ... though it may be difficult.

FOR INFORMATION & INTERVIEWS, Contact Grahame Russell (Rights Action co-director) in Honduras. From North America, dial: 011 504 9507-3835