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Dominican Republic: Primary School Teachers On Strike

by John Neagle

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On Feb. 13, 32,500 primary school teachers launched a 72-hour strike to protest low salaries. The strike was organized by the Dominican Teachers Association. On Feb. 15, local media sources said the teachers had threatened to make the strike indefinite if government officials refuse to discuss their demands. Association secretary general Rafael Santos told reporters that the teachers are willing to meet with President Joaquin Balaguer only, and that only concrete proposals to resolve the conflict would be accepted as agenda items. He also warned that 11,000 teachers may resign in the next few hours in protest over abysmally low salaries. An estimated 1.5 million students have been affected by the strike. (Basic data from Xinhua, 02/15/89)

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