

**Ramirez Meci**

**Name:** Ramirez Meci

**Date of Birth:** January 24, 1977

**Place of Birth:** Jacmel (Haiti)

**Year entered DR:** November 2000

**How he entered DR:** mountain-pass to Pedernales (DR)

**Cost of coming across:** 5,000 pesos to a “buscón”

**Company:** Central Romana

**Name of batey:** Batey No.16 (El Seybo)

**Average pay:** 900-1000 pesos per week.

**Personal documents:** has no documents, only the company ID

**Family:** has a wife in the batey they are separated has three children.

**Date of interview:** January 24, 2014

The interview took place on the date of his birthday, he didn't remember; he said “no one ever remembers my birthday, when you are far from the family nothing has any meaning”. In spite of having three children he feels he is totally alone; he is not sure it was worth coming out of Haiti. He has never been back.

He said he thinks he has medical insurance but has no papers to prove it. He can go to local company medical-posts if there is a medical emergency and the Social Security Hospital in La Romana.

He pays for membership in the trade-union (mandatory) but doesn't who the leaders are, has never participated in any meetings; has no pension. Though his children were born in the DR and his wife is Dominican, the children are undocumented because the mother's parents were Haitian.

There is no school in his batey; nearest is in El Prado (5 km distance). No electricity in the batey.