**Transcription of Diary**

Pseudonym: Martina

Time during which the diary was held: December 2022 - Marzo 2023  
 \*Several entries along this long period of time

Additional notes: Martina had the diary for a long time because she told me that one family member got sick, and then the winter holidays came, so she could not write as much as she would have liked at first. The diary can therefore be observed as three different but connecting diaries completed during different moments.

TRANSCRIPTION

**\*First page with introduction:**

My name is: Martina

I am 65 years old

I belong to the Water Defence Committee

I live in Pedregal de Santo Domingo

**19 December 2022**

Today is a very important day for the whole Committee because today the first tests will be done on the well.

There is indeed great excitement because tests have been done and the well is working. They have to let out all the water that contains sediment and once they see that the water comes out clear without sediment, it will be connected to the network to see how the supply works.

Before the first tests were done, work was done to connect the well to the drinking water network. Unfortunately, we could not be present because these are risky works as electrical connections are made where problems can occur.

To compensate for this situation, SACMEX (the organisation that regulates water in the city) presented an explanation to all the members of the Committee in which they explained how the well was connected to the network. And we were all able to physically see how the connections were made, as the work was left open so that we could all observe how the work was done and ask questions about any doubts we might have. Everything turned out satisfactorily and the neighbours were very pleased.

We are happy to see that we are just a few steps away from the completion of the water well project.

Today was very important for the whole Committee and for many neighbours who have suffered from the lack of water. SACMEX informs us that today the water extraction tests will begin and the system has already been connected to the network.

I could not be present as I had other commitments, but Waldo told me that the tests have started successfully and that they will be carried out for 2 or 3 days to see how the system works. At last, we see our work is almost finished.

**20 December 2022**

Lately, we have had problems with the authorities of SACMEX to solve the problems with the neighbours adjacent to the water well because they don't solve anything and only give them delays in their answers. We have not been able to contact X of SACMEX and the neighbours are already very desperate as they are not getting a response.

Waldo tells us that tomorrow there will be a meeting at the well with Y at eleven in the morning.

**21 December 2022**

We attended the meeting with Y from the Mayor's Office and authorities from SACMEX.

Mr. Y thanked the Water Defence Committee for their persistence in the construction of the well.

The work is almost finished, but there are still problems with the neighbours who live next to the well. The Mayor's Office is committed to working together and more directly to resolve the problems with the neighbours.

It caught my attention that they summoned a representative of the COPACOS (community groups of citizen participation) and it turns out that they say they are working in favour of the construction of the well (it is not true, they are one of the groups that always put their foot down and opposed it. They even went so far as to oppose it by telling people that the well was for the Azteca stadium) but now that it is almost finished they want to claim that they also cooperated, I don't know why, but there will be many people like them.

Several security measures were also proposed in this meeting to avoid vandalism in and around the well.

The Committee continues to monitor which streets have water and which do not.

**23 December 2022**

A meeting of the Water Committee was convened to report that the well was delivered and everything was satisfactory and also began testing the supply through the network so they are asked to be aware of the supply and asked to make reports on how and when the water begins to arrive regularly.

We also asked for the cooperation of all the members of the Committee to cooperate with the work required by the adjacent neighbours, although to date we have not heard from SACMEX to resolve the matter. The Committee and the Mayor's Office are willing to cooperate with work and materials so that the problem with these neighbours can be resolved.

The whole Committee expressed their great happiness and satisfaction for the conclusion of the water well works.

We are just waiting to see what date they will give us for the official inauguration.

It was also reported that the walling had already been removed in the construction of the well and only a few details remain to be worked out.

**26 December 2022**

We are pleased to receive the news that today will be the official handover of the well from the authorities of SACMEX and the construction company to the authorities of Coyoacan. With this handover, the commitment of SACMEX regarding the work is concluded, but the works in the houses of the neighbours adjacent to the water well is still pending.

Waldo made a statement about the delivery of the well to be sent to the press. The news will say that SACMEX delivers water well to Santo Domingo.

Water for the people, not for the real estate developers!

(If you want, I'll send it to you if you think it might be useful)

**29 December 2022**

The Committee has detected some technical faults in the water well.

* The lighting is failing
* The water tank is leaking
* There are no no-parking signs
* The finishing work has not been completed along the edge where the wall used to be.

All this is reported to SACMEX

They replied that they have already informed the construction company so that everything can be corrected.

**19 January 2023**

It is now January and we still have no date for the meeting with the central government and SACMEX to solve the problem of the neighbours.

Mr. Beni got a meeting with Z from SACMEX, who is from another area but he promised to lend us a hand to solve the problem. He says that there is only a budget of $10,000 to do the work in the neighbours’ homes, and we told him that this is fine but that he should hand over the budget to them soon to conclude the matter.

We informed Mr A of the meeting with SACMEX and they agreed to cooperate with the Mayor's office to solve the problem.

**20 January 2023**

There is still no date for the meeting, the government officials just blame each other between departments and nobody has responded. We have pressed hard for the meeting to take place, but there is no response.

**23 January 2023**

Again a meeting was called with the authorities and the adjoining neighbours, but no agreement was reached.

**14 February 2023**

Once again a meeting is called to discuss the problem of the neighbours.

Good news: it seems that now an agreement has been reached and money will be given to the neighbours to carry out the work on their houses. Everyone agreed AT LAST.

**15 February 2023**

At last, the neighbours reported that they have received the money to carry out the pending works in their houses and they were all satisfied.

The best of all is that there was no need to use the economic cooperation that was provided by the Committee and there was no need for the Mayor's Office to carry out any extra work.

It took a lot of work and many hours but the problem was finally solved.

One more point for the Committee

**March 13 2023**

It seemed that everything was fine with the neighbours regarding the water supply until 13 March when the neighbours started to report that they had no water and started to report that they had been without water for several days.

I personally found this very strange as they had not reported anything before. I contacted Waldo and told him my doubts and it is really very strange because even if Mexico City reports a drought it has nothing to do with the well. He told me that he agreed, even other members of the organisation had already made comments to him, he told me that a meeting with the Committee was urgently needed, that he would convene it the next day, and we agreed.

**March 14 2021**

We met with the Committee and the neighbours are desperate because some of them have been without water for almost a month now. I think at this point it is important to recognise that we stopped following up with the neighbours and the organisation and we did not know about the situation.

The neighbours were asked to start making reports again.

Whoever needed a water truck should ask for one and the Mayor's Office and SACMEX would send them.

A meeting was requested with the authorities to try to find a solution to the problem.

We believe that again "someone" is manipulating the valves and that is why there are failures in the supply.

**March 25 2023**

We have been working with the supply by trucks, but it is not what we expect, in the last week from 19 to 25 March it has been reported that the water has arrived with very little pressure and only for hours (2 or 3 hours).

In my opinion, it is angering that the authorities do not comply with the agreements. We worked hard and for years for the construction of the well and it turns out that we are, in some areas, as we were at the beginning, without water. I believe that our work is not finished, we must insist with the authorities to normalise the water supply and demand this right from them.

We are still waiting for the meeting with the authorities of the Mayor's Office and SACMEX, but we will continue working.

Unfortunately, Easter week is coming but we won't take our finger off the ball.