

Spanish official sacked for insulting nun

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MADRID, April 13 (Reuter) - A Spanish official was sacked after he told a distraught nun who phoned his ministry seeking information about colleagues trapped in Rwanda : "We are not here to look for lost nuns in the jungle".

A statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Alvaro Ozores had been sacked and faced disciplinary procedures for his response to a call from a member of the Missionary Sisters of Jesus, Mary and Joseph on Sunday.

Sister Dolores Garcia phoned the ministry to ask for urgent help for three nuns trapped in a hospital at Kibuye, in Rwanda. She lodged a complaint after Ozores brushed her off.

"The ministry considers that the treatment meted out by Alvaro Ozores was not in keeping with his responsibilities and correct, diplomatic procedures," said the statement released late on Tuesday.

Ozores apologised for his remark in a letter sent to the ministry. He said it was possible that "after so many calls, I gave an improper response as a result of the tiredness caused by the situation".

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