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## PEACE MAIL

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### WEEKLY UPDATE: Implementing the Peace Accords

The final peace accord contains a three-pronged approach to ensuring fulfillment of commitments included in the text: the *Commission for Monitoring, Promotion, and Verification of the Implementation of the Peace Accord* (CSIVI), the *National Reincorporation Council* (CNR) and the GOC-FARC-UN tripartite *Monitoring and Verification Mechanism* (MM&V). This callout box includes a weekly update on releases and work related to these supports for implementing the peace accords in Colombia.

“Marco Calarcá” (an alias), a FARC-EP representative in the MM&V announced that the guerrilla group has not ruled out the possibility of **staying in the transitional zones after they have laid down their arms**. He noted that they may decide to begin their reincorporation processes in these zones, and part of the transition after D+180 (180 days after the designated “D Day” of December 1, 2016) would require re-naming the sites. Both sides have been hinting at such an extension in these geographic regions, though no firm commitments have been made.<sup>1</sup>

The UN, FARC-EP, and the GOC **completed the registration and identification of all FARC-EP arms** within the transitional zones. Work has also begun on extracting the arms from the guerrillas weapons caches in the territories.<sup>2</sup>

Last week, DAICMA (the GoC institution responsible for demining initiatives) completed the first training of nearly 1,500 former FARC-EP members as part of the **humanitarian demining project** in which the guerrillas will participate under the organizational name *Humanicemos*. This work currently takes place in 207 of the 673 municipalities contaminated with explosive artefacts of war. As a point of reference, there are 1,122 municipalities in total in Colombia.<sup>3</sup>

### Update on minors exiting FARC-EP ranks

Paula Gaviria of the High Council for Human Rights announced that the minors who exit the FARC-EP camps will not be removed from the program once they reach their 18<sup>th</sup> birthdays, which takes into account the fact that they group up within the context of the war (the majority who have exited are between 16 and 17 years old). For example, five of the 60 minors that have to-date left the FARC-EP transitional zones have aged into adulthood, but will remain within the program designed for minors. Of the first 13 minors that left the guerrilla’s ranks, eight are already with their families and the remainder remain under the protection of the Colombian Family Welfare Institute.<sup>4</sup>

### ELN peace delegation addresses public participation and de-escalation of conflict amid another attack

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, the ELN peace delegation responded to a letter from three NGOs, which expressed concerns about the process for public participation in the peace dialogues. The delegation responded that the route has not yet been determined, but that they are developing a process currently termed “Preliminary Hearings,” through which they will receive and process initiatives, proposals, and shared experiences.<sup>5</sup> The

same day, an attack on the Colombian Army in the department of Cauca, which was attributed to the ELN, resulted in one soldier killed and one injured.<sup>6</sup> Following, on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, the ELN peace delegation announced that, although the guerrilla group's Central Command has clearly stated that it will *not* stop kidnapping practices due to its need to continue financing the group's activities, it nonetheless plans to address de-escalation of conflict beginning in the second round of talks. The first round just concluded earlier in the month.<sup>7</sup>