

July 18-24 2017

#### **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.

Implementation of Point One of the accord (Rural Reform) began with the **Development Plans with a Territorial Approach (PDET)**, initiated with a Presidential Visit to Morelia, Caquetá on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. The goal of these PDET is to attend to areas of the country most dramatically affected by the armed conflict; additionally, they are designed to involve the communities in the design and definition of their own needs. An estimated 5,000 meetings over the next 6-7 months, covering 11,000 hamlets (summing to 170 municipalities and, ultimately, 16 sub-regions) will roll up to the final report, slated to be completed by April of 2018. Projects addressing the immediate needs of these communities have a budgeted \$30 billion COP (roughly \$10m USD) in projected backing.<sup>1</sup>

FARC leader Iván Márquez announced that **the FARC political party name will be released on September 1<sup>st</sup>** of this year, after the August conference of the group. Between July 23-26, 61 members of the FARC Central Command meet to flesh out the details of the fledgling contribution to a peaceful, democratic solution. The conference will end with a symbolic political act in Plaza Bolívar. In August, the ex-guerrillas will have their first conference as a political party, in part to determine who will advance in the political candidate selection processes.<sup>2</sup>

On Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, **CSIVI selected the eight women who would form the Special Instance** responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Gender Approach included in the Final Accord between the GoC and the FARC. Three women from the following organizations will comprise the *territorial representation*: Union of (Female) Colombian Citizens (Antioquia), Araucan Women Workers Association (Arauca), and Andino-Amazonian Women (Putumayo). The Commission of Indigenous Women, and Women for Peace will have two representatives serving at the *national level*. Diverse Colombia has a representative who focuses on the LGBTI sectors, and Narrar para Vivir has a representative for female victims. The formal launch of this Special Instance occurs on July 28<sup>th</sup>.<sup>3</sup>

On Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, Decree 1252 passed was issued in order to facilitate the release of incarcerated FARC beneficiaries of the Amnesty Law. The Decree limits the wait time for release to 10 days after the initiation of the request by the prisoner.<sup>4</sup>

#### **FARC and ex-paramilitary leaders meet in Bogotá**

On Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, FARC and former paramilitary leaders met in Bogotá to discuss shared contributions to the historic truth of the armed conflict. Three representatives from each group gathered

along with the Secretary of the CSIVI for more than three hours to discuss how they might contribute to reconciliation, and determined that the priority should be in supporting a collective truth of what has occurred. The meeting of these two historically tenacious enemy groups is significant, and has been named by experts as an “entry way to true national reconciliation.”<sup>5</sup> <sup>6</sup>

### **Third round of GoC-ELN talks begin with hopes for eventual ceasefire**

On Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, the third round of talks between the GoC and the ELN began in Quito, Ecuador, and is expected to continue over the next 45 days. The end of this round of talks coincides with the Pope’s visit to Colombia and the priority for negotiations is to establish a bilateral ceasefire – at the very least a temporary one – ahead of the arrival of Pope Francisco in September.<sup>7</sup>