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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.

On Monday, July 11th, President Juan Manuel Santos signed a decree granting amnesty to 3,252 former FARC members currently in the transitional zones. **The total number of ex-guerrillas who have received amnesty is now 7,400.** The total amnestied by decree is 6,005 (decrees apply to those in the transitional zones), and by judicial order, 1,400 (applies to political prisoners). Roughly 1,000 former guerrillas still await their amnesty in the transitional zones, and another 1,700 in the prisons.¹

The MM&V is currently locating and destroying the roughly 900 reported weapons caches of the FARC, with information in hand on an estimated 660 of those. As of Monday, July 10th, 94 had already been extracted and another 6 were in process of extraction. The MM&V has until September 1st to finish locating and extracting the remaining caches.²

The **socioeconomic census of the FARC-EP in the transitional zones**, which was a provision delineated in the final accord, **was completed by the National University.** The results were released during the first week in July, and ranged from basic statistics on demographic composition (10,015 total guerrillas, of which 7,748 are male), to levels of education, familial composition, race, past political participation in the legal domain, and post-demobilization plans. Additionally, 3,305 reported at least one form of physical limitation, among the most common of which are blindness, respiratory or cardiac problems, and problems with hearing and/or mobility.³

On Monday, July 10th, **the United Nations approved a second verification mission in Colombia**, charged with verifying several points of the final accord, with a focus on the political, economic, and social reincorporation of the FARC-EP and guarantees for their personal and collective security. It will begin September 26, 2017, immediately following the termination of the first MM&V, and last for 12 months.⁴

Six wounded in explosives attack by FARC-EP dissidents

At least six persons – two soldiers and four civilians – were injured in an explosives attack attributed to FARC-EP dissidents in the department of San Jose de Guaviare on Sunday, July 9th. The explosive device was planted among trash in a rural sector of the El Capricho locality, and was detonated remotely.⁵

Conversations continue on the possibility of an ELN-GoC ceasefire

Chief negotiator for the GoC in the ELN peace talks in Quito, Ecuador, Juan Camilo Restrepo, announced on Saturday, July 9th, that the possibility of a bilateral ceasefire with the ELN was still on the table, but was conditional on a cessation of hostilities on their part – including kidnapping. ELN chief representative in the talks has also expressed a willingness to engage in a ceasefire, catalyzed by requests from various sectors for one ahead of the Pope's visit in September. Conversations between the two sides will begin again in the second week of July.⁶