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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.

The High Commissioner for Peace, Sergio Jaramillo, held a press conference on Monday, March 6th, along with Transitional Zone Manager, Carlos Córdoba and Commander of the Strategic Transitional Command, General Javier Flórez. The men addressed the **delays in constructing the transitional zones**, citing three reasons in particular: 1) some zones were identified only weeks ago; 2) some are very difficult to access; and 3) in many of the camps, the FARC commanders are obstructing development of the camps through, primarily, not completing obligations on their end and requesting materials and structures that were not previously agreed upon between the two sides. In turn, Rodrigo Londoño (ex-alias “Timochenko”) cited a lack of GOC commitment to the process as the principal reason for the delays in constructing the transitional zones.¹

On March 1st, the **United Nations began registering FARC-EP weapons** in all 26 of the transitional zones. First, the mission must register the weapons; then it may begin to formally disarm the guerrillas. The first arms to be registered are those that are in the possession of each member of the FARC-EP, though they do not plan to record the names of the individuals who have the weapons. The United Nations also asserted that they still plan to complete the process of receiving FARC-EP arms by May 29th, which would conform to the D+180 original timeline (“D-Day” being December 1, 2016).²

Leading up to the first round of minors exiting the FARC-EP transitional zones in 2017, the **National Reincorporation Council (CNR) released its third Communiqué**. In the document, the CNR noted that there were advances in the plans for releasing minors, that the minors would be brought to transitional zones, and that they would begin the “Differential life path” program which re-establishes their rights, provides comprehensive reparations, and facilitates reincorporation and social inclusion. The CNR also called on broader society to be willing to support the youth in their transition, and to respect their anonymity given their minor status.³

First group of minors in FARC ranks exits transitional zones

The International Committee of the Red Cross received a group of adolescents exiting FARC-EP transitional zones, who were then treated by physicians and moved to receiving centers.⁴ The transfer of these minors, which occurred on Saturday, March 4th, took place in the Northwestern region of the country, and was realized with the support of IOM, UNICEF, the National Council for Reincorporation (NCR), and the Presidential Council for Human Rights. Within the purview of the “Differential Life Path” program, recently approved by the NCR, the minors will begin the transitional process of social inclusion and reincorporation.⁵