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AGREEMENT ON JOINT COMMUNICATIONS, THE ROUNDTABLE FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND THE THEMATIC COMMITTEE BETWEEN THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA

Communication No. 1, Uribe, Meta, 25 October 1999

The spokespeople for the national government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People's Army (*Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia – Ejército Popular*, FARC–EP) for the Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation inform the public of the following:

In line with the first point on the agreed common agenda, the parties reiterate our desire and resolve to work on the Agenda for the Transition to a New Colombia and the mechanism for public participation in the peace process via the Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation, which will allow us to agree on adequate conditions to find a negotiated political solution to the Colombian conflict.

We believe our country's priority is the reconciliation of all Colombians, building a state based on social justice.

To keep the public duly informed, we have agreed joint communications of the meetings will be issued in order to express the agreements that are reached in a single voice.

A commission has been established to present the Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation with a proposal regarding the methodology to be used for talks, logistic requirements and other necessary aspects. The commission comprises the coordinators of the National Thematic Committee, Néstor Humberto Martínez and Iván Ríos.

The national government will present a proposal for the communication of the peace process to the Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation to allow it to make a decision.

The role of the National Thematic Committee as an instrument for public participation in the peace process was clearly established. The committee will be directed by the Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation and will not be entitled to make decisions regarding issues on the

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agenda for negotiations. Its work will be limited to organising public audiences, consolidating information, taking forward options and making recommendations to the Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation.