Joint Communiqué |

Final Agreement, plebiscite and ceasefire

Havana, Cuba, October 7, 2016

The delegations of the National Government and the FARC – EP, after meeting in Havana with the guarantor countries and with the Head of the UN Special Mission in Colombia, Jean Arnault, wish to inform the public opinion that:

1. Following nearly 4 years of intense conversations, last August 24 we concluded the Final Agreement for the End of the Armed Conflict and the Construction of a Stable and Long-lasting Peace, to which we are committed. We believe that it contains the reforms and measures needed to lay the foundations for peace and to guarantee the end of the armed conflict.

We recognize, however, that a majority those who took part in the Plebiscite held this past October 2 voted in favor of NO, even if the difference was very narrow. Within the framework of the presidential authorities granted by the Political Constitution, it is convenient for us to continue listening to the different sectors of society, in a swift and effective process, in order to understand their concerns and promptly determine a solution through the paths stated in the ruling of the Constitutional Court, C-379 of 2016. The proposals for adjustments and clarifications resulting from this process will be discussed between the National Government and the FARC – EP in order to provide quarantees for all.

2. We reiterate the commitment undertaken by the President of the Republic and the Commander of the FARC – EP to maintain the Final and Bilateral Ceasefire and End of the Hostilities decreed this past August 29, and the monitoring and verification in charge of the tripartite mechanism. As well as the guarantees for the security and protection of the communities in their territories, as determined by the parties in the Protocol.

In order to strengthen this Ceasefire, we have agreed on a protocol, aimed at preventing any incident in the pre-grouping zones in the established quadrants and to ensure a climate of security and tranquility with the full application of all the rules that govern the Final and Bilateral Ceasefire and End of the Hostilities.

The Tripartite Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, with the participation of the Government and the FARC – EP and the coordination of United Nations' mission will be in charge of monitoring and verifying compliance with the protocol, in particular compliance with the rules that govern the Ceasefire.

3. For that purpose, we ask the Secretary General of the United Nations, and through him, the Security Council, to authorize the United Nations' Mission in Colombia to exercise the duties of monitoring, verification, conflict resolution, recommendations, reports and coordination of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism set forth in Resolution 2261 (2016) in reference to the aforementioned Protocol.

Likewise, we invite the countries that contribute to the Mission with unarmed observers to continue deploying their men and women, who will continue to have all the necessary security guarantees.

- 4. In parallel, we will keep on moving forward in starting the operation of trust-building measures of a humanitarian nature, such as the search for people deemed as missing, the humanitarian de-mining pilot plans, the voluntary substitution of illicit crops, the commitments regarding the release of minors from the camps and regarding the situation of individuals deprived of their freedom.
- 5. The delegations thank the International Committee of the Red Cross for its ongoing support, Chile and Venezuela for their accompaniment, and most of all Cuba and Norway for their intense and devoted task in support of the construction of the peace agreements for Colombia, their constant contribution toward the search for solutions during difficult moments, and their willingness to continue supporting the peace process.