

Protocol on social monitoring and humanitarian protection mechanisms under the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire between the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN)

Pursuant to the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire between the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) (Agreement No. 10), signed on 9 June 2023, the present Protocol establishes the role of the social monitoring network and humanitarian protection mechanisms in the implementation of the Agreement, as part of the mandate of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

1. Scope of the Protocol

The present Protocol on social monitoring and humanitarian protection mechanisms is based on paragraph 8 of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire (Agreement No. 10), which reads:

8. The components of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, the Episcopal Conference of Colombia and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia shall coordinate with social organizations to establish a social monitoring body, which is understood to be a coordinated network of local and regional teams to strengthen monitoring activities aimed at preventing armed incidents between the parties and reporting and raising alerts about the presence of and actions by any armed actor against the life and security of the communities.

It is also based on paragraph 4.2 (d) of the Protocol on the mandate of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, which stipulates that the local bodies of the Mechanism should “receive information from the social monitoring network”.

2. Purpose of monitoring in the context of the temporary bilateral national ceasefire

The purpose of social monitoring is to provide objective, pertinent and accurate information to the local bodies of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism in order to help them to prevent or respond to incidents that might arise during the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.

3. Social monitoring

Social monitoring shall be carried out by a network of local, regional and national ethnic authorities and social and human rights organizations with capacity, activities and roots in the territories covered by the local bodies of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism. The network shall also include members of the general public, and its goal shall be to provide the local bodies with objective, pertinent and accurate information to support the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.

4. Principles and characteristics of social monitoring

The social and human rights organizations that participate in social monitoring shall act with:

4.1. Discretion, agency and independence, and on a voluntary basis.

4.2. Commitment to the peace process, the Mexico Agreement and the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.

4.3. Responsibility in the handling and supply of objective, relevant and accurate information to the local bodies of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

The work of the social monitoring network shall be focused exclusively and directly on the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.

5. Characteristics of the information

The information gathered and submitted by the social monitoring network to the local bodies of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism shall be objective, accurate, verifiable, timely and relevant.

6. Coordination between the social monitoring network and the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism

The social monitoring network shall coordinate with the local bodies of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism through the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia and the Episcopal Conference of Colombia.

The national body of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism shall invite social and human rights organizations with capacity, activities and roots in the territories covered by the local bodies of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism to participate in the social monitoring network.

7. Security and protection

The parties undertake to reject any stigmatization of the social and human rights organizations that participate in the social monitoring network under the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.

As part of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire, the parties shall also make it possible for organizations to participate freely, spontaneously, autonomously and independently in social monitoring.

The State authorities shall provide protection for the social monitoring network.

8. Humanitarian protection mechanisms

Under the agreements on humanitarian action and the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols, the peace talks panel may agree to establish any humanitarian protection mechanisms it deems necessary.

Havana, Cuba, 13 July 2023.

Delegation of the Government of the Republic of Colombia

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Head of delegation

(Signed) Iván Danilo **Rueda Rodríguez**
High Commissioner for Peace

(Signed) Iván **Cepeda Castro**

Delegation of the Ejército de Liberación Nacional – ELN

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(Signed) Álvaro **Matallana Eslava**
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As observers for the Armed Forces:

(Signed) Brig. Gen. William Oswaldo
Rincón **Zambrano**

(Signed) Maj. Gen. Hugo Alejandro
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As witnesses and depositaries:
Guarantor countries

(Signed) Laura Berdine **Santos**
Delamonica
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