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Greetings,

We have learned through the Social Ceasefire Monitoring Group and civil society organizations of the current crisis in the peace talks between the Colombian Government and the FARC-EP. In particular we have learned that this crisis puts the FARC-EP's unilateral ceasefire at risk. As members of the international community we support Colombia's ongoing peace process, the efforts of those monitoring the ceasefire and of our colleagues who continue to work for a negotiated political solution to the armed conflict.

Given this, we want to express the following:

1. Our pleasure with FARC-EP's compliance with their unilateral ceasefire as well as the Colombian Government's compliance with their commitment to not bomb FARC-EP camps.
2. Our profound concern over the increase in the Colombian military's land-based military actions against the FARC-EP guerrilla that have caused them to declare that their unilateral ceasefire is at risk. The acts of war that occurred in the weeks prior to the July 20 unilateral ceasefire demonstrated that the peace process is at risk.
3. We believe it to be urgent that the Colombian Government declare further de-escalation measures, beyond the suspension of aerial bombing, in order to avoid the FARC-EP calling off their unilateral ceasefire due to an inability to get supplies to their troops, the Colombian military occupying [previously disputed or guerrilla controlled] territory and deaths of guerrilla fighters in Colombian military attacks.
4. Our deep concern over an increased presence of paramilitary structures in areas of strong Colombian military presence or operational capacity, such as Bajo Atrato, San José de Apartadó and Mapiripán, Meta. If this paramilitary presence continues, any agreements that could be reached with the FARC-EP and ELN guerrillas would not be viable.
5. The importance of publically releasing the Special Jurisdiction for Peace agreement, with any adjustments that have been agreed to by the parties, to enable the Colombian people, especially the victims, to prepare to participate in the judicial mechanisms for truth, justice and holistic reparations as well as the Truth Commission.
6. That you continue to progress on the technical and political aspects necessary for a bilateral ceasefire and final bilateral cessation of hostilities which we have called for since the beginning of the formal dialogs.
7. That official peace dialogs between the Colombian Government and the ELN begin before the end of this year.

We once again declare our intention and willingness to contribute in any way possible to the peace processes between the Colombian Government and the FARC-EP and ELN.

Sincerely,