AGREEMENT FOR THE RELEASE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

Itagüí, 1 November 1997

Representatives of the government, the National Reconciliation Commission and the Antioquia Peace Facilitator, and the spokespeople for the National Liberation Army (Ejército de Liberación Nacional, ELN), Francisco Galán and Felipe Torres, have reached the following agreement regarding the detained officials of the Organization of American States (OAS).

1. Their release will take place on Saturday 1 November at a location determined for this purpose.

2. The detained representatives will be surrendered to the National Reconciliation Commission in the presence of the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace, the Peace Facilitation Commission of Antioquia, the Peace Commission of the House of Representatives, the International Red Cross Committee and institutions and figures from various sectors of national and international civil society invited for this purpose.

3. Clear standards of behaviour have been defined to create the conditions for the surrender. The public of forces will ease from offensive activities and will be located in areas agreed for this purpose. The same holds for ELN forces with a presence in the area at the agreed time.

4. A verification commission will be established to ensure full compliance with the terms of the agreed procedure. The committee will comprise representatives of the National Reconciliation Commission and OAS.

5. Every care will be taken to ensure the detained OAS members are released under humane conditions.
Maximum security wing, Itagüí prison, 1 November 1997.