DECLARATION OF THE COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE FOR DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATION: SUPPORT FOR THE NEGOTIATED POLITICAL OUTCOME

Los Pozos, Caquetá, 11 May 2001

1. The countries and organisations that have accepted the invitation of the national government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia – Ejército Popular, FARC–EP) to attend the meeting between the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation and the international community express their gratitude for the parties’ decision to continue the peace process via the Agreement of Los Pozos, dated 9 February 2001.

2. The representatives of the countries and participant organisations listened with interest to the information provided by the national government of Colombia and FARC–EP on the development of the peace progress and progress made during the last two years.

3. They expressed their gratitude for the desire expressed by the parties to refrain from interrupting the talks. They also expressed their enthusiasm for the decision of the national government and FARC–EP to involve the international community and they are willing to assist the parties to act on agreements regarding the issues being negotiated.

4. All participating countries and organisations emphasised their support for the negotiated political outcome to the internal conflict in Colombia and fervently encouraged the parties to make all necessary efforts to reach agreements that make it possible to secure peace with social justice and respect for human rights and avoid affecting the common heritage of Colombia at any cost.

5. They stress that they fully agree with the national government and FARC–EP in identifying peace as a national priority and are grateful for the efforts made by the parties to work together to bring the conflict to an end and construct a path that is not based on armed violence. In this respect, it would give them great satisfaction to see the swift completion of the humanitarian agreement mentioned in point 6 of the Agreement
of Los Pozos and they stress the importance of obtaining swift results in the negotiations on the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities.

6. We are satisfied with the acknowledgement by the national government and FARC–EP of the importance of the manual eradication of illicit crops. We also stress the acknowledgement of joint responsibility for the protection and recovery of the environment.

7. Finally, the participating countries and organisations express their conviction that these major advances, together with any future progress, are only meaningful if they are irreversible.

AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, CANADA, COSTA RICA, CHILE, CUBA, DENMARK, ECUADOR, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, JAPAN, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PANAMA, PERU, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM, VENEZUELA AND THE VATICAN STATE, TOGETHER WITH THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION.