

AGREEMENT ON PUBLIC AUDIENCES: COMMUNICATION NO. 3, ROUNDTABLE FOR
DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATIONS

San Vicente del Caguán, 5 November 1999

The spokespeople appointed by the national government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (*Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia – Ejército Popular*, FARC–EP) for the negotiations, present in the municipality of San Vicente del Caguán on 5 November 1999, have reached the following agreement regarding the holding of public audiences and the operation of the National Thematic Committee:

1. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE NATIONAL THEMATIC COMMITTEE

1. The National Thematic Committee is an attached, auxiliary and dependent body of the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation, created with a parity representation of up to 20 members, to serve as a bridge for all sectors of Colombian society who wish to contribute proposals and ideas regarding the issues on the Shared Agenda for the Transition toward a New Colombia that are submitted for consideration via the public audiences, based on the mutually agreed instructions and guidelines defined by the committee.
2. The National Thematic Committee will have two coordinators, one appointed by the national government and the other by FARC–EP, who will work in mutual agreement following the guidelines set by the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation. The coordinators will periodically inform the roundtable of the results of public participation in public audiences. They will also produce periodic schedules, a form for submitting information to the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation and technical sheets for the proposals, and will be supported by a technical secretariat for this purpose. The coordinators will convene preparatory meetings for the audiences to distribute tasks to the committee members.

3. The members of the National Thematic Committee will perform the roles assigned by the coordinators at the preparatory meetings for the respective audiences, such as moderators and reporters.
4. The National Thematic Committee will organise the public audiences, chair the meetings, listen to people, take careful note of suggestions and systematise them, developing the opinions recommended by those present at the audiences for subsequent conveyance to the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation. The committee will not be entitled to make commitments or hold meetings other than those requested by the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation. Its members must abstain from using the space for the audience process for political or electoral proselytising or pursuing other personal or group objectives.
5. Statements by the National Thematic Committee, where relevant and necessary, will be made via communications produced in partnership and with the authorisation of the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation. The coordinators of the committee will act as spokespeople for this purpose.
6. The coordinators of the National Thematic Committee will be entitled to adopt measures to ensure its members comply with the regulations established herein.
7. The National Thematic Committee will be headquartered in the municipality of San Vicente del Caguán. Temporary venues may be established in any of the other municipalities of the zone.
8. The National Thematic Committee will be supported by a technical secretariat for handling information. The secretariat will have a secretary from each of the parties and these will act jointly under the direction of the coordinators. Preference will be given to local candidates when choosing support staff.

2. METHODOLOGY FOR PUBLIC AUDIENCES

1. Public audiences are in-person meetings of the National Thematic Committee involving different sectors of society for hearing and gathering suggestions, ideas and proposals

from the Colombian people regarding the issues determined by the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation in order to enrich the discussion of the agenda and ensure the participation of all members of the Colombian public in the process that seeks to bring about reconciliation.

2. The audiences will not debate the merits of proposals, opinions and suggestions, nor issue qualifications regarding people. Furthermore, audiences are not for debates and do not aim to achieve consensus among the parties, nor between these and third parties.
3. The public audiences will be held in a space free from armed confrontation, created for all Colombians to meet, talk and reach agreement on the country we would like to see. The municipal area of San Vicente del Caguán will be the main venue for audiences, although they may be held in any of the other municipalities in the zone. The possibility of holding them in other locations or abroad for Colombians residing outside the country will be decided by the National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation.
4. The National Thematic Committee will be able to use teleconferences as a complementary mechanism, particularly for the promotion of, invitation to and explanation of public audiences to the Colombian people. The National Roundtable for Dialogue and Negotiation will authorise the use of teleconferences to facilitate participation in the audiences. Similarly, the national government will provide a national post mechanism, email, telephone and telefax free of charge for those who are unable to attend the audiences to allow them to submit proposals. Confirmation of receipt of the proposals will be possible.
5. The large-scale campaign for the promotion and explanation of the audiences must begin as soon as possible, using jointly prepared materials such as educational leaflets, posters, a website, cassettes and videos to be broadcast via mass media, the television station Señal Colombia (on large public screens where possible), and the radio station Radiodifusora Nacional.
6. Broad calls and invitations to the public will be made in line with the issues agreed by the assembly, using all possible media to allow those who are interested in the problem

to be discussed at a given audience to attend. Under all circumstances the National Thematic Committee will guarantee the invitation and representative, open, democratic, ordered and plural participation of all members of the Colombian public.

7. For calls and invitations, the National Thematic Committee will determine the organisations available to provide support in the different zones of the country.
8. The National Thematic Committee will organise a system for the registration and control of those who attend the audiences.
9. The audiences will be transmitted live or via recordings broadcast by the television channel Señal Colombia and the radio station Radio Nacional. Large public screens will also be used for this purpose where possible.
10. The coordinators of the National Thematic Committee will agree the logistic support required for the audiences. The national government will facilitate the mechanisms and resources required for correct operation.
11. The forms of the invitations and public audiences may vary in line with the issue being addressed by the national roundtable, or the areas related to an issue the national roundtable agrees to discuss.
12. A monthly gazette of the audiences will be published solely for the purpose of publishing the official reports of the committee's activities.

For the National Government:

13. *VÍCTOR G. RICARDO*
14. *High Commissioner*
15. *CAMILO A. GÓMEZ*
16. *Negotiator*
17. *FABIO VALENCIA COSSIO*
18. *Negotiator*
19. *PEDRO GOMEZ BARRERO*
20. *Negotiator*
21. *JUAN GABRIEL URIBE*
22. *Negotiator*
23. *GONZALO FORERO DELGADILLO*
24. *Negotiator*
25. *NESTOR HUMBERTO MARTINEZ*

26. *Coordinator of the Thematic Committee*

27. MAURICIO CÁRDENAS

28. *Thematic Committee*

29. ANDRÉS GONZÁLEZ DÍAZ

30. *Thematic Committee*

31. ARMANDO POMÁRICO

32. *Thematic Committee*

33. MIGUEL PINEDO VIDAL

34. *Thematic Committee*

35. JUAN GÓMEZ MARTÍNEZ

36. *Thematic Committee*

37. JORGE GÓMEZ DUARTE

38. *Thematic Committee*

For the FARC-EP

39. RAÚL REYES

40. *Negotiator*

41. JOAQUIN GOMEZ

42. *Negotiator*

43. FABIÁN RAMÍREZ

44. *Negotiator*

45. IVAN RIOS

46. *Coordinator of the Thematic Committee*

47. MARCO LEÓN CALARCÁ

48. *Thematic Committee*

49. PEDRO ALDANA

50. *Thematic Committee*

51. ALBERTO MARTÍNEZ

52. *Thematic Committee*

53. SIMÓN TRINIDAD

54. *Thematic Committee*

55. FELIPE RINCÓN

Thematic Committee

56. JAIRO MARTÍNEZ

Thematic Committee