

To Christians and Anyone Who Professes a Religion

Bogotá, October 29, 2016.

In this period of building consensus for peace, in Havana on 23 and 24 October, the FARC-EP Peace Delegation, met Viviane Morales and Carlos Alonso Lucio, in their capacity as senator and Christian leader, in order to listen to their proposals to review and amend the Final Peace Agreement, taking into account public comments made by different Christian sectors.

Based on sustained talks and the respectful and cordial exchange of points and opinions, we conclude that the FARC-EP, using its autonomy and competencies, as one of the parties to the dialogue, will bring the following points before the National Government for analysis and possible incorporation into the Agreement:

1. A wording that defines the interpretation with relation to the "gender approach" which will make clear the understanding that it refers to the special claim and protection of the rights of women as the main victim of the conflict and as an essential protagonist in the construction of peace post-conflict.
2. That the "gender approach" of the Agreements will be understood in such a way as to subsequently permit, whether for public or private purposes, unequivocal interpretations which respect the concept of the family written clearly in Article 42 of the Political Constitution.
3. So that in this way, the approaches to non-stigmatization and non-victimization of any vulnerable population, incorporated in the Agreement, should harmonize with freedom of conscience, religious freedom, the right to educational autonomy of institutions, And with the right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their principles and values.
4. The Agreement should include among the victims of the conflict the recognition and visibility of those who were victims because of their religious beliefs, particularly of pastors and Christian communities.
5. They should recognize Christian churches as actors of reconciliation for peace, enabling them to participate in the stages of implementation of the Agreement. Such a situation should pertain in all areas of citizen participation, including work spaces on family issues, freedom of religion and freedom of conscience, within the framework of the commission for implementation, monitoring, verification and resolution of disputes. Faith congregations and religious cults, including Christianity, should also have space for participation in peace-building bodies arising from the Agreement, which are relevant, based on the consolidation of reconciliation and peace.

The efforts made in this document are inspired by the spirit of building the greatest possible consensus on the path of peace for Colombia.

Fraternally:

FARC EP