

The Uribe Accords

With the objective of shaping our national peace, that is an indispensable prerequisite for the general prosperity of the Colombian people, and to develop social and economic activity on the foundations of freedom and justice, the Peace Commission and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC-EP) commit to the following points:

1. The FARC-EP will order a ceasefire and an end to other military operations across all of its fronts in the country as of 00:00 hours on 28 May, 1984, a date which can be postponed, if necessary, for at most two months. The above order will be maintained indefinitely for as long as the President of the Republic, Dr. Belisario Betancur, corresponds to this genuine gesture for peace with a similar order of his own when the opportunity presents itself to all the civil and military authorities under his jurisdiction.
2. The FARC-EP will again condemn and de-authorize kidnapping, extortion and terrorism in all its forms and will contribute to ending the practice of these actions which are attacks against freedom and human dignity.
3. The order from the President of the Republic will be followed exclusively in respect of the groups and persons that comply with and respect these principles and do not break the law.
4. A National Commission to be designated by the President of the Republic and representative of the parties involved in the confrontations, will be responsible for the verification of all the items contained in this agreement, with the objective of consolidating the process of pacification. The Commission will create sub-commissions in Florencia (Caquetá), Vista Hermosa (Meta), Barrancabermeja (Santander), Saravena (Arauca), Santa Marta (Magdalena), Medellín (Antioquia), Neiva (Huila), Orito (Putumayo) and Cali (Valle). It will also be able to consult persons external to it in order to examine, in the regions or places in which their services are appropriate, the complaints and grievances regarding events that might interfere with the wish for national peace and security. The Commission will function for as long as is necessary and can draw up its own regulations.
5. The national Verification Commission will convene in Bogotá and will periodically move in order to hold sessions, with full guarantees of access and freedom of movement, to one of the following locations, to be chosen by the President of the Republic:

- a. San Juan de Arama, Granada y Vista Hermosa, en el Meta
- b. San Vicente del Caguán, Caquetá
- c. Colombia, Huila

The government will provide the Commission with all the necessary means of communication to be able to best fulfill its functions and will provide its members the necessary credentials to guarantee their freedom of movement and security.

6. When, to the satisfaction of the Verification Commission, all armed confrontations have ceased a trial period or one lasting one (1) year will commence in order to allow the members of the group currently known as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC-EP) to organize themselves politically, economically and socially of their own accord. The government will grant them the pertinent guarantees and benefits according to the law and the Constitution. During this same period the government will undertake the necessary measures in order to re-establish civic normality in the areas affected by the violence.

7. Members of the FARC-EP can apply for and receive the benefits of Law 35 of 1982 and its complementary degrees, when they fulfill the conditions these establish. The government's National Rehabilitation Plan will give preference to Colombians who have suffered, directly or indirectly, the ravages of the violence, in order to reestablish the rights unjustly violated as a consequence of the disruption of public order and social insecurity.

8. The Peace Commission has faith that the government has an ample will to:

a) Pursue the modernization of political institutions, aimed at enriching the democratic life of the nation, and to demand of the Chambers the speedy approval of projects regarding political reform, guarantees to the opposition, democratic elections for mayors, electoral reform, adequate access by political groups to the media, civilian control of the activities of the state, more effective administration of justice, impetus for the improvement of public services and new initiatives aimed at strengthening the constitutional functions of the State and to promote a consistently high moral standard in public life.

b) To vigorously pursue the implementation of a policy of agrarian reform in recognition that land-related problems are present in the current social conflicts, and to pursue initiatives by the rest of the State's agencies aimed at permanently increasing the services provided to the campesinos in order to improve their quality of life and the normal production of foodstuffs and primary materials needed for industry, for all of which the government has at its disposal the legal instrument allowing for the control of the economy by the State, as stipulated in article 32 of the Constitution.

c) To strengthen and facilitate community and political organizations of peasant farmers and indigenous peoples, and of both urban and rural workers.

d) To make continuous efforts towards the improvement of education at all levels, as well as health, housing and employment.

e) To maintain the indisputable principle that to carry out the protection of the rights of the citizens enshrined in the Constitution and the law, and for the protection and re-establishment of public order there exists only the institutional forces of the State, on whose professionalism and continuous improvement the safety of the people depends.

f) To pursue, once peace has been re-established, as happened on other occasions, initiatives to strengthen the ideal conditions for democratic brotherhood, that requires forgiving and forgetting, and the conditions for the best possible economic, political and social conditions for all the Colombian people.

9. The Peace Commission believes that the above declarations constitute a notable improvement in the necessary conditions for political and electoral action and it reiterates its invitation to the sectors dedicated to the disruption of public order to join normal life and to apply their talents and prestige to winning public opinion through democratic and peaceful means.

10. This agreement will be valid with respect to any other armed group that expresses its decision to subscribe to it, following the communication of this decision to the government through the Peace Commission. To facilitate the incorporation to this agreement by groups that so desire it, a meeting will be held with them at a location and date agreed upon by the parties.

11. This agreement, in order to be valid, requires ratification by the President of the Republic. As proof this document is signed in La Uribe, Municipality of Mesetas, Department of Meta, on 28 March 1984

Signatories:

The Peace Commission

Jhon Agudelo Ríos (President), Rafael Rivas Posada, Samuel Hoyos Arango, César Gómez Estrada, Alberto Rojas Puyo, Margarita Vidal de Puyo.

The Leadership of the FARC-EP

Manuel Marulanda Vélez, Jacobo Arenas, Jaime Guaracas, Alfonso Cano, Raúl Reyes