

Space of Peace Cooperation

**MISSION
REPORT**
MUNICIPALITY
OF TUMACO,
NARIÑO,
COLOMBIA

Space of Peace Cooperation*



Mundubat



Observador:



*Integrated by:

ABColumbia, Broederlijk Delen, Caritas Suiza, Christian Aid, Comité Noruego de Solidaridad con América Latina, Comundo, Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias, Fastenopfer, Federación Luterana Mundial, FOKUS/Foro Mujeres y Desarrollo, Fondo de Acción Urgente para América Latina, Forum Syd, Fundación Sueca por los Derechos Humanos, Grupo de Trabajo Suiza Colombia -ASKI-, Heks-Eper, ICCO, Iglesia Sueca, kolko - Menschenrechte für Kolumbien, Latinoamerican Working Group, Llamamiento de Ginebra, Mundubat, Movimiento por la Paz -MPDL-en Colombia, ODHACO, Oxfam, Paz con Dignidad, Peace Brigades International -PBI- (observadora), SweFOR (observadora), Swissaid, Terre des Hommes Suisse

PRESENTATION

BETWEEN 19 TO 22 JUNE, AND ON 6 JULY, 2018, THE SPACE OF PEACE COOPERATION (ECP) CARRIED OUT THE OBSERVATION MISSION CONCERNING THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND SECURITY OF WOMEN SITUATION, AND EVALUATED THE IMPLEMENTATION IN TUMACO OF THE GENDER COMPONENTS OF

the Peace Agreement reached between the Colombian government and FARC-EP. It focused particularly on the situation of women victims of armed conflict-related sexual violence, human rights leaders and defenders, women from the LGBT community, and women from the communities of the Alto Mira and Frontera area.

The mission was made up of the Movimiento por la Paz (MPDL) in Colombia, Forum for Women and Development (FOKUS), the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation, Christian Aid, Peace Brigades International, Latin America Working Group and the ECP's technical secretariat. It was supported and accompanied on the ground by Corporación Humanas Colombia, Colombia Diversa and Corporación Jurídica Yira Castro, partners of the ECP organisations.

The mission held meetings with international organisations accompanying women victims, women's and sexual diversity organisations, victims of sexual violence, women leaders and human rights defenders, women members of Afro-Colombian and *campesino* organisational processes, reintegrated women from the FARC, members of the *Espacio Territorial de Capacitación y Reincorporación*² (ETCR) of La Playa, local institutions, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Verification Mission in Colombia.

2 Territorial Training and Reincorporation Space

RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Colombian State at the national and regional levels

Regarding the situation of general insecurity faced by women in Tumaco, it is recommended:

1. Increase the real presence of the state, guaranteeing access throughout the region to the provision of different social, educational, labor and health services.
2. Guarantee that the actions of law enforcement are within the framework of human rights, international humanitarian law and the provisions of the peace agreement, and that the communities that were exposed to living for long periods of time with armed actors such as the FARC-EP are not stigmatised.
3. Take the necessary measures to address and prevent the establishment of invisible borders within the urban area of Tumaco that violate the human rights of all people and endanger the lives and well-being of women.
4. Investigate the situation of migrant women of Venezuelan nationality, as well as that of the municipality, with regard to the alleged presence of human trafficking organisations.

Concerning the situation of women and girls and armed conflict-related sexual violence, it is recommended:

5. That state entities at the regional level in charge of implementing the assistance programs derived from Laws 1257 of 2008 and 1719 of 2014 for women victims of sexual violence and other forms

of violence against them, and regarding the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, work together to provide comprehensive responses in accordance with the needs of survivors. Likewise, that they guarantee the human teams, facilities and other necessary elements for an ideal provision of services of physical and emotional health care, protection and justice.

- 6. The elimination of barriers to access voluntary interruption of pregnancy, in accordance with the provisions of Ruling C-355 of 2006, in both public and private hospitals.
- 7. Develop actions to prevent sexual violence against girls and young women and monitor and punish alleged acts perpetrated by members of law enforcement.

As for the protection of leaders and human rights defenders, it is recommended:

- 8. That the National Protection Unit provides security measures tailored to the geographical conditions of the regions and the differential needs of the threatened female leaders, and that the measures provided include their families and their organisations.
- 9. Implement in a prioritised, urgent and coordinated manner the provisions of Decree 660 of 2018 of the Ministry of the Interior regarding security and

protection measures for local communities and organisations, as well as the provisions of the Comprehensive Guarantee Program for Women Leaders and Human Rights Defenders, derived from Decree 1314 of 2016.

- 10. Investigate and penalise the persons and/or actors/groups responsible for the threats, intimidation, attacks and assassinations of female leaders in a timely manner.

Regarding the situation of people who are part of the LGBT community, it is recommended:

- 11. That the state institutions and the Municipal Mayor's Office continue to support the consolidation of the public policy for the LGBT population in the municipality of Tumaco and the establishment of the interinstitutional panel for the guarantee of their rights.
- 12. That the Attorney General's Office monitors and regulates the dealings that law enforcement has with the LBT population of the municipality, and in case of finding abuse of force or discriminatory dealings, that the punishment be exemplary.
- 13. That all cases of violence against LGBT people be investigated and prosecuted in a timely manner and the discriminatory practices from justice officials be eliminated.

Concerning the gender components of the Final Peace Agreement in their land, substitution of illicit crops and reincorporation in the municipality of Tumaco items, it is recommended:

- 14.** Give continuity to the processes of voluntary substitution of illicit crops as established in the Peace Agreement, guaranteeing the participation of women farmers.
- 15.** Have a presence in the municipality with comprehensive health and education programs. Promote livelihoods and economic alternatives for women farmers that make the substitution process sustainable. Also, prioritize the construction of service roads to connect, transport and market the products of *campesino* communities living in dispersed areas of the territory of Tumaco. Have efficient options for cultivation and the marketing of other products so as to guarantee crop substitution success.
- 16.** Implement short-, medium- and long-term programs aimed at the women who are in the La Playa/La Variante ETCR to enable their proper reincorporation from an economic, social and political perspective.
- 17.** Advance without delay the interinstitutional panel with the *Agencia Nacional de Tierras* (National Land Agency) to address the issues of crop substitu-

tion and territorial conflict between the communities of the Community Council of Alto Mira and Frontera and ASOMINUMA, seeking to respond promptly and without harm to the legal and legitimate claims that both communities have on the territory.

As for the situation of children, young people and adolescents, it is recommended:

- 18.** That state institutions at the departmental and municipal levels, in coordination with the national level, implement immediate and effective strategies to prevent the forced recruitment of children and young people in Tumaco, in accordance with the guidelines of the public policy for the prevention of recruitment, exploitation and sexual violence against children and young people by organised armed groups and organised criminal groups (Decree 1434 of 2018).
- 19.** The health sector should pay special attention to and monitor the increase in the consumption of psychoactive substances in this population and its relationship with the involvement of armed actors in the dynamics of the armed conflict.
- 20.** Guarantee the continuity of classes in schools located in rural areas of the municipality through the timely recruitment/location of teachers and demilitarisation of regions close to educational centres.

To the International Community

1. Encourage the Colombian State to fully comply with the provisions of international instruments for the protection of women's rights, with special attention to UN Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008) and 1889 (2009) on the prevention and care of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings and the reintegration of women ex-combatants. As well as UN General Assembly resolution 68/181 (2013) on the protection of women human rights defenders. These three aspects have been highlighted as fundamental to peacebuilding and peacekeeping.
2. Continue your support, monitoring and verification of the implementation of the Final Agreement between the Government and the FARC-EP, particularly with regard to the gender components contained therein and their timely implementation. Likewise, given the situation of municipalities such as Tumaco, particularly support the implementation of the chapter regarding drugs, which also requires not encouraging or pressuring for policies to fight drugs contrary to the provisions of the peace agreement.
3. Promote and support initiatives that actively link the women of ETCR La Playa/La Variante to productive and educational processes which promote their political participation and the exercising of their rights – both are key to their comprehensive reintegration.
4. Continue to support women human rights defenders, leaders and their organisations politically and financially.
5. Strengthen the strategies of coordination and sustainability of the different initiatives that are being developed through international cooperation, so that the interventions in matters of access to justice, physical and psychosocial health of women victims of armed conflict-related sexual violence in regions such as Tumaco have a greater impact.
6. Promote and/or support actions to prevent the forced recruitment and exploitation of children and young people in Tumaco, as well as recommend to the Colombian government more timely and effective measures to address this situation.
7. Continue promoting actions in favor of the recognition of and respect for sexual and gender diversity and strengthen your support for initiatives that call for the rights of Tumaco's LGBT population.

