

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ # 82
Havana, Cuba, July 24, 2016

Today, the delegations of the National Government and the FARC – EP presented the results of the inclusion of the gender approach in the agreements reached to date by the Dialogue Table.

The inclusion of a gender approach in a peace process such as this one is unprecedented in the world, and essentially seeks to create the conditions for women and people with diverse sexual identity to have equal opportunity access to the benefits of living in a country without an armed conflict.

At the Dialogue Table, we are aware of the fact that the transformations the country needs to build peace will not be possible without a society that recognizes and respects differences, and where the stigmatizations and discriminations on account of gender are left in the past.

The sub-commission on gender, opened on September 11, 2014 and comprised by women and men from each delegation, reviewed and included the gender approach in items 1, “Toward a New Colombian Countryside: Comprehensive Rural Reform” (*“Hacia un Nuevo Campo Colombiano: Reforma Rural Integral”*); 2, “Political Participation, Democratic opening to build peace” (*“Participación Política, Apertura democrática para construir la paz”*); and 4, “Solution to the Illicit Drug Problem” (*“Solución al Problema de las Drogas Ilícitas”*), and accompanied the construction of item 5, “Victims” (*“Víctimas”*) and the agreements reached to date on item 3, “End of the Conflict” (*“Fin del Conflicto”*).

The contributions of the victims who visited the Dialogue Table, 60% of whom were women, from 18 organizations of women and of the LGBTI community, from 10 Colombian experts on sexual violence, from international experts, and from former female guerrilla members from several parts of the world, were fundamental for the enrichment of the work of this sub-commission. We reiterate our gratitude to all of them for helping us in this construction.

Likewise, we thank the presence, in the event where the agreements with gender inclusion were presented and in the accompaniment of this process, of Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women – UN Women; Zainab Bangura, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict; Luiza Carvalho, Regional Director of UN Women for the Americas and the Caribbean; Belén Sanz, UN Women representative in Colombia; Juan Fernando Cristo, Minister of the Interior; María Emma Mejía, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Colombia before

the United Nations; Martha Ordóñez, Presidential Advisor for Gender Equity; and Eamon Gilmore, special envoy of the European Union for the process; we also thank the presence of Colombian women and members of the LGBTI community, the representatives of social organizations, and the accompanying countries, Cuba and Norway.

The incorporation of a gender approach in the agreements reached revolves around eight thematic axes: Access to and formalization of rural properties in equal terms; guaranteeing the economic, social and cultural rights of women and people with diverse sexual identity from the rural sector; promotion of women's participation in representation spaces, decision-making and conflict resolution; prevention and protection measures to address specific risks for women; access to the truth, justice and guarantees of non-repetition; public recognition, non-stigmatization and dissemination of the work carried out by women as political subjects; institutional management aimed at strengthening women's organizations and LGBTI movements for their political and social participation, and disaggregated information systems.

The sub-commission on gender will continue working in order to ensure inclusion and the exercise of their rights under equal terms for all of society, and specifically for women and the LGBTI population, in all the agreements to be reached.