



The Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Kenya to the United
Nations – New York
Security Council - 2021-2022

THE QUARTERLY BRIEFING ON COLOMBIA

TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 2022 (**10AM**)

STATEMENT BY AMB. MARTIN KIMANI, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE

ON BEHALF OF GABON, GHANA AND KENYA (A3)

Thank you Mister President.

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Gabon, Ghana and Kenya - the A3.
2. We thank SRSR Carlos Massieu for his briefing, and welcome the participation of His Excellency President Ivan Duque.
3. The A3 congratulates the people of Colombia for the just concluded successful Congressional elections. The conduct of the electioneering campaign in relative calm underlines the resilience of the Colombian people and their commitment to durable peace. We wish them well in the upcoming Presidential elections. We hope that the election of the 16

special district representatives will mark the start of more political inclusion for the conflict-affected communities.

Mister President,

4. More than five years into the Final Peace Agreement, the Colombian peace process remains an inspiration to many countries seeking to end protracted civil wars.
5. For decades, Colombia was known for its long civil war and the extensive violence of paramilitaries and drug cartels. Today, the country is a testament to inspired leadership in seeking and maintaining peace. The breadth and ambition of the Final Peace Agreement reflect boldness of vision by the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP.
6. The people of Colombia are rightly proud of this hard-won peace. We must also register our sincere admiration of the victims and survivors who, despite their deep scars, are rebuilding their lives while supporting the peace process.
7. The A3 recognises the significant progress made in the implementation of the Final Peace Agreement, challenges notwithstanding. Nonetheless, we reiterate our call for its full and comprehensive implementation. We encourage all stakeholders not to lose sight of the dividends that will come with sustainable peace.
8. We are encouraged by the assurances that the various Presidential candidates have committed to the comprehensive and full implementation of the agreement.

Mister President,

9. The full reintegration of former combatants into the Colombian society remains key to the success of the peace process. In this regard, the A3 commends the Government's efforts in facilitating access to land for productive projects, as well as the consolidation of former Territorial Areas for Training and Reintegration (TATRs).
10. We call for the extension of support and security to the former combatants living outside former TATRs, including former combatants of indigenous and Afro-Colombian origin.
11. The A3 attaches great importance to the Ethnic Chapter of the Agreement and urges for greater commitment to its implementation.
12. We welcome plans by the Special High-Level Forum of Ethnic Peoples to develop a roadmap for 2022 to address issues facing former combatants of indigenous and Afro-Colombian descent. We reiterate the need for adequate and reliable resource allocation for this initiative. We further encourage the parties to capitalise on the Commission for the Follow-up, Promotion and Verification of the Final Agreement (CSIVI) to resolve any differences.

Mister President,

13. Transitional justice remains the cornerstone of Colombia's peace process. There can be no sustainable peace without proper reconciliation. The A3 lauds the progress within the Comprehensive System for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition.

14. In particular, we recognise the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (SJP's) progress in ensuring justice for the victims. We underscore the need for the autonomy and independence of the SJP. In addition, we look forward to the report of the Truth Commission in June this year and encourage the Colombian people to build upon its recommendations to further cement national reconciliation.

Mister President,

15. We are cognisant of the complementarity between illicit trade, especially for narcotics and armed conflict, including terrorism. We applaud the government of Colombia for the arrest of renowned drug lord "Otoniel" and hope that his arrest will facilitate the dismantling of criminal organizations and their support networks.
16. The successful resettlement of former combatants can only be sustained if they are kept away from illegal narcotics business. We urge the Government to prioritise the rural infrastructural development, as well as the implementation of the National Comprehensive Programme for Substitution of Illicit Crops (PNIS).
17. The A3 expresses deep concern over the persistent violence targeting former combatants, conflict-affected communities including the Afro Colombian and Indigenous communities, social leaders, women peacebuilders and human rights activists.
18. We are particularly concerned by the reports of the intensified violence by the armed groups including the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) and their attacks on innocent civilians. We underline the need for urgent

implementation of the Security Guarantees by the National Commission to the most vulnerable, taking into consideration gender needs.

19. We will continue to support all efforts that seek to consolidate the peace process including through the incorporation of groups that are not parties to the FPA. The A3 urge for an engagement in constructive dialogue between the Government and the ELN in order to capitalize on the opportunity for national reconciliation and stability in Colombia.
20. Finally, the A3 reaffirms its solidarity with the government and the people of Colombia in their pursuit of peace and prosperity. We also offer our unwavering support to the UN Verification Mission.
21. We wish Your Excellency President Duque the very best in your future endeavours.

I thank you