

/ / 2011

Señor Presidente Juan Manuel Santos  
Presidente de la República,  
Palacio de Nariño,  
Carrera 8 No.7-26,  
Bogotá,  
Colombia

Dear President Santos,

I write to you out of concern for the safety of members of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community who remain in constant danger despite asking not to be drawn into Colombia's armed conflict. They have consistently refused to take sides with any of the parties to the conflict.

Since the Peace Community's formation in 1997, more than 170 of its members have been killed or "disappeared", while others have been threatened or sexually assaulted.

I note with disappointment that your Government has failed to undertake the "immediate action" sought by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in 1997, 2005 and 2008 to take all steps necessary to guarantee the safety of all members of the Peace Community. Such inaction sees your Government falling short of its obligations under international law.

I therefore urge you please to do all in your power to ensure:

- The request by members of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community not to be drawn into the conflict is respected by all parties in the conflict.
- All human rights abuses against the members of the community are investigated and those responsible brought to justice.
- Protection measures, agreed by the members of the Peace Community, are put in place and implemented

Sincerely,

**Signature:**

**Name:**

**Address:**