

# *Colombian Teachers' Strike Hits One Month, Protests Set to Continue*

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Bogota, June 13 (RHC)-- Tens of thousands of Colombian teachers are set to continue their demonstrations in the streets as the strike demanding higher wages and more resources for public education hit one month.

The government of Colombia announced it will invest about \$400 million in additional budget for education in the country, but teachers have not shown signs of ending the strike that has called on the government to increase wages, improve teaching conditions and prioritize public education.

Education Minister Yaneth Giha announced that the government will support a dialogue process between government officials and union representatives to develop proposals for educational reforms that will increase resources for education in the coming years.

Giha's announcement comes as the Colombian Federation of Education Workers (Fecode), continues a national strike that has halted classes for eight million students across the country to demand a resolution of the negotiations with the government of President Juan Manuel Santos.

Some 320,000 teachers launched the strike on May 11, with a focus on urging the Colombian government to commit to better wages and increased investment. Teachers have called on the government to turn its promise of becoming Latin America's "most educated" country from words to action.

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