

Indigenous People, Workers Reject Ecuador Opposition Rally



Quito, March 19 (teleSUR-RHC) A wide array of social movements, worker's organizations, and groups representing indigenous peoples in Ecuador have publicly come out against an opposition march planned for Thursday in Quito.

"We are working people who know that these call-outs are misleading efforts to destabilize the government," said Teresa Urcuango, a grassroots leader from Cayambe town who participated in a face-to-face meeting with President Rafael Correa along with other indigenous leaders.

Those attending the meeting said they support Correa's government and said they will not participate in the opposition rally on Thursday. Urcuango questioned why leaders who claim to represent the people's needs would ally themselves with conservative political forces in the country. Right-wing politician Guillermo Lasso, who lost to Correa in the 2013 presidential election, announced he would be participating in the opposition rally. Rodrigo Collaguazao, spokesman for the Social Movements Coordinating Body, said Wednesday that those organizing the rally are looking only to promote conflict and generate chaos in the country.

The Social Movements Coordinating Body also formally rejected the opposition-led rally on the grounds that they feel it seeks to destabilize the country. Collaguazao accused the leadership of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) of deliberately misleading the public and called on the membership of that movement to analyze the accomplishments of the government of Rafael Correa.

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