

UN Security Council holds briefing on its recent visit to Colombia



United Nations, 19 July (RHC)-- The Security Council will report today on its recent visit to Colombia, which aimed to ratify its support for the peace process and to evaluate the work of the UN Verification Mission in that South American nation.

The briefing will be based on the report of Secretary General António Guterres on the results of the visit of the 15 members of that body to Colombia from July 11 -14.

There they met with representatives of the Government, different political parties and civil society.

On Thursday, Colombia's Foreign Minister, Carlos Holmes Trujillo, assured the Council that his nation benefits from the well-articulated work of the different UN bodies and agencies.

Meanwhile, in a meeting with the highest representative of the United Nations, the head of diplomacy in Colombia gave him a letter from President Ivan Duque in which he requests to expand the verification mission.

The UN has also received numerous reports of murders of social leaders, activists and human rights defenders who were immersed in the peace process and the reintegration of ex-guerrillas into society.

After the signing of the Peace Agreement in Colombia in November 2016, at the culmination of some four years of talks in the Cuban capital, the Security Council gave the green light to a mission to verify the ceasefire and the surrender of weapons.

At the conclusion of the mission, a second mission was approved to follow-up on the process for the reincorporation into society of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army, and the implementation of protection and security measures.

In September last year, the Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution to extend the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia until 25 September 2019.

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