



August 17, 2017

Ms. Claudia Vaca, Selection Committee President
The Comprehensive System for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non- Repetition

Members of the Selection Committee:

Mr. José Francisco Acuña
Mr. Diego García- Sayán
Mr. Álvaro Gil Robles
Mr. Juan Méndez

Dear Madame and Sirs:

In order to ensure an equitable and democratic judiciary in the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP), WOLA (The Washington Office on Latin America), a non- governmental organization founded in 1974 to promote human rights, and economic and social justice in Latin America, writes to you to recommend that selected members to the JEP include both Afro- Colombian and Indigenous women and men magistrates.

The Ethnic Commission for Peace and the Defense of Territorial Rights provided us with a list of candidates that we believe will best represent ethnic communities in the JEP. We hope that you seriously consider the following individuals from that list:

SPECIAL TRIBUNAL	INSCRIPTION NUMBER
Ana Manuela Ochoa	I-001538
Jose Edwin Hinestroza Palacios	I-000036
Gustavo Arley Cordoba Murillo	I-001399
Elsy Angulo Espana	I-000110
Special Jurisdiction for Peace Courts	
Eliana Fernanda Antonio Rosero	I-001233
Diego Arturo Grueso Ramos	I-002080
Yanitza Carrillo Maestre	I-002313
Ana Josefina Cabezas	I-001841
Mario Jose Lozano Madrid	I-000424
Jose Raimundo Fragozo	I-001963

In particular, we highlight candidate Diego Arturo Grueso Ramos. Mr. Grueso Ramos worked with WOLA in 2013, and we can attest that he would be an excellent magistrate who would fairly, thoroughly and professionally address the delicate issues required for this process.

Ethnic communities in Colombia disproportionately suffered at the hands of the violent armed conflict. Guaranteeing the participation of ethnic leaders and their perspectives in the transitional justice process, both as magistrates and as victims, will be key to ensuring a stable and lasting peace in Colombia.

Thank you for your consideration.

For additional questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Sebastian Bernal at sbernal@wola.org or at 202-797-2171.