



Open Letter to FARC-EP Leadership

Dear Sirs,

For many years, we, the members of the FICIB, have campaigned for the arrival of peace, respect for human rights and civil liberties in Colombia.

We welcome your new initiative to release five of your prisoners. However, the conditions in which you are holding prisoners, some for many years, are an intolerable infringement of the most basic human rights and of the rights of prisoners such as required by International Conventions.

That is why we ask you to begin the process leading to freedom for all the prisoners starting with those you have held the longest.

We ask you to make the necessary arrangements immediately, without delay, so that the prisoners will benefit by

- Removing them from combat zones
- Detaining them in conditions that respect their dignity
- Providing them with appropriate medical care
- Giving them sufficient food
- Allowing them to write to their families
- Allowing visits by the Red Cross

If you are not in a position to guarantee these basic arrangements above, we would suggest you ask a “neutral power”, preferably a neighbouring country to take care of your prisoners, thereby guaranteeing them their rights in this regard.

This possibility is mentioned in articles 10 and 12 of the Geneva Convention (III), not limited by the additional protocol of 8 June 1977 relating to non-international conflicts.

We would be grateful if you would give serious attention to our request.

Looking forward to your reply,

Yours sincerely,

The President of FICIB,

Mont Saint-Michel, France, 21 December, 2010.

FREEDOM AND PEACE IN COLOMBIA
FREEDOM FOR ALL AND EVERYWHERE !

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