13th May 2014, Washington, London, Dublin and Belfast

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEES, HAVANA

Humberto de la Calle and other members of the Negotiating Committee of the Government of Colombia

Iván Márquez and other members of the Negotiating Committee of the FARC-EP

Dear Members of the Negotiating Table,

We, the undersigned elected representatives, write to express our support for the Colombian peace process currently taking place in Havana, Cuba.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate both the Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia for having entered into negotiations and initiating a process that we hope reaches a successful conclusion of peace with social justice leading to the end of Colombia’s almost 50 year armed conflict. We congratulate both sides on the historic agreements made so far and recognise the commitment of both sides to staying at the negotiating table and encourage you to stay there until a final agreement has been made.

It is our firm belief that the only route to bring an effective and long-lasting peace to Colombia is through dialogue and compromise and we urge both parties to continue in this momentous endeavour regardless of the future difficulties that may arise.

We encourage you to consider the possibility of a ceasefire and to take the necessary measures to minimise the humanitarian cost of the conflict and guarantee the safety of civil society. We applaud the efforts made to include the views of civil society and we hope that this participation will be deepened and extended as the process continues. As politicians, some of whom have been involved in other peace processes, we are firmly committed to supporting the peace talks.

We will continue to increase awareness of the talks, and offer our experiences, to emphasise the extremely positive achievements that have been made so far by both sides, to ensure the international community puts its full weight behind the peace process.

Yours sincerely,

Members of the Congress of the United States:

Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress (D), Suzanne Bonamici Member of Congress (D), Julia Brownley Member of Congress (D), Michael E. Capuano Member of Congress (D), Tony Cárdenas Member of Congress (D), Matt Cartwright Member of Congress (D), Judy Chu Member of Congress (D), Katherine Clark Member of Congress (D), Emanuel Cleaver II Member of Congress (D), Steve Cohen Member of Congress (D), John Conyers, Jr. Member of Congress (D), Danny K. Davis Member of Congress (D), Rosa L. DeLauro Member of Congress (D), Lloyd Doggett Member of Congress (D),
Donna F. Edwards Member of Congress (D), Keith Ellison Member of Congress (D), Elizabeth H. Esty Member of Congress (D), Sam Farr Member of Congress (D), John Garamendi Member of Congress (D), Raúl M. Grijalva Member of Congress (D), Luis V. Gutierrez Member of Congress (D), Michael M. Honda Member of Congress (D), Sheila Jackson Lee Member of Congress (D), Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr. Member of Congress (D), Marcy Kaptur Member of Congress (D), Barbara Lee Member of Congress (D), John Lewis Member of Congress (D), Stephen F. Lynch Member of Congress (D), Jim McDermott Member of Congress (D), James P. McGovern Member of Congress (D), Gregory W. Meeks Member of Congress (D), Michael H. Michaud Member of Congress (D), George Miller Member of Congress (D), Gwen Moore Member of Congress (D), James P. Moran Member of Congress (D), Richard E. Neal Member of Congress (D), Eleanor Holmes Norton Member of Congress (D), Beto O’Rourke Member of Congress (D), Chellie Pingree Member of Congress (D), Mark Pocan Member of Congress (D), David E. Price Member of Congress (D), Charles B. Rangel Member of Congress (D), Bobby L. Rush Member of Congress (D), Janice D. Schakowsky Member of Congress (D), José E. Serrano Member of Congress (D), Louise McIntosh Slaughter Member of Congress (D), John F. Tierney Member of Congress (D), Maxine Waters Member of Congress (D), Peter Welch Member of Congress (D), John A. Yarmuth Member of Congress (D)

Members of the Parliament of the United Kingdom:

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Charles Walker MP (Conservative), Tom Watson MP (Labour), Dave Watts MP (Labour), Mike Wood MP (Labour), David Wright MP (Labour)

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