Information can be shared by humanitarian community directly involved in the crisis response though the Humanitarian Situation Room, www.colombiassh.org. Organisations can post their contact details through the Who What Where information channel, as well as any other pertinent information at the site by submitting to: onu-ssh@colombiassh.org. Updated information on IASC Colombia can be found at www.colombiassh.org/iasc.
Mass-displacements in Antioquia and Putumayo

66 displaced from rural Tarazá towards the urban area, fleeing from alleged abuses by FARC members, whereas 130 displaced in Valle del Guamuéz after FARC attacked a police patrol

**10/10/2007 – 15/10/2007**

FARC members allegedly arrived to the rural outskirts of Tarazá (Antioquia), burned a house and retained 20 peasants for five hours. Following these events, on October 17 66 people (among them 35 demobilised paramilitaries) displaced to this area looking for protection. IDPs are settled in a municipality’s facility and received food aid from the local government and the Presidential Office for Reintegration. DAPARD, Acción Social and ICBF also assisted them. On October 19, during a Security Council IDPs agreed to return once the Army reinforces security measures in the area. According to the Peace Adviser of Antioquia department, most IDPs have now returned.

On the other hand, press sources reported the displacement of 130 people, following an attack to a police patrol by FARC in a rural road of Valle del Guamuéz (Putumayo). According to the local mayor, the displaced population was stigmatised as FARC supporters allegedly by members of the Police and the Army. So far, IDPs are settled in the town's church.

Humanitarian situation in Chocó

One massacre, the forced disappearance of 10 people and armed confrontations in Istmina, Sipí and Bagadó raised concerns among national authorities and humanitarian actors

**26/10/2007**

On October 27 the Ombudsman’s Office informed 6 miners were killed and 4 injured after an attack by an illegal armed group in Istmina. The government of Istmina summoned a security council in order to assess the situation. The Ombudsman’s Office and Procuraduría visited the affected community and raised the alerts. Humanitarian actors are reporting the situation to national and local authorities, as well as to the humanitarian community, considering there is still a high risk for the local population. Meanwhile, since October 21 a group of 10 people (4 underage) is missing in Sipí. According to preliminary information, this situation (as the one in Istmina) could be related to the arrival of new illegal armed groups who are struggling for territorial control.
The local and national Ombudsman’s Offices as well as the Catholic Church in Chocó have raised the alerts among the humanitarian community. The Ombudsman’s Office is considering the activation of a rapid search mechanism.

On the other hand, between October 15 and 18, the Catholic Church in Chocó and WFP reported that rural communities of the municipality of Bagadó are confined due to sustained armed confrontations between the Army and FARC. WFP fear possible food shortages among these communities. WFP delivered food aid on October 19 and 20. The humanitarian actors in the region are monitoring the situation in order to prevent food shortages.

Follow-up: mass-displacement in Cocorná, Antioquia
133 people (35 families) continue in the urban area after the murder of 2 candidates for deputies by FARC and sustained threats against 28 more

26/10/2007
According to recent information, one of the candidate’s families displaced to Medellín. IDPs are temporarily settled in relatives’ houses and in a municipality’s facility and have received food aid from the departmental government. DAPARD, Acción Social, CISP, UNHCHR and UNHCR are also assisting the population.

Follow-up: Awá displacement in Nariño
According to Awá indigenous authorities risks in their communities persist. 1,018 IDPs remain in a school facility in precarious food and sanitation and conditions

26/10/2007
Following the mass displacement of an Awá indigenous community in rural Tumaco on September 18, indigenous authorities issued a communiqué denouncing precarious conditions of IDPs in Inda Sabaleta and the lack of guarantees for their return. According to the release, indigenous communities fear possible attacks due to the increasing presence of Army troops and coca eradication groups near their reservations. On the other hand, coordination between humanitarian actors in the region is improving. On October 19, representatives of Solidarity International, Coopi, UNHCR, the government of Nariño and UNIPA held a meeting in order coordinate actions and humanitarian response; Solidarity International and the departmental government suggested the construction of a shelter. PAHO is supporting the construction of 5 water wells.
Violence against candidates
February - October 25, 2007
Source: MOE, Observatorio de Derechos Humanos, press sources.

Pie size corresponds to the number of events registered per municipality

Threats
Attacks
Kidnappings
Homicides

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Political overview

Elections jeopardised by violence against candidates and electoral crimes
Two days before to the election of governors, mayors and regional/local deputies the candidates are at high risk due to sustained attacks against them that have seriously increased in the last three weeks and to the denounces of crimes related to the electoral process. The Early Warning System and the Electoral Watch Mission (MOE for its Spanish acronym) issued reports whereby they assess the risk related to elections throughout the country. So far, 29 candidates have been killed.

26/10/2007

The MOE presented a series of maps registering the different levels of risk for the October 28th’s elections. These maps indicate challenges entailed vis-à-vis the development of fair, free and transparent electoral round bearing in mind corrupt practices against voting and scrutiny as well as threats posed by different forms of violence perpetrated by illegal armed actors against candidates, voters and institutions at the local, departmental and national levels. The MOE highlights 164 municipalities are in extreme risk (175 in high risk and 337 in medium risk).

Closer looks to the main variables observed by OCHA and also compiled by the MOE are offered below (also see attached map):

Homicides

29 candidates have been killed throughout the year; Antioquia is the most affected department with 8 candidates in four municipalities, followed by Valle del Cauca with 5 homicides and Tolima with 4. In 72% of the cases the author is unknown; the remaining 8% were allegedly committed by FARC. 72% of the homicides occurred during September (25%) and October (47%). 13 of the candidates killed were aspiring for the mayor position, whereas 11 were aspiring for deputies positions.

Attacks

23 homicide attempts were registered throughout the year, 7 of which occurred in Valle del Cauca department. Buenaventura registered the highest number of attacks against candidates (4). In 86% of the cases the perpetrator is unknown; FARC was the supposed responsible for the remaining 14%. 85% of the events occurred during September and October (58%). 16 of the attacks were against candidates for mayors whereas 8 were against candidates for deputies. During some of the attacks, civilians resulted injured.

Threats

128 threats against candidates were reported during the electoral campaigns; Antioquia was the most affected department with 24, followed by Meta with 21. The most affected municipality was Riosucio, in Caldas, where all the candidates from the Polo Democrático Alternativo Party were threatened. Similarly, in Meta department, 21 candidates from the Conservative Party were threatened. In 66% of the cases the author is unknown and in 28% FARC was reported as the perpetrator. 79% of the events occurred during September and October and a significant 13% occurred in the month of July. 45% of the threatened are candidates for deputies and 43% are candidates for mayor.
Kidnappings

8 kidnappings were registered between July and September; Antioquia and Tolima register the highest number each with three cases. In three cases the alleged kidnapper was FARC, the others are unknown. 7 of are candidates for mayor and 1 is a candidate for departmental assembly (deputy). So far, candidates remain kidnapped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Kidnapping</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tolima</td>
<td>Rioblanco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antioquia</td>
<td>Anorí</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Antioquia</td>
<td>Betulia</td>
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<td>Antioquia</td>
<td>Vígia del Fuerte</td>
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<td>Bolivar</td>
<td>Regidor</td>
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<td>La Playa</td>
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<td>Tolima</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tolima</td>
<td>Libano</td>
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