I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Nearly 220 families (approximately 1,000 persons) from seven villages in El Charco, along the Tapaje River arrived in five nearby villages.
- IDPs are currently receiving shelter among the host communities and in public facilities (schools and churches).

II. Situation Overview

IDPs began to arrive on 28 March to the villages of Castigo, Magdalena, Brazo Seco, Rosario and Vuelta El Mero, fleeing from the intense confrontations between the Army and FARC in some of the rural areas of the municipality.

Public facilities have been adapted as temporary shelters to cope with the emergency. Also, some of the IDPs are staying at the host community’s houses.

Local institutions and UN agencies are currently undertaking rapid needs assessments by sectors, in order to define and coordinate relief operations. A detailed census of the affected population is also ongoing.

The following table shows the number of families that have arrived to the five villages so far, according to preliminary information reported by PAHO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>No. Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Castigo</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazo Seco</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosario</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vuelta El Mero</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>125</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Local sources reported that most of the families had been previously affected by forced displacement, particularly during the mass events registered in 2007.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

The following are the preliminary results of the assessments undertaken in the area, according to information provided by PAHO:

Emergency shelter
- **Response:** 125 out of the 220 families are hosted in relatives’ houses, schools and churches.
- A verifying commission composed by the Departmental Health Institute of Nariño (IDSN), the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare (ICBF), the Catholic Church and PAHO are carrying out a rapid needs assessment in the shelters.
- **Gaps in response:** There is still no information available on the population that arrived in Playa Grande and Tribuna villages, due to access restrictions.

Food and nutrition
- **Response:** So far, the municipality and the host community are providing food aid for IDPs.
- **Needs:** Detailed information on the population affected, by gender, age and ethnic group is required in order to provide assistance.
Health
• Response: The Local Hospital (ESE) designated leaders in each shelter, in order to undertake the population’s census. Also, will carry out a medical mission next week.

• PAHO and the Local Health Directorate (DLS) are assessing the health conditions of IDPs. Also, PAHO is supporting the local hospital in the implementation of the IDPs Health Information Management System (SIGA in Spanish).

Water, sanitation and hygiene
• Needs: According to a first assessment made by the verifying commission, the public facilities adapted as temporary shelters lack water, waste management and excreta disposal systems.

IV. Coordination

• The Local Committee for IDPs Integral Assistance (CMAIPD) met on 27 March and defined immediate actions to assess the situation and coordinate humanitarian response.

V. Contacts

OCHA Colombia: María José Torres, Head of Office
torres8@un.org, (57) + 1 6221100 / Fax: (57) + 1 6221232

OCHA Colombia: Christian Visnes, Coordinator southwest sub-office
visnes@un.org, (57) + 2 5573696 Cali, Valle del Cauca

OCHA Colombia: Arantza Frade, Field Officer
frade@un.org, (57) + 2 7310479 Pasto, Nariño

OCHA Colombia: Angela Molina, Information Consultant
molina@un.org, (57) + 2 5573696 Cali, Valle del Cauca

For more information regarding this emergency, please visit: www.colombiassh.org
The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.