Bogotá, August 30th 2019.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Isaiah 52:7 (NRSV)

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO) has historically accompanied the construction of peace in Colombia, especially with our efforts in implementing the peace document: “Agreement for the Final Termination of Conflict” of 2016 which helped to negotiate a peace between the Colombian State and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). Sadly, some members of the FARC have recently called to take up arms again. We are calling on our Christian brothers and sisters, especially those of the Global Lutheran community to continue working and praying for peace.

We invite the wider international community to keep the hope of peace for our Country, and to continue accompany the peace processes in order to resolved the Colombian armed conflict through non-violent negotiations.

Likewise, we urge the government of Colombia to maintain an attitude of cooperation and open-dialogue in order to achieve a complete peace and we insist on the full and unobstructed functioning of Comprehensive System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition.

Because of our faithful affirmation of Truth and Justice, we are dedicated to upholding the rights of the victims of the conflict and the political leaders seeking to end it. As well as accompanying those ex-combatants who seek to live in peace.

We reject all forms of violence and in particular the rearmament of the FARC ex-combatants. We hope that they might reconsider their call to arms, and are called instead to live out the peace that Jesus Christ proclaimed for the world.

ATAHUALPA HERNANDEZ MIRANDA
OBISPO PRESIDENTE
IELCO