Friends of the Earth International

www.foei.org

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Alavaro Uribe Velez
President of the Republic of Colombia
Carrera 8 No. 7 - 26 Palacio de Nariño Bogotá
auribe@presidencia.gov.co

Re: Justice for the Awá people of Nariño, Colombia

Dear Mr. President,

Friends of the Earth International (FoEI) is an international federation that brings together more than 2 million individual members and independent environmental organizations in 75 countries around the world. FoEI is the world's largest grassroots environmental advocacy network. Through our national member groups, FoEI supports the struggles of local communities around the world.

We are extremely disturbed to hear that on the morning of Wednesday 26 August 12 indigenous Awá People, including several children, were murdered in the indigenous territory of Gran Rosario, in the Tumaco municipality.

According to indigenous organisations 77 indigenous people have been murdered in Colombia so far this year. More than half of those murdered, 38 in total, were Awá People. Not one of the 77 murders have been investigated or even denounced by the Colombian authorities.

We have sent our condolences and act in solidarity with the community from the territory of Gran Rosario, the Awá People and their organisation (UNIPA) and with the National Indigenous Organisation of Colombia.

We also add our voices to the national and international outcry calling for the perpetrators of these terrible events not to go unpunished. An impartial investigation needs to be carried out to determine who is responsible and urgent measures need to be taken to protect the lives and integrity of the Awá People.

friends of the earth international [foei] is a federation of organizations from all over the world that are campaigning to protect the environment and to create sustainable societies
foei is registered in amsterdam under number 40535338

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We are therefore calling on your Government to:

- Adopt measures to guarantee the life, physical integrity and culture of the indigenous Awá People, in line with their Life Plan.

- Urgently, impartially and thoroughly investigate this massacre in cooperation with the indigenous authorities from the Awá People.

We look forward to receiving notice of your positive action.

Yours Sincerely,

cc to:

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