



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

14 December 2016

Dear Mr. President,

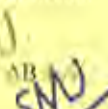
I am writing to inform the Security Council of the signing, ratification and entry into force of the final peace agreement between the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army (FARC-EP).

On 24 November 2016, the two parties signed a revised Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace. The Agreement was ratified by the Congress of Colombia on 30 November 2016, following votes in the Senate on 29 November and in the House of Representatives on 30 November 2016, respectively.

The provisions of the Final Peace Agreement pertaining to the bilateral and definitive ceasefire and cessation of hostilities and the laying down of arms are unchanged from those set out in the agreement that was signed in Cartagena on 24 September 2016. Those provisions informed my recommendations on the size, operational aspects and mandate of the United Nations Mission in Colombia, as set out in my report of 18 August 2016 (S/2016/729) and approved by the Security Council on 13 September 2016 in resolution 2307 (2016).

In a joint press statement on 1 December 2016, the Government of Colombia and FARC-EP confirmed that the Final Peace Agreement had entered into force on 1 December 2016, following its ratification by the Congress. The parties confirmed, furthermore, that this date would be considered "D" day, as defined in the Agreement, thus initiating the timetable for the implementation of its provisions relating to the ceasefire, cessation of hostilities and the laying down of arms.

His Excellency
Mr. Ramón Oyarzun Marchesi
President of the Security Council
New York

SG to SC Pres on UN Mission
in Colombia
Drafter: DPA
Proofread by: Lero AB
Approved by: 

Date: 14 Dec 2016

The Mission is accordingly proceeding to implement the full range of its mandated tasks, as set out in Security Council resolutions 2261 (2016) and 2307 (2016).

The signing, ratification and entry into force of the Final Peace Agreement is a momentous achievement for the parties and for the people of Colombia. The United Nations Mission is intensifying efforts in support of the parties to meet the challenging requirements of implementation. My forthcoming report to the Security Council on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Colombia will elaborate on progress to date and on the next steps in this process.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ki" and last name "Ban" being more prominent than the middle name "Moon".

BAN Ki-moon