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Democratic Defense and Security Policy

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA
2003

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Letter from the President of the Republic, Álvaro Uribe Vélez

Recovering order and security - a cardinal requirement for the real validity of freedoms and human rights - is the central concern of this Government. Democratic Security is what is required to guarantee the protection of citizens. That the State protect everyone equally and without distinction, so that all Colombians can enjoy their rights.

Democratic Security has guiding principles and policies that are under development. In this document we present the navigation chart of what has been done and what is to be done, so that State servants, members of the Public Force and citizens know the whole of our security policy and participate in it.

Democratic Security differs from the concepts of security professed by authoritarian regimes, supporters of ideological hegemony and political exclusion. This government does not endorse concepts from other times such as "National Security" in Latin America, which started from considering an ideological group or political party as an "internal enemy." We preach that everyone is welcome in a democracy. The opposition, those who disagree with the ideas of the Government or their party, will be protected with the same care as friends or supporters of the Government.

There is no contradiction between security and democracy. On the contrary, security guarantees the space for disagreement, which is the oxygen of all democracy, so that dissent does not mean exposing personal security. But a sharp line must be drawn between the right to dissent and criminal conduct. Only when the State relentlessly punishes crime and combats impunity are there full guarantees to exercise opposition and criticism.

The antithesis of democratic politics is terrorism, which seeks to impose its will on others by violence, at the cost of the lives of thousands of civilians. This is what we have seen in the attacks on the El Nogal club in Bogotá and Neiva. This is what we have seen in Fortul, Arauca, where terrorists deceived a child with a bicycle bomb that they later activated, ending his life. In front of

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terrorism there can be only one answer: defeat it. Those who persist in the use of this criminal practice will bear the full weight of the law.

We Colombians will not give in to this threat. We are going to defeat it with the collaboration of all citizens. The key concept here is solidarity. Solidarity among citizens and solidarity with the Public Force. This principle, essential in the text of our Constitution, is essential for coexistence, for the growing consolidation in the deep integration of the Colombian people. The massive response of the population to cooperation within the institutional framework has demonstrated the determination of the Colombian people to put an end to terrorism.

We also need the solidarity of other countries, especially in the region, to stop terrorism and its ally, drug trafficking. We have to freeze his accounts, hunt down his men, turn them over to justice. I have said it repeatedly: whoever makes the decision to harbor terrorism ends up being a victim of terrorism. To defeat terrorism there is no sovereignty of nations, but democratic sovereignty. The fight is for the sovereignty of States and democratic nations against the sovereignty of terrorism. The fight belongs to everyone against terrorism.

We require efficiency with transparency. Efficacy, which is measured in results, and transparency, which is measured in the observance of human rights. We are lucky in Colombia to have a respectful Public Force like no other in the continent of democracy and constitutional order. Efficiency within transparency and compliance with the legal system is the basis on which we must act.

We will recover the security of our citizens without limiting their freedoms. Colombia has always been an example in Latin America of press freedom. It has not crossed the mind of this Government to restrict that freedom, with exceptional or permanent legal regulations. We only ask journalists, like all citizens, to act responsibly when disclosing information that could endanger the safety of all.

Our performance will be in front and with the cards on the table. The Public Force constitutes the coercive element of the Constitution to protect the life, liberty and property of citizens. It is not an actor in war or conflict and we must not allow it to be equated with violent groups, against which it will act with absolute determination, whatever they are called. The legitimacy of our institutions depends on our determination to fight equally against any organization, group or person that threatens the security of citizens, institutions and democracy.

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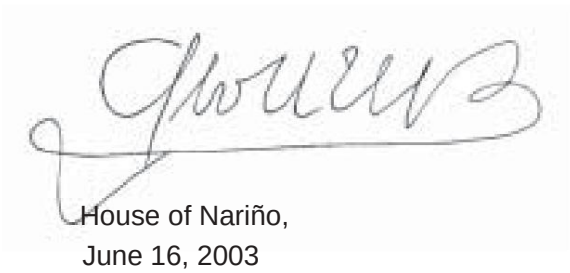
We have as much generosity to shelter those who desist from the violent way, as firmness to defeat terrorism. Just as we will not faint to defeat the last of the terrorists, those who want to make peace with the Colombian State have the opportunity to do so quickly, taking advantage of the demobilization policy. We have called on the young peasants, the young people from the urban sectors who have been deceived or forced to become part of violent groups to lay down their arms. How the peasant family is frustrated, how the urban family suffers when their children are forced by these organizations to join their ranks. We are fully willing to welcome all those who renounce violence, to give them all the security guarantees and educational opportunities so that they can reintegrate into society. Those who, maintaining political modesty, believe that they still have ideas to defend, should reject the path of violence and come to demobilize or make a peace agreement with the Government. We will give them all the guarantees to exercise the politics that the dissident in democracy deserves.

Security is not achieved only with the efforts of the Public Force. This is going to be an effort by the entire State, by all Colombians. A strong state structure, supported by citizen solidarity, guarantees the rule of law and respect for rights and freedoms.

The rule of law is also a guarantee of development and economic prosperity. Every time there is a kidnapping, investor confidence is deeply affected, capital is dispersed and sources of employment are lost. When Democratic Security develops a policy to eliminate kidnapping, it is defending the people and basic social guarantees.

We have made progress, but the road is long. This is an effort of years, which requires perseverance in politics and concrete results so that our permanent demand for support for citizens is sustainable, so that they pay their taxes with conviction, so that soldiers and policemen are permanently accompanied by the spirit popular. We will not rest until we make Democratic Security a reality for all Colombians.



House of Nariño,
June 16, 2003

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Presentation of the Minister of National Defense, Marta Lucia Ramirez de Rincón

The security of Colombians is a matter that is the responsibility not only of the Ministry of Defense and the Public Force, but of the entire State and the entire society. From the moment that President Uribe entrusted me with the task of developing the foundations of Democratic Security in a document that includes both the conceptual framework and the Government's security policies, I assembled a team from the Ministry of Defense, the General Command of the Military Forces, the Superior War College and the National Police to study and structure the most appropriate solutions to the country's problems in this area. The result of this work is the document that we present here.

Transparency and inclusiveness have been our guiding principles. Establishing the responsibility that falls to all of us for the safety of our fellow citizens implied in the first instance opening a dialogue within the Government, to propose joint responses. Within the framework established by the President of the Republic, we have built, together with other ministries, a policy that assigns to the prompt and complete administration of justice, to the best management of finances, to diplomacy and to the proper functioning of the public administration and of all State entities a definitive role in achieving security.

In this way, we develop a true long-term State policy that involves not only the Government, but also the other branches of power. We design strategies to deal with kidnapping, to separate young people from arms, to protect the Nation's infrastructure, to eliminate drug trafficking and to dismantle the structures of terrorist organizations. We are convinced that in this way we not only fulfill our obligation to protect the population, but also ensure spaces for discussion and democratic participation. Based on these strategies, we have brought together the entire Government to establish a strategic security plan with priorities, responsibilities and programs for each of the entities.

No less important has been the participation of different sectors of society in the design of this policy. In a long consultation process, in which we circulated the initial drafts of this document and

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We organized discussion forums, we were able to collect the comments and opinions of intellectuals, academics, representatives of the private sector and many others who, with their observations and criticisms, enriched this policy. Citizens of the most varied nature sent us their own recommendations. On the other hand, the security councils headed by the President of the Republic on a weekly basis in the regions have allowed us to complement the vision of the Government with that of the population that directly suffers the consequences of terrorism and insecurity. We have taken into account all these proposals and concerns.

This is a radical departure from the past. Colombians for a long time thought that security was a problem and the responsibility of the Military Forces and the National Police. For years there was a great vacuum in the action of the rest of the State in some critical areas of our democracy and in some regions of Colombia. It is precisely this vacuum that explains the unprecedented growth of drug trafficking and consequently of terrorist organizations in large regions of our territory. Hence, the axis of this policy is precisely to achieve complete control of the territory by the State to ensure the full rule of law, governability and therefore the strengthening of the rule of law.

The Public Force has made every effort to fulfill its responsibility. In recent years, the professionalization process led by the commanders of our forces has increased their response capacity, their mobility and, above all, the support they receive from society. The seriousness with which the Military Forces and the National Police have applied themselves to the instruction and dissemination of human rights has no parallel on the continent, much less in a country that faces security challenges such as those faced by Colombia.

The result of this combination of ethics, professionalism and greater efficiency of the Public Force has been, first of all, the recognition by the illegal armed organizations that they are not going to advance on the path of violence. Faced with this impossibility and the lack of popular support, they have preferred to turn their power of destruction on the civilian population, practicing atrocious terrorism that day after day takes the lives of innocents and far exceeds the number of civilians murdered and kidnapped than other countries have experienced. from Latin America. Their own organizations subsist only through the terror with which they discipline their men and mistreat their women; and through the resources of drug trafficking with which they buy consciences and political support, in Colombia and abroad.

Secondly, the professionalization of the Public Force has earned it an unparalleled degree of trust and recognition in Colombian society, which feels identified with its military and police. The Public Force will continue its strengthening process and will be one of the pillars in the

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safety recovery. We have created new mobile brigades, high mountain battalions, units of peasant soldiers -soldiers who do military service in their place of residence- special anti-terrorism units, mobile police squads, and we are expanding the presence of National Police units. to all the municipalities of the country.

10 The process of professionalization of the Public Force will be accompanied by an effort to increase coordination and joint work, both within the Public Force and between it and the other judicial and investigative agencies of the State. An example of this is the coordination of intelligence. Since the beginning of the Government, the Ministry of Defense has led joint meetings of the intelligence directorates of the Military Forces, the National Police, the DAS and the CTI of the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation. This coordination is already bearing fruit.

The Public Force will take the first step in this effort to articulate a comprehensive response to security challenges. The second must be given by the State as a whole and the third, by all of society. The civilian population cannot be the target of aggression. But all Colombians have not only the right, but also the duty to actively participate in strengthening our democracy, to support our institutions, to support the work of our Public Force, to show solidarity with those who suffer displacement, violence and terror at the hands of illegal armed organizations. A strong democracy and a solidary Nation are the best guarantee that our rights will be respected.

With the leadership of President Uribe and with a policy of State security and supported by the citizens, we will achieve the objective of individual security, the strengthening of the Rule of Law, the protection of democracy, and with it the prosperity and well-being of all Colombians. Which is nothing less, as the President has pointed out, than the realization of the principles and purposes that head our national emblem: freedom and order.

The different people from the academic and business sector who examined this document insisted on the need for it, as a State Policy, to have long-term continuity in its fundamental objectives.
For this reason we have proposed its permanence from 2002 to 2012.

Ministry of National Defense,
June 16, 2003

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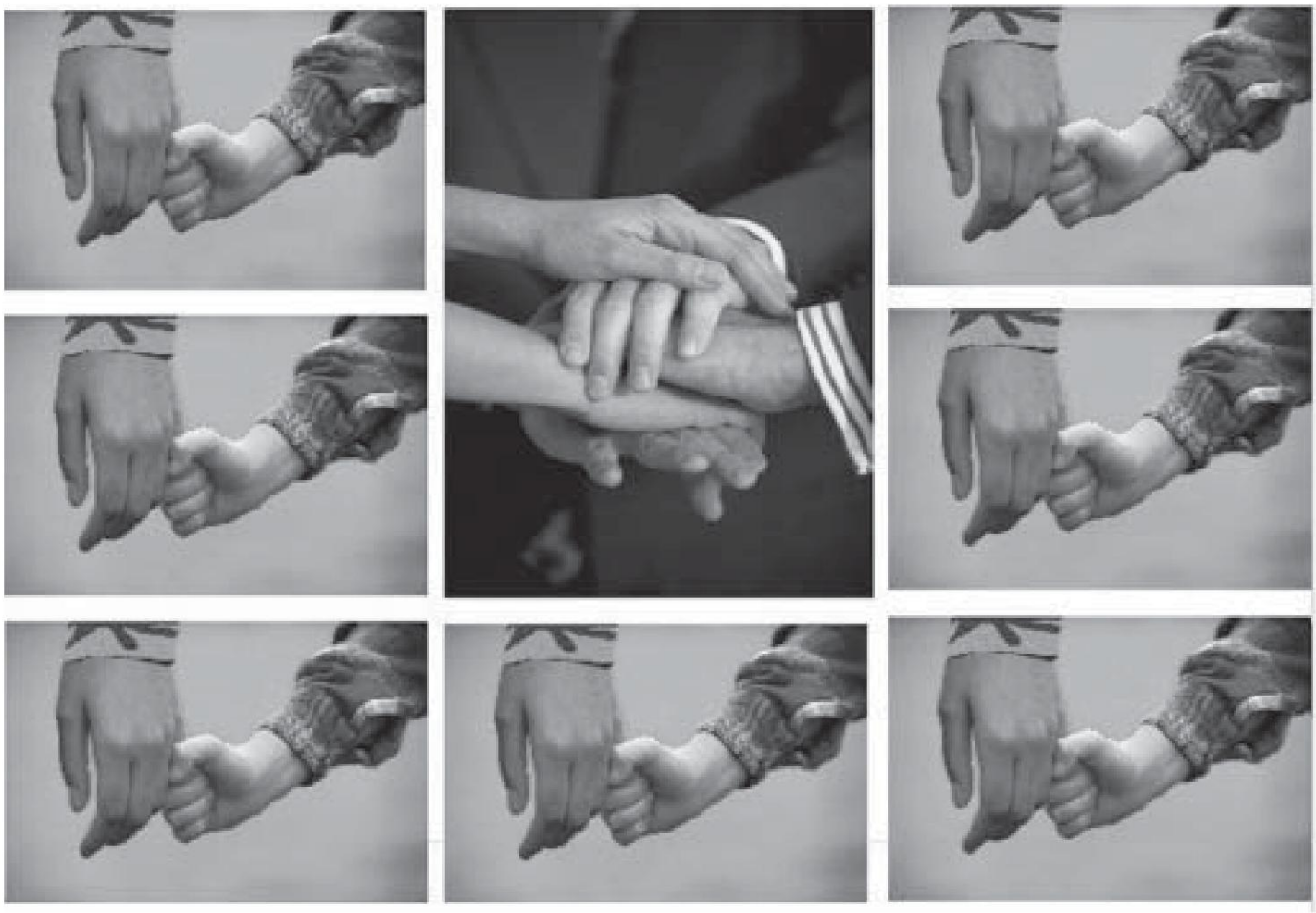

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I. Defense Policy and Democratic Security

1. Democratic Defense and Security Policy is the framework document through which the National Government outlines the basic lines of Democratic Security to protect the rights of Colombians and strengthen, with the solidarity of citizens, the Rule of Law and authority democracy, wherever it is threatened. The Democratic Defense and Security Policy is a long-term State policy, which will be developed in coordination with all government entities and other branches of power. True security depends not only on the capacity of the Public Force to exercise the coercive power of the State, but also on the capacity of the judiciary to guarantee the prompt and complete administration of justice, of the Government to comply with the constitutional responsibilities of the State and of Congress to legislate keeping in mind security as the common good par excellence of all of society.

2. From this document emerge the general guidelines that will be followed, in the elaboration of their respective plans and strategies, by the Public Force, all the ministries and other entities of the Government. Within their action plans they will contemplate schedules and priority measures to comply with the purposes of this policy.

3. This document sets out, firstly, the fundamentals of the policy; It then describes the main threats that weigh on Colombian democracy and the security of citizens; then lists the strategic objectives that need to be achieved to counter these threats; and finally develops the lines of action that will lead to the fulfillment of these objectives.

Democratic Security

4. The general objective of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy is to reinforce and guarantee the Rule of Law throughout the territory, by strengthening democratic authority: the free exercise of the authority of the institutions, the rule of law and of the active participation of citizens in matters of common interest.

"The general objective of the Democratic Security and Defense Policy is to reinforce and guarantee the rule of law throughout the territory, by strengthening democratic authority."

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5. The strengthening of the Rule of Law is the necessary condition to fulfill the purpose of Democratic Security: the protection of each and every one of the inhabitants of Colombia, as provided in the Political Constitution. If the rule of law fully governs, the rights and freedoms of the citizen will be protected; and to the extent that the citizen feels protected, citizen participation and security will be strengthened.

6. Security is not understood in the first instance as the security of the State, nor as the security of the citizen without the assistance of the State, but rather as the protection of the citizen and democracy by the State, with solidarity cooperation and the commitment of the whole society. Democratic Security is thus founded on three pillars:

"The strengthening of the Rule of Law is the necessary condition to fulfill the purpose of Democratic Security: the protection of each and every one of the inhabitants of Colombia."

The protection of the rights of all citizens, regardless of their sex, race, origin, language, religion or political ideology. All citizens, both those who live in the countryside and those who live in the city, are equal before the law and enjoy the same rights. The rights of the peasant, the businessman, the priest, the trade unionist, the teacher, the defender of human rights, the university professor, the journalist, the soldier or the police officer will be equally protected, without discrimination.

The protection of values, plurality and democratic institutions. The plurality of political debate depends on security conditions that allow the free expression of differences of opinion and the free exercise of democratic authority. The ruler, the opponent or the political dissident require guarantees that allow them to exercise their popular mandate or participate in politics without fearing for their personal safety. Those who attack, kidnap or threaten mayors, councilors, governors, deputies, congressmen and other political leaders attack not only a citizen, but also the democratic will of the population. The Democratic Defense and Security Policy seeks to protect political leaders and dissidents, while consolidating the democratic framework and the broad possibilities of citizen participation established by the Political Constitution.

The solidarity and cooperation of all citizens in defense of democratic values. It is the responsibility of the State to guarantee the rights of citizens and provide the institutional mechanisms that allow a peaceful resolution of conflicts. But the proper functioning of the institutions

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It also requires the active participation and solidarity commitment of citizens. Democratic participation is expressed not only in the exercise of the vote, but also in the respect and promotion of the civic values that frame the plurality of the political debate, in the performance of an active role in public affairs, and in the defense of the freedoms of all.

7. This is then a policy for the protection of the population. It is an error to suppose, as some think, that in Colombia there are only two paths: that of peace, in charge of the political leadership, and that of war, in charge of the Military Forces. In this way, civil leaders and society in general are exempted from the responsibility that they are responsible for contributing to the security of all, leaving the threatened population to its fate and assigning the Public Force a task that it cannot accomplish alone. Security is not primarily coercion: it is the permanent and effective presence of the democratic authority in the territory, the product of a collective effort by all of society (18)1 .

8. Secondly, as long as impunity persists, the lack of respect for the law and the authority of the institutions, the threats to the population will persist, regardless of a possible negotiation with the illegal armed organizations. As long as the authority of democratic institutions is not strengthened, there will be organizations, groups, or individuals who, whether or not they claim political motives, will continue to use the authority gaps to exercise their arbitrary control over the population, extort money in exchange for "protection," and profit of drug trafficking

Democracy and human rights

9. Unlike what happened in other parts of the continent, where the population suffered the abuse of an excessive coercive power of the State, the rights of Colombians are fundamentally threatened by the historical incapacity of Colombian democracy to affirm the authority of its institutions over the entire territory and to protect citizens, permanently and reliably, from the threat and arbitrariness of illegal armed organizations. In the last decade, the Political Constitution of 1991 achieved a deepening and extension of the scope of democracy, but at the same time the authority of the institutions eroded in an accelerated way, due to the impact of the illegal armed organizations. Hand in hand with drug trafficking, these organizations destroy the legal order, opening spaces of impunity not only for their criminal activities, but for all kinds of

"Security is not primarily coercion: it is the permanent and effective presence of the democratic authority in the territory, the product of a collective effort by all of society."

[1] Numbers in parentheses refer to the corresponding paragraph

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«Human rights are the foundation and raison d'être of the constitutional order. Its validity requires above all full democratic sovereignty and the capacity of the State to make the legal order prevail throughout the territory.

criminality. Their efforts to withdraw or replace institutions where their authority is weak not only undermine democratic governance, but subject the population to a regime of intimidation, violence and terror.

10. The strengthening of democratic authority is, for this reason, the necessary condition to guarantee respect for human rights. It is often forgotten that human rights, more than maxims of behavior, are the foundation and raison d'être of the constitutional order. Its validity requires above all full democratic sovereignty and the capacity of the State to make the legal order prevail throughout the territory.

11. Full respect for human rights, both a fundamental condition and objective of democracy, is only achieved when democracy is strong and fills the gap between the norm and reality: when laws and state institutions are effective. , the political debate is free of threats and citizens assume an active role, participating in community affairs, supervising its institutions and showing solidarity.

12. Strengthening the rule of law requires not only effective institutions, active citizen participation and a strong legal order that supports the exercise of rights and freedoms. It also assumes that all State actions will be subject to that order. The security of Colombians will be restored in accordance with the law and within the democratic framework, which in turn will be strengthened to the extent that there is greater security. This is the guarantee that the constitutional order and respect for human rights will prevail over arbitrariness and abuses by illegal armed organizations.
Without absolute respect for human rights, there will never be reconciliation (24).

"The security of Colombians will be restored in accordance with the law and within the democratic framework, which in turn will be strengthened to the extent that there is greater security."

Territorial control and coordinated action of the State

13. The first condition to meet the objective of strengthening the rule of law is the gradual consolidation of state control over the entire territory. Without territorial control by the State, it is not possible to guarantee the proper functioning of justice, hindered in many regions of the country by the intimidation of prosecutors, judges and other authorities; and without the full enforcement of the law, the population, exposed to threats and arbitrary domination by illegal armed organizations, loses the exercise of their rights and freedom.

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14. The Public Force will begin the process of consolidating state control over the territory, ensuring its permanent and definitive presence in all municipal capitals, with the support of mobile brigades and other units of the Military Forces and the National Police. Units made up of regular soldiers, peasant soldiers and carabineros of the National Police will ensure the maintenance of territorial control (89). But the responsibility for the safety of citizens cannot and should not fall exclusively on the Public Force, for the reasons mentioned. All State entities will contribute within their powers to the consolidation of democratic authority in the territory.

"The first condition to meet the objective of strengthening the rule of law is the gradual consolidation of state control over the entire territory."

15. The proper functioning of justice, in particular, is the foundation of security, peaceful coexistence, and democracy.
Just as the materialization of human rights requires the active participation of citizens, citizen participation in turn requires the free exercise of political rights and the civil rights that sustain them. In other words, it requires the rule of law, which is built to the extent that the judicial apparatus gains the trust of the citizen in its ability to resolve conflicts effectively and impartially, throughout the territory and across the entire society. Without prompt, complete and effective justice, uncertainty prevails, serving as a pretext to "privatize" security. This is not a lesser risk than the aggression of which those who try to protect themselves in this way are victims. For this reason, the protection and strengthening of the judicial apparatus, which starts from territorial control, is at the base of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy.

16. The effectiveness of measures to consolidate territorial control depends on the degree of coordination achieved by State entities. The Government will have as a priority to ensure that the actions of the State at all levels are carried out in a coordinated and comprehensive manner, and that they have the support of the citizens. At the national level, the coordination of policies will be the responsibility of the Security and National Defense Council (59), which will advise the President of the Republic in determining priorities and responsibilities for the Public Force and all government entities. Local security councils, with the advice of the academic and private sectors, will contribute to the coordination of the policy in their areas of jurisdiction (60). To achieve the unity of action that the circumstances demand, the Government will seek to develop this policy in harmony with the other branches of power, which have joint responsibility in achieving security.

"The protection and strengthening of the judicial apparatus, which starts from territorial control, is at the base of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy."

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17. At the operational level, inter-institutional support structures will guarantee coordination on the ground between State entities, to ensure the effective action of justice (66). Its composition will not be uniform: the instruments used will depend on the nature of the threat. Where territorial control is weak, emphasis will be placed on the actions of the Public Force; where control of the territory is not threatened, but there is, for example, high impunity, the judicial bodies will take the initiative.

The support structures have the purpose of creating the security conditions that allow justice to act in a concentrated and effective manner. The Democratic Defense and Security Policy will be one and will be executed simultaneously throughout the national territory.

"The Government will have as a priority to ensure that the actions of the State at all levels are carried out in a coordinated and comprehensive manner and that they have the support of the citizenry."

Cooperation and solidarity

18. The primary responsibility for ensuring the rights and freedoms of the citizen lies with the State, in compliance with its constitutional obligations. But security is also the product of the collective effort of citizens: it is everyone's responsibility. The active participation of citizens, their collaboration with the administration of justice and their support for the authorities are an essential part of strengthening justice, democracy and, consequently, strengthening the rule of law. These are mandatory duties, as provided in the Constitution. But above all, citizen cooperation rests on the principle of solidarity on which the Social State of Law is founded. To the extent that common interest prevails over individual interest, that each Colombian is as supportive of those who live in remote regions of the country as they are with a relative or a neighbor, that they make use of their rights and comply with their duty to participate in the formation, exercise and control of political power, the principle of solidarity will be strengthened, institutions will be strengthened and security will be strengthened.

19. In promoting security, the Government will work in solidarity not only with citizens in general, but also with all sectors of civil society: with the academic sector, with the private sector, with non-governmental organizations for development and of national and foreign human rights, with local civic associations and with the Church. The National Government supports in particular the cooperation and solidarity efforts carried out by non-governmental organizations in Colombia and will encourage a closer relationship between these organizations and the Colombian State, with the understanding that

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all of them act within the greatest respect for Colombian institutions and the democratic system. The contribution of NGOs to the work of humanitarian attention and the promotion of the culture of human rights is a fundamental complement to the effort made in the same sense by State institutions. For this reason, it is in the interest of the Government and the NGOs to avoid the abusive use of the capacities of these organizations by people outside the law, as has happened in some cases, fortunately exceptional.

«Citizen cooperation rests on the principle of solidarity, on which the Social State of Law is founded».

20. Solidarity also implies contributing economic resources to the security of all: it is not possible to respond to the security needs of the population without the full payment of taxes.
Due tax behavior is an integral part of the principle of solidarity.

Efficiency and austerity

21. The security of citizens requires that State institutions have an effective response capacity. The Public Force, in particular, has the legitimacy that its actions provide in compliance with the constitution and the law, due to its permanent respect for human rights, it will always maintain the initiative to deter, prevent and respond effectively to attacks against the population. Where there is a threat, there will be an immediate response with the means available, to prevent the destruction of towns, the displacement of citizens, the kidnapping of civilians, the murder of policemen and soldiers, as well as any act of terrorism.

"The Public Force has the legitimacy that its actions provide in compliance with the constitution and the law, due to its permanent respect for human rights, it will always maintain the initiative to deter, prevent and respond effectively to attacks against the population" .

22. Just as citizens contribute to the strengthening of the Public Force by paying taxes, the Government and the Public Force will respond to the principles of efficiency, transparency and austerity in the use of these resources, which will be used in such a way that each perceived weight translates into safety. Savings will be made where possible to use these surpluses in an increase and a better endowment of the Public Force. An administrative reform will be carried out, a fiscal adjustment will be carried out and there will be a merciless fight against corruption.
Citizens must equally contribute to austerity, demanding accountability from their rulers and denouncing cases of waste and corruption. The Public Force, for its part, will seek the most appropriate balance between logistical and operational support personnel, ensuring that there are more soldiers and police officers in the operational area. Similarly, it will optimize logistics processes, with the advice and support of the private sector, to improve their efficiency.

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"Any violation or abuse of human rights committed by a member of the Public Force or any other State entity will be punished without hesitation in disciplinary and criminal proceedings if necessary."

Transparency and legality

23. All government actions will be transparent and subject to public scrutiny. Strengthening the culture of honesty and transparency, with effective mechanisms and tools to eradicate corruption, is a priority. This example is given in the planning and execution of contracts, in the control of impediments to avoid conflicts of interest and in the observance of the regimes of disqualifications and incompatibilities. Observance of the constitutional principles of morality, efficiency, economy, speed, impartiality, publicity and, consequently, the transparent use of public resources, will guarantee that they yield the best results for the benefit of citizens. Greater transparency and greater efficiency will translate into greater credibility.

24. All actions of the Government will take place within the framework of legal regulations. There will be a rigorous observance of human rights and strict compliance with International Humanitarian Law, as required by the Constitution and the la Any violation or abuse of human rights committed by a member of the Public Force or any other State entity will be punished without hesitation through disciplinary and criminal proceedings if necessary. Democratic Security has as its essential assumption the legitimacy of institutions vis-à-vis citizens and the community. That legitimacy depends on the application of these principles and strict compliance with the law by the State.

"Local authorities will share with the National Government the responsibility of designing and implementing action plans that fit their specific needs."

National policies and local responses

25. The Democratic Defense and Security Policy is a comprehensive State policy, with transversal lines of action for national application. But the State's responses will be structured around local problems, with the participation of local authorities and society. The diversity of factors that affect security, the breakdown of the same illegal armed organizations and their frequent merger with organized crime, as well as the variety of sources of wealth that feed these organizations, prevent solutions from being transferred from one part of the world to another. national territory, without adapting them to local particularities. Therefore, local authorities will share with the National Government the responsibility of designing and implementing action plans that fit their spe

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National defense

26. The need to address internal security does not imply a neglect of national defense, to which due priority will be given. Colombia will continue to be faithful to its tradition as a country that respects international law, but will maintain a deterrent capacity, with the necessary projection to ensure respect for its national sovereignty and territorial integrity, within a defensive strategic position. However, the nature of the threats that afflict the Nation, particularly terrorism and the illicit drug business, has led to the fact that in the Colombian case, as in that of many other countries that today face this type of threats, the lines between internal security and national defense are blurred.

Multilateralism and co-responsibility

"Illegal armed organizations have turned civilians into their main target, through the use of non-conventional weapons and premeditated attacks."

27. Terrorism as a method to threaten the stability of the State is the greatest threat to democracy in Colombia and the world. The Colombian illegal armed organizations have turned civilians into their main target, through the use of unconventional weapons and premeditated attacks. Behaviors such as the kidnapping or murder of civilians, the destruction of infrastructure and the use of explosives against the population have been recognized by the international community as what they are: acts of terrorism.

28. The measures and actions against terrorism will be developed as a State policy, without partisan or bureaucratic interests and in accordance with the international agreements signed by Colombia. This will be an effort of the entire Nation, that is, of the entire State and of all citizens. But the fight against terrorism goes beyond Colombia's territory, like that of all States , and requires a multilateral effort. The growing evidence of the involvement of international terrorist networks in the activities of Colombian illegal armed organizations makes urgent international cooperation against terrorism and compliance with the international commitments acquired after the events of September 11, particularly the Resolution 1373, of September 28, 2001, of the United Nations Security Council and, at the regional and subregional level, of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, of June 3, 2002, and of the Lima Commitment, of June 17 of

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"The Government will not allow the national territory to continue being used by international drug trafficking organizations and affirms its willingness to completely eliminate the illegal drug business in the national territory."

2002. All spaces that allow the financing, movement and action of terrorist organizations must be closed, through international cooperation without delays and without obstacles.

29. In the same way, the global illicit drug business endangers the institutional stability of States and the security of citizens. Its power of corruption is a threat to democracy and its collusion or fusion with terrorism is a risk not only for Colombia, but for a large part of the hemisphere, especially for those countries that do not have strong justice and institutions. The Government will not allow the national territory to continue being used by international drug trafficking organizations and affirms its willingness to completely eliminate the illegal drug business in the national territory. But the problem of illicit drugs, like terrorism, is a transnational problem: its solution cannot be limited to a single country. It is also well known that drug trafficking and terrorism make use of the same supply and asset laundering channels; often the same organization is involved in both activities (42). The United Nations Security Council, in Resolution 1373, recognized the intertwining of terrorism with drug trafficking and the need to coordinate an international response against these crimes:

"4. [The Security Council] notes with concern the close connection between international terrorism and transnational organized crime, illicit drugs, money laundering, illicit arms trafficking and the illicit circulation of nuclear, chemical , biologicals and other potentially lethal materials, and in this regard highlights the need to promote coordinated efforts at the national, subregional, regional and international levels, to strengthen the international response to this serious challenge and threat to international security." .

"The United Nations Security Council, in Resolution 1373, recognized the intertwining of terrorism with drug trafficking and the need to coordinate an international response against these crimes."

With this same argument, Colombia has been demanding for more than a decade in the respective international forums a more effective commitment to solve the world problem of illicit drugs in each and every one of its manifestations: control of the demand for drugs, money laundering, of assets, the smuggling of chemical inputs and arms trafficking requires more determined action by the international cor
Different countries can and do have different conceptions

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on how to deal internally with the drug problem; but these differences cannot be a reason to ignore in practice the co-responsibility that derives from participation in this criminal business.

Security and Development

30. Security will not be the only concern of the National Government, but it will be the first. There is no greater inequity in Colombia than in access to security: it is the poorest who are least protected, who are displaced from their lands and suffer firsthand the terror of illegal armed organizations. The World Bank, in its study Voices of the Poor (2000), draws a similar conclusion based on hundreds of testimonies in different regions of the world: "The word 'security' describes one of the main concerns of the poor...the poor They are vulnerable in different ways: their work and well-being are most at risk; they live in the most insecure areas; their assets are the least protected; their homes are the most prone to damage; and they have the fewest means to protect themselves…".

"There is no greater inequality in Colombia than in access to security: it is the poorest who are least protected, who are displaced from their lands and suffer firsthand the terror of illegal armed organizations."

31. Security depends not only on the protection of the less favored population. Economic development and employment opportunities are equally subject to the prevailing climate of security that allows investment, trade, and the spending of municipal resources for the benefit of the community, which are all objects of permanent depredation by armed organizations. illegal.

32. Security promotes economic opportunities, but above all it strengthens the integration of society and the possibilities for citizens, especially the less favored, to assume responsibility for community affairs, to the extent that they can participate without fear in political decision-making, in the supervision of rulers and in the promotion of their own productive projects. The legal framework to strengthen citizen participation is given by the Political Constitution and its development in Law 134 of 1994, but it has not yet translated into sufficiently active participation at the local level, partly due to the risks and threats to which they are exposed. who assume a spokesperson in those regions of the country where illegal armed organizations commit crimes.

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33. Security thus favors the "empowerment" of citizens, which is nothing more than the realization of autonomy and implicit responsibility in their rights and in their equality before the law; and the "empowerment" of citizens in turn contributes to security, to the extent that it fosters the feeling of belonging and participation in the development of a common project.

«Security favors the "empowerment" of citizens, which is nothing more than the realization of autonomy and implicit responsibility in their rights and in their equality before the law».

34. To achieve this "empowerment", security is a necessary condition, but not a sufficient one. The full enjoyment of citizens' freedoms requires an environment that facilitates the development of their capacities. Education in particular is essential to increase the levels of citizen participation, development and equity. For this reason, the Government has been promoting a revolution in education, whose goal is the creation of more than 1,500,000 school places. Children's access to schools will be the State's response to the act of violence that illegal armed organizations incite and practice. Education will promote a culture of non-violence and stimulate a greater sense of belonging in children towards the country and patriotic values. The educational revolution and other measures to create conditions for development and economic growth are the subject of the National Development Plan of the National Gov

"The National Government keeps the door open to negotiations with those who decide to participate in democratic life, on the condition that they comply with a strict cessation of hostilities."

The negotiation option

35. The National Government keeps the door open to negotiations with those who decide to participate in democratic life, on the condition that they comply with a strict cessation of hostilities. This will reduce violence and ensure respect for human rights. For this reason, the Government's slogan is: urgency to cease hostilities, patience for negotiation and disarmament. Those who reintegrate into society and democratic life will have all the guarantees to exercise the politics that the dissident deserves within democracy.

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II. threats

36. The security of citizens, of democracy and of the vital interests of the Nation, as established by the Political Constitution, is today exposed to a series of serious threats, linked to each other and frequently of a transnational nature. These are not the only dangers facing Colombian democracy. Corruption, for example, is equally a serious threat and will be fought in the most decisive manner by the National Government, as will common crime. But the following threats constitute an immediate risk to the Nation, democratic institutions and the lives of Colombians:

The terrorism

The illicit drug business
illicit finance

Trafficking in arms, ammunition and explosives

Kidnapping and extortion
the homicide

The terrorism

37. Terrorism is the main method used by illegal armed organizations to destabilize Colombian democracy. The Secretary General of the United Nations has said: "The only common denominator of the different varieties of terrorism is the calculated use of lethal violence against civilians for political ends." (United Nations Security Council, November 12, 2001). This is what is happening in Colombia, as evidenced by the growing number of civilians killed or massacred by illegal armed organizations in the last five years:

"The Secretary General of the United Nations has said: 'The only common denominator of the different varieties of terrorism is the calculated use of lethal violence against civilians for political ends.'

	civilians killed2		Civilians killed in massacres3	
	FARC and ELN	Illegal self-defense groups	FARC and ELN	Illegal self-defense groups
1997	531	78	30	(6)
1998	549	216	126 (23)	111 (16)
1999	910	743	183 (26)	408 (61)
2000	1,075	1,012	146 (26)	701 (102)
2001	1,060	1,028	202 (36)	281 (42)
2002	952	405	158 (25) 312 (35)	59 (12)

[2] Source: Ministry of Defense

3 Four or more civilians killed at the same time and in the same place.
Number of massacres in brackets.

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«Terrorism ignores not only the integrity of individuals, but also the democratic will of the population.
In 2002, 144 political leaders or public officials were assassinated by illegal armed organizations."

Among civilians, some groups are particularly threatened. In the first seven months of 2002, 41 indigenous people were killed4 , like 29 teachers5 . Forced displacement is also the result of terror against the population. In the last year, close to 300,000 Colombians6 were displaced from their lands, terrorized by the threats and murders of illegal armed organizations. Just like civilians, defenseless soldiers and police officers -off duty and in civilian clothes- are continuously assassinated by these organizations, especially by the FARC. In 2002, 66 policemen7 and 27 soldiers8 were executed in this way.

manner.

38. The use of violence against representatives of democracy is particularly serious. In this case, terrorism ignores not only the integrity of individuals, but also the democratic will of the population. In 2002, 144 political leaders or public officials were assassinated by illegal armed organizations (83 by the FARC and 23 by the AUC): among others, 71 councilors, 23 regional officials, 12 mayors and a senator9 ; 124 public officials and political leaders, including a presidential candidate, were kidnapped (53); and more than 600 mayors received death threats10 . Many of them are forced to dispatch from the departmental capitals, losing daily contact with those who elected them.

39. The economic infrastructure has also been the target of terrorism. In 2001, a single oil pipeline suffered 170 attacks, at a cost to the Nation of 520 million dollars11. (Oil and its derivatives represent more than a third of Colombia's exports and constitute the main source of income for the health and education subsidy).

"In the last 15 years, oil pipelines have suffered more than 950 terrorist attacks by the ELN and the FARC. More than 2.8 million barrels of oil have been irrigated in the fields, forests and rivers of Colombia.

In the last 15 years, oil pipelines have suffered more than 950 terrorist attacks by the ELN and the FARC. More than 2.8 million barrels of oil have been irrigated in the fields, forests and rivers of Colombia. The energy infrastructure has been attacked in the same way: since the year 2000, more than 1,200 power pylons have been brought down with explosives by these organizations. [12] .

[4] 13 by the FARC and 7 by the AUC. Source: National Police 5
6 by the FARC and 5 by the AUC; most of the remaining cases are of undetermined authorship. Source: National Police.

6 Source: Social Solidarity Network.

7 Source: Center for Criminological Investigations of the National Police.

8 Source: National Army 9 Source:
National Police 10 Source: National Police

[11] Source: Ecopetrol
[12] Source: ISA

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40. Illegal armed organizations have established collaboration networks with international terrorist groups. Their exchanges of technology and knowledge represent a grave danger for Colombia. But they are also a threat to the countries of origin of these groups, which are undoubtedly strengthened by the resources with which Colombian organizations attract and buy their knowledge. Hence the common interest in jointly confronting transnational threats and in strict compliance with Resolution 1373 of the United Nations Security Council.

"Exchanges of technology and knowledge between Colombian illegal armed organizations and collaboration networks with international terrorist groups represent a serious danger for Colombia, but they are also a threat to the countries of origin of these groups."

The illicit drug business

41. The global illicit drug business, which includes the different phases of cultivation, processing, export, distribution and money laundering, not only endangers the stability of the State and the cohesion of society, distorting the economy, weakening the institutions, fueling corruption, misrepresenting values and taking the lives of thousands of judges, journalists, politicians, police officers and soldiers. It has also become the primary source of resources for financing the terrorist activities of illegal armed organizations and the main threat to Colombia's biodiversity, one of the richest on the planet.

42. The dispute over the control of coca crops between the FARC and the illegal self-defense groups largely determines the geography of violence in Colombia. More than half of the FARC's fronts are located in coca-producing areas, which explains its rapid growth: in 1982, there were approximately 13,000 hectares of coca in Colombia; the FARC had close to 1,800 armed men13. Twenty years later, in 2002, there were approximately 102,000 hectares of coca14; the FARC had 16,900 members15.
Crops grew by a factor of 8; the FARC of 9. Illegal self-defense groups participate in the same way in the illicit drug business and their growth has been even faster: they went from having approximately 2,800 men under arms in 1995 to more than 12,000 in 200216. The involvement each The increased use of both organizations in this business, which today ranges from the promotion of cultivation to the control of routes and international marketing, has contributed to the loss of ideological discipline and, consequently, to the growing use of terror,

13 Source: National Army
14 Source: National Police – Anti-Narcotics Directorate
15 Source: National Army

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through which they intimidate the population and, in the regions of illicit crops, subject it to a neo-feudal regime of control over production.

43. The trafficking of chemical precursors is an integral part of the illicit drug business: without these, the production of narcotics is not possible. Despite the fact that the vast majority of countries have committed to punishing the trafficking of these substances, ratifying the 1988 Vienna Convention, in practice controls in many cases remain minimal and penalties for non-compliance are light or non-existent.

«In 1982, there were approximately 13,000 hectares of coca in Colombia; the FARC had about 1,800 armed men. Twenty years later, in 2002, there were approximately 102,000 hectares of coca; the FARC had 16,900 members.

Crops grew by a factor of 8; the FARC of 9".

44. Consumption is the engine of the drug business. The United States, Europe and, increasingly, South America, are the largest consumers and suffer the social consequences of drug use and trafficking. This threat, transnational like no other, must be faced jointly, paying the same attention to controlling demand, consumption, trafficking in chemical precursors and money laundering, as to controlling the production and transport of illicit drugs. .

45. Consumers in particular need to become aware of the ecological ravages for which they share responsibility, such as loss of life. If coca cultivation continues, the Colombian Amazon basin will be in grave danger: planting one hectare of coca requires cutting down three hectares of virgin forest17. In the last decade, 1,361,475 hectares were deforested for this purpose. The felling of the forest leads to the acidification and erosion of the Amazon soil, with the consequent sedimentation of the rivers and the flooding of the forest. Additionally, the cutting and burning of forests for coca cultivation contributes to about a quarter of the country's total CO2 emissions, thus exacerbating the problem of global climate change18. On the other hand, several of the pesticides used by coca growers are among the most toxic. Paraquat, prohibited in all industrialized countries, but frequently used in coca crops, is carcinogenic, neurotoxic, and adheres to the soil for up to 25 years, interrupting the nutrition cycles of the Amazon fores In the year 2000, 4,506,804 liters of herbicides, insecticides and fungicides like this one were used in coca cultivation19. The processing of the coca leaf and paste is no less harmful to humans and the environment: the current use of sulfuric acid (1,709,380 liters in 200020) or

"In the last decade, 1,361,475 hectares of the Amazon basin were deforested for coca cultivation."

16 Source: National Army
17 Source: National Police – Anti-Narcotics
Directorate 18 Source: González, Fabio and Rodríguez, Humberto: Preliminary Inventory of Greenhouse Gases, Sources and Sinks. Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences, Bogotá 1998.

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Potassium permanganate, for example, is life-threatening for growers and is particularly toxic to aquatic life; Huge amounts of gasoline (357,741,451 liters in the year 2000, equivalent to one week of national consumption21) are dumped indiscriminately into the country's rivers and soil year after year.

46. For its part, poppy cultivation destroys the Andean or cloud forest that captures moisture from the atmosphere with its leaves in amounts greater than rain itself and thus regulates the flow of water to the basins. Its destruction erodes the slopes, sediments the riverbeds and causes large floods that endanger the ecosystem, the local economy and the lives of the people who live on the banks of the rivers, at the same time that it destroys the Nation's water reserves. .

illicit finance

47. Illicit finances, commonly associated with money laundering from drug trafficking, deserve a separate mention. The laundering of the proceeds obtained from the commercialization of cocaine and heroin - a large part of which remains in the international financial system - contributes in a singular way to terrorism, at the same time that it disrupts the foreign exchange and other financial markets, stimulates the under-invoicing of imports generally distorts the proper functioning of the economy and contributes to corruption. But illicit finances include a whole series of criminal activities that go beyond drug trafficking and feed terrorism in the same way: kidnapping, extortion, smuggling or theft of hydrocarbons. Smuggling, in particular, is frequently a form of money laundering from drug trafficking. Not only does it deprive the State of the tribute that corresponds to it, but it also weakens production and the national economy with artificially low prices, while opening routes and channels that are also used for drug and arms trafficking. In this way, the informal economy is also growing, which is used by terrorist and drug trafficking organizations to conceal their resources and operations. Smuggling thus constitutes a transnational threat, against which the concerted action of the international community is necessary and

«Poppy cultivation erodes the slopes, sediments the riverbeds and causes large floods that endanger the ecosystem, the local economy and the lives of the people who live on the banks of the rivers, at the same time that it depletes the water reserves. of the Nation”.

19 Source: National Police – Anti-Narcotics Directorate

20 Source: National Police – Anti-Narcotics Directorate

Source: National Police – Anti-Narcotics Directorate

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of the production companies that, in collusion with smuggling or involuntarily, facilitate the development of this illegal activity and profit from it.

48. It is increasingly evident that terrorism makes use of money laundering channels and drug trafficking resources to finance its activities. In addition to the United Nations Security Council in Resolution 1373 (29), the OAS in the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, the Andean Community in the Lima Commitment have drawn attention to the need to control the sources of financing of terrorism. , the European Union in its Common Position of December 27, 2001, the FATF group in its Special Recommendations on the Financing of Terrorism of October 31, 2001, and the United Nations International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. Terrorism of 1999. The National Government is adopting all the necessary measures to comply with these demands and expects that all the States do the sam

"Smuggling not only deprives the State of the tribute that corresponds to it, but also weakens production and the national economy with artificially low prices, while opening routes and channels that are also used for drug and arms trafficking."

Trafficking in arms, ammunition and explosives

49. The trafficking of arms, ammunition and explosives is also linked to the illicit drug business and terrorism. Both illegal self-defense groups and the FARC trade drugs for weapons on the international market, as evidenced by the arrests of a Brazilian drug trafficker in a FARC camp and of AUC members in Costa Rica, who are accused of trade drugs for weapons. Huge shipments of arms -thousands of rifles and millions of cartridges- coming from Central America or, through third countries, Eastern Europe and the Middle East, have entered Colombia in recent years.
Not only the amount, but also the type of military equipment offered by arms dealers represents a qualitative leap compared to the past. Arms trafficking networks, in which former officials and officials from neighboring countries participate or have knowledge of, are in charge of introducing weapons into the country by air, in ships, or across land borders.

"Both illegal self-defense groups and the FARC exchange drugs for weapons on the international market, as evidenced by the captures of a Brazilian drug trafficker in a FARC camp and of AUC members in Costa Rica."

50. Arms trafficking is no less dangerous than drug trafficking: it deserves the same control and punishment. Since 1988, Colombia has led the effort against arms trafficking in multilateral forums. The National Government will resolutely support all international mechanisms, such as the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Production and Trafficking of Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives, the Program of Acti

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United Nations for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Illicit Traffic in Small Arms and Light Weapons or the Lima Commitment of the Andean Community, urge nations to effectively control the trafficking of arms and explosives.

"Huge shipments of weapons -thousands of rifles and millions of cartridges- coming from Central America or, through third countries, from Eastern Europe and the Middle East, have entered Colombia in recent years."

51. In particular, the National Government will promote all the mechanisms that increase the transparency of the countries in the production and commercialization of arms, to avoid their passage from legal to illegal trade, as well as their import and subsequent re-export to third parties. The Government will also support the creation of an international system for marking weapons, to determine their place of origin and control their circulation.

Kidnapping and extortion

52. In Colombia, unlike other countries, kidnapping and extortion are not just a criminal or police problem. Like drug trafficking, they constitute a basic financing mechanism for the terrorist actions of illegal armed organizations. Each one means annual income of 500,000 million to 1 trillion pesos. In 2002, more than 2,000 Colombians of all walks of life were kidnapped by these organizations (943 by the FARC, 777 by the ELN, 183 by the illegal self-defense groups, and 116 by dissident groups)22 . The payment of kidnappings, especially kidnappings of foreigners, for whom these organizations demand large sums, finances terrorism.

53. Kidnapping is also used by illegal armed organizations as an instrument of political blackmail: 124 public officials and political leaders were kidnapped in 2002 (82 by the FARC, 30 by the ELN and 6 by the AUC), among them a presidential candidate, 19 mayors, 25 councilors, a governor, 19 deputies and 3 members of the Congress of the Republic23.

54. Kidnapping and extortion scare away investment and have a serious psychological impact: individuals, families and society live with a feeling of permanent vulnerability. The fear and experience of kidnapping fragment society. An important part of these kidnappings (nearly 700, of the more than 3,000 that occurred annually on average between 1998 and 200224) are of undetermined authorship; Illegal armed organizations "subcontract" kidnappings and extortions with organized crime gangs that act under their presumed or real protection

"The payment of kidnappings, especially kidnappings of foreigners, by those who demand large sums, finances terrorism."

[22] Source: Fondelibertad

23 Source: Fondelibertad

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"Kidnapping is also used by illegal armed organizations as an instrument of political blackmail: 124 public officials and political leaders were kidnapped in 2002."

organizations. On the other hand, as these groups and networks evolve, they leave behind structures, knowledge and technologies that are easy to scale, replicate and innovate. Terrorism and common crime come together in an inhuman industry that, like the murder of civilians, has no justification and endangers the stability of the Nation.

55. In the last decade, more than 25,000 Colombians were murdered each year in urban and rural areas of the country25. The incidence of homicide in these proportions is not only a threat to the security of citizens, but also to the proper functioning of democracy. But Colombia has not always suffered these levels of violence: between 1970 and 1991, the homicide rate quadrupled, from 22 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants to 86, in a period of just over twenty years. Since then, although the rate has decreased, the total number of homicides has remained at the aforementioned levels. However, neither the distribution nor the trend of homicide is homogeneous throughout the national territory: 50 municipalities that have less than a quarter of the population suffer more than half of the homicides; In contrast, Bogotá has managed to reduce the number of homicides by 50% in a decade26, thus reaching a rate three times lower than that of several of the large cities on the continent. Frequently, the municipalities with the highest homicide rates are those that are disputed by illegal armed organizations or that have sources of wealth such as coca, gold or oil, coveted by these organizations

56. The epidemic overflow in two decades of the homicide rate, which has become one of the highest in the world, is not due to a particular inclination of Colombians for violence: it is the result of institutional weakening and climate of impunity caused by illegal armed organizations and drug trafficking. More than their own actions, it is their indirect impact that creates the conditions that favor homicide. To the extent that they threaten and atrophy the judicial system, that they disseminate their techniques of money laundering, arms trafficking and, above all, killing, to that extent they build spaces of impunity in which homicides occur and germination of common crime, with which they are closely linked.

"The epidemic overflow in two decades of the homicide rate is not due to a particular inclination of Colombians for violence: it is the result of the institutional weakening and the climate of impunity that illegal armed organizations have caused."

[24] Source: Fondelibertad

25 Source: Center for Criminological Investigations of the National Police

26 Source: Center for Criminological Investigations of the National Police

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III. strategic objectives

57. The following are the strategic objectives that must be achieved to counter security threats and comply with the general objective of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy of strengthening the rule of law throughout the territory. Each objective corresponds to a series of specific objectives, from which the indicators will be derived that will serve to assess compliance with the five major objectives (139):

I. CONSOLIDATION OF STATE CONTROL OF THE TERRITORY

Gradual recovery of the presence of the Public Force in all municipalities

Increase in the prosecution of crimes with a high social impact

Extension and strengthening of the administration of justice and State institutions in areas where state control has been strengthened

Decrease in complaints for violation of human rights

II. POPULATION PROTECTION

Dismantling of terrorist organizations

Reduction of kidnapping and extortion
homicide reduction

Prevention of forced displacement and facilitation of the return of the displaced population to their places of origin

Reincorporation into civil life of organizations, groups or individuals who desist from violence

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III. ELIMINATION OF THE ILLICIT DRUG TRADE IN COLOMBIA

Air, sea, river and land interdiction of drug and commodity trafficking
Eradication of coca and poppy crops
Disarticulation of drug networks
Seizure of assets and finances of drug trafficking

IV. MAINTAINING A DETERRENT CAPACITY

Protection of land, sea and river borders

V. EFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Obtaining greater impact through optimal resource management
Generation of savings by reviewing administrative structures and processes
Development of transparency and accountability mechanisms

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IV. Six lines of action: coordinate, strengthen, consolidate, protect, cooperate, communicate.

58. The following six lines of action are the policies outlined by the Government to achieve the strategic objectives. All the lines of action contribute to the fulfillment of each one of the objectives:

Coordinate the action of the State
Strengthen State institutions
Consolidate control of the national territory
Protect citizens and the Nation's infrastructure
Cooperate for everyone's safety
Communicate the policies and actions of the State

A. Coordinate State action

Security and National Defense Council

59. The lack of effective coordination between State institutions has perhaps been one of the greatest deficiencies in the State's response to citizen security. The entities of the Government, especially the Public Force, will act in a coordinated and unified manner, in harmony with the other powers of the State. The National Security and Defense Council will be the instance in which the President of the Republic will coordinate with the ministers and the Public Force the execution of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy, issuing the guidelines that assign the functions, responsibilities and missions corresponding to each institution, supervising its performance and evaluating its results.

60. At the regional level, the authorities will integrate security councils, which will have an advisory committee made up of academics, businessmen, and members of civil society to study public security policies, contribute knowledge, and implement solutions. At the local level, district and municipal security councils, in coordination with the National Security and Defense Council, will supervise the implementation of the policies in the areas of their jurisdiction.

"The National Security and Defense Council will be the instance in which the President of the Republic will coordinate with the Ministers and the Public Force the execution of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy."

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Joint Intelligence Board

61. The Joint Intelligence Board will be the body where state intelligence will be coordinated and will be made up of the directors of the State intelligence agencies. It will have the responsibility of producing consolidated analyzes of strategic intelligence, so that the President of the Republic and the Minister of Defense have the necessary information for decision-making; to translate government security policies into intelligence requirements; and to coordinate the distribution of tasks, promoting specialization and thus avoiding duplication of efforts. A technical secretary will support the work of the Board and will maintain the institutional memory.

"The Joint Intelligence Board will have responsibility for producing consolidated analysis of strategic intelligence; to translate government security policies into intelligence requirements; and to coordinate the distribution of tasks, promoting specialization and thus avoiding duplication of efforts».

62. In a similar way and with the same purposes as the Joint Intelligence Board, regional intelligence boards will be integrated and meet periodically, which will seek to strengthen intelligence coordination at the regional level, promoting horizontal exchange and avoiding transmission delays. of information that causes an excessive hierarchy in the management of intelligence.

Ministry of Defence

63. As part of its responsibility to articulate the activities of the Public Force with the other State institutions, the Ministry of Defense will seek that the Public Force meets the objectives of Democratic Security in the most effective way, for which it will issue the corresponding guidelines and will reform its own structures. In the first instance, you will have the responsibility to ensure that the resources assigned to you have the greatest impact on security, through better management and a more efficient planning process.

It will develop a supply system for the Public Force to acquire equipment at the lowest possible cost and with the best technical quality, maintenance and availability specifications.
To this end, a centralized and open procurement process has been established that increases standardization and requires suppliers to pay the necessary considerations.

"The Ministry of Defense will have the responsibility to ensure that the resources assigned to it have a greater impact on security, through better administration and a more efficient planning process."

64. One of the priorities of the Ministry of Defense will be the generation of employment, so that the resources assigned to security benefit the national industry as far as possible, through import substitution and technology transfer.

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65. The Ministry of Defense will coordinate the application of the comprehensive security policy, so that the work of the Public Force is accompanied by the other entities of the Government, by the other branches of the State, and by the citizenry. In particular, the Ministry of Defense will create a series of committees for the private sector to contribute its knowledge to the security of the Nation and supervise the use of the resources assigned to the sector.

Support Structures

66. Inter-institutional support structures will be created to coordinate and complement the actions of State entities at the regional and local level, thus facilitating the work of the judicial authorities. The support structures are based on a philosophy of teamwork and not on a hierarchical relationship between the Public Force, the investigation and control agencies of the State and the judicial authorities. In this scheme, all the entities involved act within their competence, but in a coordinated manner, with the common objective of investigating and analyzing crimes in an orderly manner. The success of the operations and the prosecution of the culprits depend on this coordination: the protection offered by the Public Force allows the work of criminal investigation agencies; and the work of criminal investigation agencies guarantees the success of the work of the Public Force, to the extent that criminal proceedings will be better supported. In this way, prosecutors who have the necessary specialization to reveal the patterns of each crime can work without fear of the threats and intimidation to which they are commonly subjected. The support structure of Arauca, in which prosecutors, prosecutors, the National Police - Judicial Police, DAS and the Army work in a coordinated and complementary manner with excellent results in prosecuting terrorism against the oil infrastructure, is an example of the convenience of this scheme. The support structures guarantee not only that justice will be protected and the action of the State will be effective, but also that it will be monitored by the control organisms and that it will be carried out with strict respect for the law and human rights.

«The support structures are based on a philosophy of teamwork and not on a hierarchical relationship between the Public Force, the investigation and control agencies of the State and the judicial authorities. In this scheme, all the entities involved act within their competence but in a coordinated manner, with the common objective of investigating and analyzing the crimes in an orderly manner”.

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"The National Government will wage a frontal fight against impunity, to reduce crime and, in particular, homicide and kidnapping rates."

B. Strengthen State institutions

Strengthening of the judicial system

67. Colombia requires a modern legal system against violence and insecurity. The National Government will present a bill to the Congress of the Republic to introduce legislation that allows for the successful confrontation of terrorism, in accordance with the obligations derived from Resolution 1373 of the United Nations Security Council. If necessary, the modification of some articles of the Constitution will be sought for this purpose, without affecting the freedoms or citizen guarantees. An order of priorities will also be established in the fight against crime, taking into account the crimes that most affect society. The formulation of a comprehensive criminal policy will allow the State to prosecute those who represent the most serious danger to society and democracy, such as terrorists and drug traffickers, and at the same time ensure that these conducts are sanctioned with the strongest penalties. and the most severe prison regimes.

68. The National Government will wage a frontal fight against impunity, to reduce crime and, in particular, homicide and kidnapping rates. The investigative and punitive system of the State will be strengthened in all its aspects, to punish in particular homicides and other violent actions against people who, such as trade unionists, teachers, human rights defenders or journalists, are victims of intolerance and above all, impunity.

69. The criminal policy reforms will include the abolition of release from prison for crimes such as drug trafficking, as well as the application of the principles of restorative justice for crimes without a custodial sentence. Respect for the rights of victims of crimes and offenses will prevail. The penalties for the highly dangerous minor offender and the penalties for the illegal carrying of weapons will be reviewed.

70. The Government will support the rationalization of the administration of justice and the promotion of the professionalization and specialization of its officials. Likewise, it has promoted the constitutional reform of the Attorney General's Office, in order to establish an accusatory scheme that strengthens the investigative nature of this institution. Additionally, the Government

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will present a draft legislative act that seeks to guarantee a prompt and effective application of justice, as well as bring justice closer to the citizen by increasing orality in all judicial processes, the application of alternative methods of conflict resolution that, such as conciliation in civil, commercial, administrative and family litigation, speed up and ease the processes, and the promotion of arbitration as a specialized justice system. The National Program of Houses of Justice and Peace will receive special support so that communities living in remote regions have access to justice and State institutions.

71. The successful prison construction schemes will be strengthened, the identification and distribution of the prison population will be improved, and the necessary measures will be taken so that the municipalities and departments fulfill their financial responsibilities for the maintenance of their prisons.

72. On the other hand, an information system shared by all the entities that are part of the criminal justice system will be developed, fed based on agreed criteria, so that the information is available to those who need it, from the moment of capture. or the opening of an investigation process until such time as the sentence imposed is fully served.

Strengthening of the Military Forces

73. The Military Forces will concentrate their efforts on defending the sovereignty, the integrity of the territory and the constitutional order, protecting the civilian population from those who threaten it, dismantling terrorist organizations, protecting the Nation's infrastructure and defending the borders, within the fundamental objective of strengthening the rule of law. Its actions will be governed by the principles of efficiency, austerity, transparency and legality, previously stated (21-24).

"The National Program of Houses of Justice and Peace will receive special support so that communities living in remote regions have access to justice and State institutions."

74. The authority of the Military Forces rests on the high legitimacy that they enjoy among the population. To maintain and strengthen that legitimacy, they will continue to pay special attention to the respect, promotion, and defense of human rights.

75. The Military Forces will continue their professionalization process, strengthening itself in five aspects:

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«The authority of the Military Forces rests on the high legitimacy that they enjoy among the population. To maintain and strengthen that legitimacy, they will continue to pay special attention to the respect, promotion, and defense of human rights."

More resources will be assigned to increase, rebuild and give better training and mobility to the foot of the force.

The necessary funds will be allocated to develop human talent and the quality, preparation and maintenance of the equipment.

Intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination systems will be improved and a better level of coordination will be sought, so that adequate intelligence is used and, when intelligence is available, there is the capacity to operate in a timely manner.

The successful training programs for members of the Public Force in human rights and International Humanitarian Law will continue.

The strategic material of the Forces will be optimized to maintain the deterrent capacity and guarantee the defense of sovereignty.

76. Compulsory military service will be reformed through a bill that the National Government presented to the Congress of the Republic, based on the principle of universality. Equal citizens have equal obligations. This duty will be fulfilled in transparent, democratic conditions and without any discrimination.
All young people will provide the service on equal terms, regardless of their educational level. Similarly, the military service of the peasant soldier will be strengthened to increase the possibility for soldiers to provide military service in their areas of origin, when they live in rural areas. This modality of military service will allow a greater number of soldiers to maintain their ties with the community and the community to develop relations of trust with the Public Force.

"Compulsory military service will be reformed through a bill that the National Government presented to the Congress of the Republic, based on the principle of universality. This duty will be fulfilled in transparent, democratic conditions and without any discrimination.

77. The Military Forces will maintain a dissuasive capacity, through the maintenance and modernization of the strategic equipment necessary to guarantee national sovereignty and the integrity of the territory, marine and submarine waters, the continental shelf and airspace. Protecting the borders, through which illegal drug shipments leave and weapons for illegal armed organizations enter, will be a priority.

Strengthening of the National Police

78. The fundamental axis of the mission of the National Police will be to protect the exercise of public rights and liberties, fighting against crime, criminality and terrorism, in accordance with the

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priorities established by a comprehensive criminal policy. All the inhabitants will receive the same protection from the National Police, which will return to all the municipalities. Their efforts will focus, on the one hand, on promoting peaceful coexistence and crime prevention; and on the other, a drastic reduction in common crime and the dismantling of terrorist and drug-trafficking organizations, through the investigation and prosecution of their members.

79. The main asset of the National Police is its men and women. The training and qualification of its members so that they fulfill their tasks in the most appropriate way, within the framework of the principles of efficiency, austerity, transparency and legality stated above, will be a priority. The National Police will maintain its absolute commitment to the respect, promotion and defense of human rights.

80. The priorities for strengthening the National Police are:

Bring the National Police in a programmed and orderly manner to municipalities where it currently does not have a presence Expand patrolling of rural areas, through the creation of 62 new Mobile Carabineros Squads Build fortified rural stations Strengthen highway police Strengthen technical capacity of the Judicial Police Coordinate security plans in the cities and reinforce the police forces with 10,000 new effective patrolmen and 10,000 regular auxiliaries Prepare participatory local security plans and expand the Local Security Fronts Promote the work and collaboration of the Civic Police Build citizen cooperation networks to prevent terrorism, through a work of rapprochement with the community, companies, commerce and other State institutions.

"The fundamental axis of the mission of the National Police will be to protect the exercise of public rights and liberties, fighting against crime, criminality and terrorism, in accordance with the priorities established by a comprehensive criminal policy."

intelligence strengthening

81. In order to achieve a more effective work of the Colombian State against criminal organizations, coordination mechanisms and the complementarity of security and intelligence agencies will be strengthened. The success of operations depends on adequate and timely information. For this reason, all measures that contribute to the integration of intelligence will be promoted, such as:

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"Counterintelligence work is essential not only to protect citizens and institutions, improve operational results and avoid information manipulation: the degree of coordination of intelligence agencies also depends on the trust generated by counterintelligence."

the horizontal exchange of information between agencies, the strengthening of trust through the secure handling of information, the responsible protection of sources and the joint disclosure of operational successes. The Joint Intelligence Board and the regional intelligence boards (61-62) will be primarily concerned with the production and analysis of strategic intelligence. At the tactical level, the coordination, cooperation, complementarity and specialization in intelligence matters of the different State security agencies will also be promoted, clearly defining functions and responsibilities. The National Police, the Military Forces, the DAS, and the National Prosecutor's Office will work in a coordinated manner in the collection and exchange of intelligence on the ground, with the purpose of raising the levels of operational effectiveness.

82. Strengthening the counterintelligence capacity of State security agencies will receive special attention. Points of particular vulnerability will be identified to protect operational safety. Procedures for the handling and circulation of information, as well as the security of communications, will be reviewed. As part of the counterintelligence work, the technical capacity of agents and analysts, technological development and financial security will be strengthened, in order to initiate an aggressive campaign to identify and interrupt the sources that endanger the execution of the Defense Policy. and Democratic Security. Corruption cases that imply the leak of information will receive the most severe sanction. Counterintelligence work is essential not only to protect citizens and institutions, improve operational results and avoid information manipulation: the degree of coordination of intelligence agencies also depends on the trust generated by counterintelligence. Counterintelligence work will be strictly supervised.

«The DAS will strengthen its capacity for analysis and production of strategic intelligence; it will also develop its counterintelligence capacity; and, at the tactical level, it will concentrate its efforts on studying and dismantling the structures and logistical support of terrorist organizations and organized crime."

83. The Administrative Department of Security -DAS- will strengthen its capacity for analysis and production of strategic intelligence, in coordination with the other agencies of the Joint Intelligence Board; It will also develop its counterintelligence capacity, which will focus not only on the threats that hang over the Government, but on all those that affect democratic governance; and, at the tactical level, it will concentrate its efforts on studying and dismantling the structures and logistical support of terrorist organizations and organized crime.

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Strengthening of state finances

84. The Democratic Defense and Security Policy also seeks to contribute to the strengthening of the economy and the generation of employment, through the stimulation of investment and productive activities. Greater security will translate into a timely and efficient provision of services that, such as energy, transport and communications, are fundamental factors for the development of the company and therefore to achieve sustained economic growth that reduces unemployment, which feeds the activity of illegal armed organizations.

85. The Democratic Defense and Security Policy, as well as social investment, requires a fiscal adjustment, essential to guarantee the sustainability of public finances and to ensure the necessary financing. The Government obtained approval in the Congress of the Republic of a referendum project, a tax reform and a pension system reform project.
All of these reforms will free up resources for security improvements. The Government is simultaneously studying an administrative restructuring of the State that reduces its cost and makes it more effective, by reducing the number of ministries and entities that duplicate efforts.

86. The National Government will heavily penalize tax evasion: the State cannot be expected to provide the services that correspond to it, if the citizen does not contribute with their taxes and, if necessary, with special taxes. There will be strict accountability regarding the use of these resources and the results obtained (65). The Directorate of National Taxes and Customs will be strengthened to guarantee the effective collection of taxes and the protection of information. On the other hand, the new law for extinction of domain due to illegal activities will allow the recovery of land and assets to strengthen the State and society.

«The National Government will strongly penalize tax evasion: the State cannot be expected to provide the services that correspond to it, if the citizen does not contribute with their taxes and, if necessary, with special taxes. There will be strict accountability regarding the use of these resources and the results obtained.

C. Consolidate control of the national territory

Recovery and Consolidation Cycle

87. The process of consolidating state control of the territory will be carried out gradually, continuously, and with national coverage to contain, dismantle, and deter illegal armed organizations, protect the population, and restore authority.

"The process of consolidating state control of the territory will be carried out gradually, continuously, and with national coverage to contain, dismantle, and deter illegal armed organizations, protect the population, and restore the authority of democratic institutions."

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of democratic institutions. The purpose is to create a virtuous circle of long-term recovery and consolidation, which will gradually restore a climate of security throughout the territory.

"Once the control of the Public Force over the territory is reestablished, units made up of regular soldiers, peasant soldiers and police officers of the National Police will maintain security conditions and protect the civilian population."

Recovery of state control of the territory

88. The National Government will gradually recover the state presence and the authority of the institutions, beginning with those areas that are considered strategic. Where necessary, the cycle of recovery of control of the territory will begin with the operations carried out by the units of the Public Force, once the intelligence agencies of the State have identified and located the threats. These operations will receive the support of the reinforcement troops deemed appropriate.

Maintenance of state control of the territory

89. Once the control of the Public Force over the territory is reestablished, units made up of regular soldiers, peasant soldiers and police officers of the National Police will maintain security conditions and protect the civilian population, thus allowing the work of the investigative organizations. criminal and state control in the area. The Public Force, together with the Prosecutor's Office, the Attorney General's Office, the National Police and the DAS, will make up a support structure (66), which will identify and prosecute members of terrorist organizations and those who commit crimes of high social impact, according to the type of criminal manifestation.

"The State will execute a comprehensive policy of territorial consolidation, restoring the normal functioning of the administration of justice, strengthening local democracy, attending to the most urgent needs of the population, extending State services and initiating sustainable productive projects in the medium and long term. ».

Consolidation of state control of the territory

90. Once the basic security conditions are guaranteed, the State will execute a comprehensive territorial consolidation policy, restoring the normal functioning of the administration of justice, strengthening local democracy, attending to the most urgent needs of the population, extending State services and initiating sustainable productive projects in the medium and long term. The ministries and other entities that participate in the comprehensive care projects will be coordinated by the Security and National Defense Council, so that they

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Projects are executed when there is sufficient territorial control, thus preventing them from being subjected to threats and extortion by illegal armed organizations.

Rehabilitation and consolidation zones

91. The territorial consolidation process began with two rehabilitation and consolidation zones in the municipalities of Arauca and Bolívar and Sucre. Although a Constitutional Court ruling put an end to this figure of the state of commotion, the recovery programs for these two areas will continue. The experience of Montes de María in Bolívar and Sucre and Arauca reaffirms the need to reinforce the integral presence of the State through a greater and more active presence of the Public Force, which allows the Prosecutor's Office and the judiciary to put an end to the very high levels of impunity and the Government and local authorities to strengthen social investment. In the case of Arauca, this investment depends above all on the good use of the royalties, which will be protected to prevent their diversion through facades to terrorist organizations, as has happened in the past.

Comprehensive border security plan

92. Parallel to the rehabilitation and consolidation zones, a Comprehensive Border Security Plan will be executed to strengthen the comprehensive presence of the State in the border territories. The exercise of sovereignty cannot be limited to border control to guarantee the integrity of the territory. It necessarily implies a more efficient exercise of the functions of the State in these areas and the improvement of the living conditions of their populations. For this reason, the Ministries of Defense, Education, the Interior, Foreign Affairs and Social Protection are working together with the Public Force, DAS and DANE to take a census of the population, respond to the most urgent needs with supply programs, and establish medium- and long-term solutions for security, health, and education needs in border areas. Similarly, the Government will seek closer cooperation with neighboring countries (134), to prevent the abuse of border territories by terrorist and drug trafficking organizations.

"The experience of Montes de María in Bolívar and Sucre and Arauca reaffirms the need to reinforce the integral presence of the State through a greater and more active presence of the Public Force, which allows the Prosecutor's Office and the judiciary to put an end to the lofty levels of impunity and the Government and local authorities strengthen social investment.

urban security

93. The authorities and security agencies of the cities will seek, through the formulation and implementation of security policies and plans, to ensure citizen coexistence, reduce

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crime and prevent the problem of territorial control in some rural areas from being replicated in the cities. Although the security situation in most cities requires the implementation of a particular response, the principles of the six lines of action of the Democratic Security and Defense Policy are equally relevant. In particular, it is essential that local authorities, together with the entities and agencies of the Nation:

Coordinate the response of the State. It is the responsibility of the mayors to formulate public security policies that integrate the efforts of the Public Force with those of other State entities, as well as contribute to the financing of security schemes.

Protect and strengthen the authority of institutions, particularly justice.

Encourage the cooperation of all citizens in achieving and maintaining security.

Develop reliable information and statistical systems that allow for an assessment of security needs in localities and formulate appropriate responses.

Develop permanent evaluation mechanisms that make it possible to measure the performance of all those responsible for citizen security, correct deficiencies, and demand the corresponding results.

"The Bogotá experience shows that the formulation and persevering execution of security policies and goals that involve citizens, through mechanisms such as Local Security Fronts, produce results."

94. Without a firm commitment from local authorities it is not possible to achieve the safety of citizens. The Bogota experience shows that the formulation and persevering implementation of security policies and goals that involve citizens, through mechanisms such as Local Security Fronts, produce results. This experience confirms what many cities around the world have recognized: alliances between authorities and citizens are the fastest way to recover and maintain secu Co-responsibility schemes in maintaining security, such as the "Local Security Contracts" that have been successfully put into practice in France, are an example of how the State can effectively coordinate and guide citizen support. to solve the problem of urban insecurity. Coordinate public policies for the prevention and repression of crime and complement them with the efforts of the

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citizenship and the private sector that promotes local economic development, is the most appropriate formula to recover the safety of cities.

Elimination of the illicit drug business in Colombia

95. With the massive displacement of coca crops to Colombia in the 1990s, the problem of illicit drugs, traditionally associated with drug trafficking and its power to destabilize and corrupt, becomes a territorial problem. Illegal armed organizations fight each other for control of crops and drug sales, their main source of income (42). The solution to the problem of illicit drugs then requires, on the one hand, the consolidation of state control over the territory, so that the eradication of crops is effective; and on the other, the continuation of the dismantling of drug trafficking organizations, which with their illegal activities constitute one of the greatest threats to the consolidation of the Rule of Law.

«Sustainable development programs for the population of growers will be one of the main tools to end illicit crops.

Alternative programs need to be realistic and sustainable, offering income replacement to peasant and indigenous families who live from the cultivation of poppies and coca, and have the financial support of all countries involved in the business of illicit drugs, in accordance with the principle of co-responsibility".

96. The National Government has assumed as a goal the total elimination of illicit crops and the production and distribution of narcotics in the national territory (29). The objective cannot be any other, when the fight of the illegal armed organizations for the control of crops and the commercialization of drugs is the main threat to the population. To meet this goal, the Government will implement a comprehensive plan that allows for coordinated and effective action on each link in the illicit drug business chain, through the following strategies:

Interdiction: all efforts will be made so that the dissuasive impact of the interdiction on the production and sale of narcotic drugs reduces the incentives for the cultivation of illicit crops. As a matter of priority, the Government will strengthen air, land, sea, and river interdiction of drugs, as well as the chemical inputs and precursors necessary for their production.

Eradication: for eradication, the method of aerial spraying with glyphosate, or with a product that is equally effective and environmentally advisable, will be applied in all areas of the country where coca and poppy crops are detected.
All technical and legal standards will be complied with to achieve

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the highest effectiveness and the highest environmental protection. Peasants and indigenous people who wish to benefit from profitable and sustainable productive projects will have to cut all their ties to the illicit drug business.

"The Government will strengthen, as a priority, the air, land, maritime and river interdiction of drugs, as well as the chemical inputs and precursors necessary for their production."

Social action: sustainable development programs for the population of growers will be one of the main tools to put an end to illicit crops and link the population of growers to the legal economy. Alternative programs need to be realistic and sustainable, offering income replacement to peasant and indigenous families who live from the cultivation of poppies and coca, and have the financial support of all countries involved in the business of illicit drugs, in accordance with the principle of co-responsibility. An example of income substitution programs are reforestation projects that reward peasants who are in charge of planting and caring for the forests in former areas of illicit crops. In this way, ecological conservation and the transfer to a legal economy, oriented towards integral sustainable development, will be promoted.

The dismantling of drug trafficking networks: their human resources, assets, finances and marketing networks will be attacked.

Strengthening the legal framework: in order to achieve the dismantling of drug trafficking networks and their related activities, legal tools will be strengthened. The recent revision of the legal regulations in relation to asset forfeiture is part of this effort.

Reducing consumption: the Rumbos program will continue its work to raise awareness, to discourage internal drug consumption.

"The National Government will establish cooperation mechanisms with financial entities in the private sector and with the general public, so that money laundering is reported in a timely manner."

Dismantling the finances of terrorist and drug trafficking organizations

97. The National Government will place special emphasis on dismantling the finances of terrorist and drug trafficking organizations, in accordance with the international commitments acquired. The Joint Intelligence Board will form, together with the State entities that have specialized units, a committee to combat money laundering that allows for a better exchange of information and, above all, better coordination between the production of financial intelligence and the capacity of the

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appropriate agencies to operate based on that intelligence. The Government will establish cooperation mechanisms with financial entities in the private sector and with the general public so that money laundering is reported in a timely manner. On the other hand, it will also establish control and surveillance mechanisms over the resources of the royalties (91, 126), which through extortion and corruption are frequently captured by terrorist organizations to finance their activities in various regions of the country. Likewise, the Government will urge other States to comply with their commitment to freeze the accounts of Colombian terrorist organizations and prevent their financial systems from being used by them (48).

98. In the collection of information against money laundering, the Financial Information and Analysis Unit -UIAF- will play a leading role. Its objectives, in compliance with its legal mandate, are:

Data centralization: propose and develop policies, procedures and tools to strengthen the anti-money laundering system

Data systematization: improve the quality of information received from different national and international sources

Information analysis: detect and report to the competent authorities cases potentially related to money laundering

In this way, the failures of the past will be avoided: the inadequate implementation of the regulatory framework, the precarious administration of a large volume of information and the lack of coordination between the different agencies dedicated to the detection of money laundering operations. The goal is to fully integrate financial intelligence with operations against terrorist and drug trafficking organizations.

D. Protect the citizens and the infrastructure of the Nation

"The fundamental mechanism to protect the lives and rights of citizens is the strengthening of the rule of law in the national territory."

99. The fundamental mechanism to protect the lives and rights of citizens is the strengthening of the rule of law throughout the national territory. But many Colombians require special attention, as they are immediate victims of illegal armed organizations.

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Protection of people at risk

"The program for the protection of people at risk of the Ministry of the Interior has been strengthened so that leaders or activists of political groups, trade unionists, community leaders, human rights defenders or journalists have effective protection."

100. The program for the protection of people at risk of the Ministry of the Interior has been strengthened with significant additional resources, so that people who are in a situation of risk to their lives, integrity, security or liberty, such as leaders or activists of groups politicians, trade unionists, community leaders, human rights defenders or journalists have effective protection. This same program will be in charge of providing protection and security solutions to the hundreds of mayors, councilors, and elected or designated authorities who are today threatened. The Protection Group of the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior will implement the policy for the protection of people at risk, based on the following principles:

Public recognition of the legitimacy of the activity of each of the protected groups.

Strengthening of protection measures aimed at safeguarding the rights of the threatened population.

Inter-institutional coordination with the Public Force, in order to strengthen bonds of trust between it and the representatives of civil society under protection.

101. The Risk Regulation and Assessment Committee (CRER) will advise each of the protection programs. Together with government officials and officials from the National Police and the DAS, the most appropriate measures for the protection of citizens at risk will be discussed and adopted. Inter-institutional coordination meetings at the central, departmental and local levels will contribute to a better understanding of risk situations and to jointly formulate appropriate responses between the State and civil society to these threa

Protection of victims of forced displacement

"In coordination with the authorities and regional organizations, the Social Solidarity Network will carry out, with the agreement of the displaced families, return plans to facilitate their collective return to their places of origin."

102. The hundreds of thousands of Colombians who year after year are displaced from their lands and plunged into misery by the terror of illegal armed organizations require the most urgent attention of the State and the solidarity of society. In coordination with regional authorities and organizations, the

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Social Solidarity Network will carry out, with the agreement of the displaced families, return plans to facilitate their collective return to their places of origin. The Government, through the action of the Public Force, will first recover the security conditions in the zones and then will channel resources through microcredits, food security programs and accompaniment to the communities.

103. With the support of the Post-Conflict Fund of the World Bank, the Government will also undertake actions so that the displaced Colombians recover the assets and in particular the lands that were taken from them as a result of the displacement, in compliance with decree 2007 of 2001 on recognition and protection of patrimonial rights of displaced communities. For those who cannot or do not wish to return to their places of origin, the Social Solidarity Network will design development programs that facilitate their establishment in new regions. The Government will seek the support of the private sector and society in general to find long-term solutions to the problem of displaced Colombians.

protection against terrorism

"The growing use of terrorism, especially in large cities, will be fought with absolute firmness by the National Government to protect the life and dignity of Colombians."

104. The growing use of terrorism, especially in the cities, will be fought with absolute firmness by the National Government to protect the life and dignity of the inhabitants. The objective is to create a simple and effective system, supported by the necessary legislation to ensure the protection of citizens. This system will be composed of the following elements:

Inter-institutional coordination mechanisms that allow the rationalization of tasks and avoid their duplication, that centralize information on terrorist organizations and that maintain an institutional memory, in a long-term job.

Intelligence gathering capacity not only to prevent attacks, but also to dismantle terrorist networks, as well as short intelligence cycles that quickly lead from information to action.

Rapid reaction forces that act effectively based on the intelligence obtained.

Technical capacity to extract all the forensic evidence from the places of terrorist attacks and to process it in a manner

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in order to obtain the conviction of the culprits as soon as possible, dismantle the support structures of these organizations and prevent other attacks.

An active cooperation of citizens, based on common values of respect for the dignity of people and rejection of violence.

These elements must be taken into consideration within the security and coexistence plans and policies that all municipalities will develop together with the National Police (93). In the case of Bogotá, a support structure (66) will coordinate the response against terrorism of the different district and national entities. The National Government will support these efforts with the creation of special anti-terrorism forces in the military units of the main cities and through international cooperation, to counteract the transfer of technology and knowledge that has allowed illegal armed organizations to plan acts of terrorism in particular brutality.

Similarly, efforts to improve coordination between intelligence services (81) will have terrorism as one of their main objectives.

105. For the success of the fight against terrorism, international coordination and cooperation is not enough: the solidarity of citizens and their cooperation with the authorities is the fundamental element, without which it is not possible to defeat this threat. The authorities will develop prevention programs, strengthening the links between the Public Force and commerce, private security companies, public companies and the general public, to weave alert networks that ensure the protection of the population and infrastructure. of the country (131).

"For the success of the fight against terrorism, international coordination and cooperation is not enough: the solidarity of citizens and their cooperation with the authorities is the fundamental element."

Protection against kidnapping and extortion

106. To combat kidnapping and extortion (52-54), the National Government has drawn up a long-term State policy, with the following objectives:

General objective: reduce to a minimum the number of cases of extortion and kidnapping for extortion.

Specific objectives: the general policy objective will be achieved through a series of strategic guidelines aimed at: (i) increasing the costs of committing these crimes and (ii) consolidating

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the confidence of citizens and the credibility of the international community in the capacity of the Colombian State to confront extortion and kidnapping for extortion.

All programs and actions against extortion and kidnapping for ransom by various government entities will be explicitly oriented towards achieving these objectives. These actions will be framed within the following strategic guidelines.

"Inter-institutional working groups will be established that, acting as support structures for the centralization of investigation and strategic and operational intelligence information, lead to the dismantling of gangs and specific organizations."

107. The dismantling of the kidnapping organizations:

The axis of the fight against kidnapping is to dismantle criminal organizations systematically dedicated to the commission of these crimes. To this end, inter-institutional working groups will be set up, acting as support structures (66) for the centralization of investigation and strategic and operational intelligence information, leading to the dismantling of gangs and specific organizations. These support structures will be associated with a specialized prosecutor or team of prosecutors.

This work will be articulated with that of the Financial Information and Analysis Unit (98), to know in detail the flows of money and the structures of criminal organizations, and apply the extinction of ownership over all the resources used or extracted from extortion and kidnapping.

To support the achievement of these objectives, resources will be allocated to: (i) purchase electronic intelligence and investigation equipment in line with technological advances; (ii) train joint teams of the Military Forces, the Police, DAS, CTI, and the Prosecutor's Office in investigation, evidence collection, and crime scene management; and (iii) execute performance reward payment plans.

"The structures, location and jurisdictions of the GAULA specialized groups will be evaluated and redefined and their protocols will be harmonized with the operational and regional units of the Public Force, the DAS and the Prosecutor's Office."

108. The increase in the rescue of people in captivity:

The structures, location, and jurisdictions of the GAULA specialized groups will be evaluated and redefined, and their protocols will be harmonized with the operational and regional units of the Public Force, the DAS, and the Prosecutor's Office. Operational training levels will be improved and reaction capacity will be maintained through periodic drills.

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Schemes will be implemented and programmed and random exercises to fight corruption and counterintelligence will be carried out in the GAULA groups and in each of the agencies involved in the fight against these crimes, as well as in those from which criminal organizations with infiltration capacity may interfere with the work of the authorities or facilitate criminal activities.

109. The optimization of information and knowledge of kidnapper organizations to facilitate decision-making and achieve the dismantling of these organizations and their finances:

The criteria for classification and management of statistics will be standardized and detailed information on each of the existing cases will be permanently maintained. In particular, a decentralized information system shared by all the organizations with responsibilities in the fight against extortion and kidnapping will be put into operation, which will collect the relevant information on the value chain of these crimes and will allow different types of reports to be obtained. that support decision making. The priority is to build a database that allows monitoring each individual case of kidnapping for extortion in the country.

In order to determine with greater precision the cost structure of the commission of these crimes, allow the anticipation of new forms of operation and support decision-making, systematic analyzes will be carried out on the evolution of kidnapping, its characteristics, behaviors, patterns geographic and temporal, and their modus operandi.

"A decentralized information system shared by all organizations with responsibilities in the fight against extortion and kidnapping will be put into operation."

110. The implementation of a system for receiving and monitoring cases:

A case reception and follow-up system will be implemented to: (i) ensure a direct, stable, and friendly relationship with the victims and their families; (ii) produce better judicial, tactical, and strategic information; (iii) adequately direct the complaints; and (iv) ensure that GAULA groups focus on extortion and kidnapping cases.

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111. The consolidation of an international agenda against extortion and kidnapping for extortion:

The following will be promoted: (i) international initiatives against practices that favor or facilitate these crimes and (ii) effective cooperation on the part of these governments and international instances. International cooperation networks will be built that include, among others, support in intelligence information, training in operational protocols and investigation and intelligence protocols, training and technological information.

"The voluntary adoption of codes of conduct will be promoted in unions, companies, schools, universities, families, among others, to avoid paying kidnappings and detect facts or situations related to kidnapping or extortion."

112. Strengthening the preventive capacity of the State and citizens:

Massive information and awareness campaigns will be carried out so that citizens: (i) report cases of extortion and kidnapping in a timely manner; (ii) inform the authorities of the existence of suspicious activities; and (iii) he understands that he has the full support of the State not to give in to the extortion payment.

The National Government will open simple and effective communication channels to facilitate the reporting of these crimes. Focused prevention campaigns will be carried out for high-risk groups.

The voluntary adoption of codes of conduct in unions, companies, schools, universities, families, among others, will be encouraged to avoid paying for kidnappings and to detect events or situations related to kidnapping or extortion as quickly as possible.

The Government will update the available alert and communication technologies and will support their use through the continuous improvement of the reaction protocols of the security and investigation agencies of the State.

"A prison and penitentiary security and intelligence program will be developed to prevent extortion and extortion kidnappings committed from prisons and minimize the criminal learning of inmates."

The alliances made by the organizations that commit these crimes will be identified to obtain information about their potential victims and to facilitate the commission of these crimes and the sources of information of the criminals will be identified.

A jail and penitentiary security and intelligence program will be developed to prevent extortion and extortion kidnappings committed from prisons, minimize the criminal learning of inmates and provide valuable information for the dismantling of criminal organizations.

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"The development of the anti-kidnapping policy will be articulated from the beginning with a monitoring and evaluation system, based on management indicators and results."

113. The establishment of adequate regulations:

The legal elements necessary to improve the fight against extortion and kidnapping will be identified and will be presented to the Congress of the Republic for consideration, within a new legal initiative against extortion and kidnapping.

114. The definition of measurable objectives:

The development of this policy will be articulated from the beginning with a monitoring and evaluation system, based on management indicators and results, which allows: (i) understanding the effects of the policies and their implementation and (ii) making redirection decisions strategic or political.

115. The development of a work scheme:

Policy decisions on government management of the fight against extortion and kidnapping will be approved by the President of the Republic and formulated through policy documents submitted to the National Security Council (59).
To ensure communication, coordination, and proper compliance with the actions of all the agencies involved, the National Council for the Fight Against Kidnapping (CONASE), chaired by the Ministry of National Defense, will assign resources, tasks, and will carry out permanent monitoring. of the policies implemented by the entities represented therein, with the support of the Vice Presidency of the Republic.

"The National Government invites Colombians who are part of illegal armed organizations, children and adults, to lay down their weapons. The demobilization program offers a viable, flexible and quick alternative for them to restart their lives, recover their family nucleus and definitively leave hiding".

Protection of demobilized and child combatants

116. The National Government invites Colombians who are part of illegal armed organizations, children and adults, to lay down their arms. The demobilization program, regulated by Presidential Decree 128 of 2003, offers a viable, flexible and quick alternative for them to restart their lives, recover their family nucleus and definitively leave hiding. This must be a commitment not only of the State and its institutions, but also of society as a whole: the private sector, the church, civil organizations and Colombian society in general.

117. The objective of the policy is the resocialization and dignification of the demobilized, especially young people, thus facilitating reconciliation and preserving the lives of Colombians. The

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The demobilized will receive psychological counseling and training programs in trades and technical training for 18 months, which will allow them to lead a dignified life and be useful to their families and to society.

118. The person who wants to disassociate himself from these organizations must appear before the military or police commands, before a prosecutor, a representative of the Ombudsman's Office or before any civil or judicial authority, stating his individual and voluntary intention to lay down his arms. The authority that receives the unrelated person will hand him over to the competent institution, which in the case of minors will be the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF) and in the case of adults the Ministry of Defense. This entity will be in charge of the initial humanitarian attention of the unrelated person. Their relationship will be certified in a short time by the Operational Committee for the Laying Down of Weapons (CODA), which will become a permanent decision-making body. To speed up the demobilization process, with the support of the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, a unit of prosecutors will be created exclusively dedicated to defining the legal situation of the demobilized, since each case must be treated individually, analyzing their judicial history and the seriousness of the crimes committed.

"The objective of the policy is the resocialization and dignity of the demobilized, especially young people, thus facilitating reconciliation and preserving the lives of Colombians."

119. The competent entities will be in charge of reconstructing the citizen identity of the unrelated person by issuing documents such as civil registration, citizenship certificate, military record and judicial record certificate. From then on, the institutions of the State and society as a whole will work to achieve the reincorporation of the unrelated to the social and economic life of the country.

120. The demobilization and reinsertion program will be a special and priority part of the general education, health and employment generation policies of the National Government. Additionally, the Government will create a system of strategic alliances for the formulation and execution of programs and projects: with the private sector, with NGOs and religious communities, both nationally and internationally, and with friendly countries, to strengthen the programs and obtain the necessary resources.

121. The Government will provide all the guarantees so that the disengaged have access to the available resources of the State in health, through the Subsidized Social Security Regime, and in education and training, signing institutional agreements with the

"The Government will provide all the guarantees so that the disengaged can access the available resources of the State in health, through the Subsidized Social Security Regime, and in education and training, signing institutional agreements with local governments and with educational establishments."

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local governments, with the National Learning Service (SENA), the Colombian Institute for Educational Credit and Technical Studies Abroad (ICETEX), the Higher School of Public Administration (ESAP), and other educational establishments. It will also benefit from programs for the generation of employment and productive work, which will apply successful productive experiences with the support of the Colombian Fund for Modernization and Technological Development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (FOMIPYME), and employment alternatives will be explored in the private and public sector.

122. Just as the State and society undertake to guarantee certain rights and benefits, the demobilized adult and the detached minor will have duties to their country and to the society that receives them. Their main duty will be to stay away from criminal activities, comply with the requirements imposed by the law, fully attend the program and all its educational and training activities, and develop a useful and productive activity for the country. Any recidivism will make you immediately lose the benefits offered by the State.

Protection against recruitment of children and youth

123. The demobilization program for the 6,000 or 7,000 children and young people who, according to UNICEF and ICBF estimates, are in the ranks of illegal armed organizations, will be complemented by policies to prevent their recruitment by these organizations. These policies will be focused on the population considered to be at high risk. To this end, preventive programs will be carried out to: (i) avoid recruitment through deception; (ii) reinforce attention to the problems of domestic violence and child abuse; and (iii) guarantee permanence in the educational system and promote a culture of peace, coexistence and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

«Preventive programs will be carried out, to avoid recruitment through deception; reinforce attention to the problems of domestic violence and child abuse; and guarantee permanence in the educational system and promote the culture of peace, coexistence and the peaceful resolution of conflicts”.

124. Rural unemployment, particularly the unemployment of young people in rural populations, will receive special attention, to prevent hundreds of young people in the country from becoming victims of forced recruitment by illegal armed organizations, targets of his promises of remuneration and other tricks. Rural unemployment is also the result of the vicious circle of violence and unemployment caused by illegal armed organizations: not only the agricultural sector, but especially

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The sectors that contribute the most to the creation of employment in the countryside, such as services, commerce and construction, have been seen almost paralyzed in many regions of the country due to threats to those who create employment.

125. The National Government has announced in its National Development Plan the different policies that it will implement to accelerate job creation. With regard to rural employment, projects for the social management of the countryside are of special importance, such as support for the cultivation of corn, cotton, sugar cane, coffee, and reforestation that, within the framework of the substitution of illicit crops and with the prospect of international support, promise to alleviate rural unemployment and protect young people from recruitment by illegal armed organizations, while protecting the environment. New lines of credit for small producers, tax incentives and agricultural machinery banks will promote production and, consequently, employment in the field. Special SENA programs will contribute to the training of rural workers.

"The National Government is developing special programs to prevent terrorist attacks against coal, electricity, oil, ports and airports, and telecommunications infrastructure, as well as to prevent hydrocarbon theft, through coordinated work in support structures."

Protection of economic infrastructure

126. The National Government is developing special programs to prevent terrorist attacks against coal, electricity, oil, ports and airports, and telecommunications infrastructure, as well as to prevent hydrocarbon theft, through coordinated work in Army support structures. , the Prosecutor's Office, the DAS, the DIJIN and the Attorney General's Office (66), with the support of the citizens. These programs are based on:

"The National Government will guarantee the security conditions that allow free movement through the country's main trunk roads, through a Comprehensive Highway Safety Strategy based on the coordinated action of State institutions, particularly the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Transportation and the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, with the active cooperation of the citizenry.

The creation of a reliable information system, supported by the cooperation of citizens.

A proper understanding of the threat and terrorist motives.

The preventive patrolling of the Public Force of critical points and the creation of immediate reaction units to neutralize terrorist acts.

The creation of inter-institutional support structures that investigate and analyze crimes.

The promotion of the correct use of the royalties generated by the mining and oil activities and of the social investment of the companies, to improve the quality of life of the community.

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Protection of the road network

127. The National Government will guarantee the security conditions that allow free movement along the country's main trunk roads, through a Comprehensive Highway Safety Strategy.
The Strategy is based on the coordinated action of State institutions, in particular the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Transportation and the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, with the active cooperation of citizens. In this way, the threats of illegal armed organizations and common crime on the country's highways will be counteracted. The Comprehensive Highway Safety Strategy has four main components:

Monitoring vehicle traffic on national highways.

The implementation of reaction actions and intervention of the police and military force.

The participation of the Attorney General's Office in mobile units that allow expedited procedures for the prosecution of those who threaten the security and freedom of citizens on the country's highways.

The coordination of citizen cooperation with the authorities for highway surveillance.

"On holidays, the "Live Colombia, travel through it" caravans are being organized along the main highways, with special protection from the Public Force, so that Colombians once again enjoy their right to travel freely throughout the country."

128. For the development of these components, the following programs will be implemented:

Strategic Road Information Center: will centralize information at the national level, to respond efficiently and timely to threats to road safety, and will coordinate the interventions of the different State institutions involved in the Highway Safety Strategy.

Highway Monitoring System: will support intelligence work to prevent crimes on the national road network. It will send the collected information to the Road Strategic Information Center, to have a timely reaction.

Plan Meteoro: will coordinate the motorized companies of the National Army to support road control.

Judicial Units: they will support the Public Force in carrying out control checkpoints, apprehension of people, immobilization of

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vehicles and retention of illegal merchandise, through immediate action to prosecute the different crimes that occur in the national road network.

Control System at Toll Stations: it will control tolls at all city exits for vehicles and people traveling on the national road network.

Aerial Monitoring: will support the ground units in surveillance and monitoring of highways, providing information to the ground units in a timely manner on the presence of irregularities on the country's roads.

Integrated Road Safety Centers: they will facilitate the prosecution of people, the control of vehicles and cargo located in areas of special importance for the country where there is a high rate of insecurity and contraband.

Guardians of the Road: they will increase the presence of the Public Force with motorized squads that will permanently control the national road network.

Citizen Cooperation Networks: they will collaborate with the authorities in the development of their civic duties and the principle of solidarity. They will provide information on irregularities that occur on national highways.

129. On public holidays, the "Live Colombia, travel through it" caravans are being organized along the main highways, with special protection from the Public Force, so that Colombians once again enjoy their right to travel freely throughout the country.

"The Government will promote the voluntary and patriotic cooperation of citizens, in compliance with their constitutional duties and in application of the principle of solidarity, so that each citizen contributes to the prevention of terrorism and crime."

E. Cooperate for everyone's safety

The security of solidarity

130. The Government will promote the voluntary and patriotic cooperation of citizens, in compliance with their constitutional duties and in application of the principle of solidarity required by the modern social State of Law (18), in order that each citizen

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"A network of citizens in the urban and rural areas of the country will cooperate actively, voluntarily and disinterestedly with the authorities, providing information that allows the prevention and prosecution of crime."

contribute to the prevention of terrorism and crime, providing information related to illegal armed organizations. The Government will also organize advisory committees of the Regional Security Councils (65) to ensure the support of civil society in achieving security. The experience of many countries and crime prevention studies coincide in pointing out that the effectiveness of social prevention, with citizen participation, is superior to situational prevention, with protective measures. If 44 million Colombians accompany the State and feel supported by it, terrorism will fail.

Cooperation networks

131. A network of citizens in the country's urban and rural areas will cooperate actively, voluntarily and disinterestedly with the authorities, participating in citizen security culture programs and providing information that enables the prevention and prosecution of crime. As in many countries that have successfully implemented schemes of this type, such as "Neighbourhood Watch" in Australia and the United Kingdom, these volunteers will rapidly multiply the surveillance capacity of the authorities, with whom they will be in constant communication. Cooperators respond to the principle of solidarity and the citizen's duty to contribute to the common objective of security. Their cooperation, unlike that of the informants, will not be remunerated.

rewards program

132. In addition, a rewards program has been implemented for those persons who, as informants for State security agencies, disclose information that leads to the prevention of terrorist attacks or the capture of members of the illegal armed organizations. The National Government will also create a system of rewards and incentives for reporting assets belonging to persons or organizations linked to terrorism or drug trafficking.

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International cooperation

133. Security is not only a product of the solidarity of all Colombians. Given the transnational nature of the main risks and threats, cooperation and solidarity between countries is a necessary condition for the security of all. Simultaneous action is required against all links in the criminal chain. The National Government will first seek to strengthen regional cooperation, in order to:

"Given the transnational nature of the main risks and threats, cooperation and solidarity between countries is a necessary condition for the security of all."

Create a united front, through cooperation mechanisms that facilitate coordinated operations by the security forces of the respective countries and control the transit of weapons, explosives, narcotics, chemical precursors, and people.

Strengthen the exchange of intelligence and financial information, to monitor, identify and neutralize the activities of illegal armed organizations.

Strengthen and expand the bilateral border commissions, COMBIFRON, and sign agreements that allow security forces to control borders, especially rivers, waters, and airspace, more effectively, exchanging intelligence and carrying out coordinated patrol operations, control, registration and interdiction.

Comply with the purposes of the Lima Commitment of the Andean Community.

Promote the reform of the current inter-American security system, to adapt it to the new security realities. The Government will support the modernization of mechanisms such as the TIAR or institutions such as the Inter-American Defense Board, to translate into concrete operational mechanisms the political will that exists today to combat threats such as drug trafficking and terrorism. The Government will also promote the ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism.

134. The response to a transnational threat such as drug trafficking cannot be other than close international cooperation. The principle of co-responsibility will govern cooperation efforts against each link in the illicit drug business.

"The principle of co-responsibility will govern cooperation efforts against each link in the illicit drug business."

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"If there is a consensus on the symbiosis that exists between terrorism and the illicit drug business, it is evident that the cooperation measures against these activities should be similar."

All countries that share the responsibility for the drug problem should join their efforts to:

Offer employment alternatives and financial support to small coca and poppy growers who voluntarily and effectively eradicate their crops.

Eradicate coca and poppy crops.

Exchange intelligence and strengthen their technical capacity, to combat marketing networks.

Coordinate interdiction efforts, particularly aerial interdiction over the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

Harmonize the legislation against the trafficking of narcotic drugs and chemical precursors, so that the penalties correspond to the damage they cause to society.

Exchange financial information that makes it possible to identify and punish money laundering more decisively.

Control and reduce the consumption of illicit drugs, offering treatment, rehabilitation and training alternatives.

135. The effective fight against terrorism and its sources of financing also requires international cooperation.

Technology and resource exchanges between Colombian illegal armed organizations and international terrorist networks are of particular concern to Colombia.

If there is a consensus on the symbiosis that exists between terrorism and the illicit drug business (29), it is evident that the cooperation measures against these activities should be similar.

Genuine international cooperation against terrorism requires that all States:

Implement Resolution 1373 of the United Nations Security Council and abide by the recommendations of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, which ensures compliance, introducing anti-terrorism legislation, not harboring terrorist groups, nor allowing them to use their territory to carry out their activities and manage your finances. Compliance with these obligations should be automatic and should not require a request from the country of origin of these groups.

"The National Government will permanently disclose to the public the information on the purposes and results of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy, to foster trust, cooperation and citizen solidarity."

Unite your efforts and exert the necessary pressure so that there is transparency in the international financial system and the efforts of some countries are not useless due to the reluctance of others to establish the necessary controls.

Permanently exchange information on the activities of terrorist networks.

Promptly comply with INTERPOL arrest warrants.

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F. Communicate the policies and actions of the State

"The State will promote and support reflection by journalists and the media about what their role should be in a democracy in danger."

Terrorism and Communication

136. Terrorism is a method of political violence that exploits communication to sow terror and confusion, both in the countryside and in the city. Their actions do not represent a political or military strength but, on the contrary, the weakness of those who do not have the support of the population and intend to impose their will on others with terror. It is an empty fortress. The National Government will permanently disclose to the public the information on the purposes and results of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy, to promote trust, cooperation and citizen solidarity.

137. The responsible management of information is not only the task of all State entities. Likewise, it is up to the media, in compliance with the constitutional mandate, to be truthful and responsible, especially when disseminating information that may endanger the lives of people and the development of operations. Complying with these constitutional precepts is a particularly difficult task in a democratic country that, like Colombia, is besieged by terrorist organizations. They not only violate press freedom through intimidation and violence, but also by spreading false information, manipulating public opinion and sowing confusion. The State will promote and support reflection on the part of journalists and the media about what their role should be in a democracy in danger: if their journalistic practices support democratic values, what sources of information they legitimize and what are the effects of language What do they use.

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Public Diplomacy

138. The support of the international community is essential to achieve the protection of all citizens. The transnational nature of the threats facing Colombian democracy makes it impossible to provide security to the population in the long term without the help of other countries. Colombia has received important international support; The country's situation has recently been the subject of discussion in different international forums, as it had never been in its history. But the nature of its problems remains poorly understood by the general public. The National Government, through its foreign service and its military and police attachés, will undertake a public diplomacy exercise to explain the particular nature of Colombia's problems within the Latin American context. Above all, Colombia requires strong institutions that fill the gaps in authority and protect the rights of the population. This is also the guarantee that economic growth will recover and poverty will be reduced. Greater security will translate into greater integration with the international community, which will lead to greater diversification of production, attract foreign investment and tourism, guarantee technology transfer, and open up new markets. In this way, sources of employment will be ensured and Colombia will make its rightful place as one of the engines of growth and development in Latin America. Above all, the strengthening of institutions guarantees the rule of law and the right of Colombians to once again

"Colombia requires above all strong institutions that fill the gaps in authority and protect the rights of the population."

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V. Financing and evaluation

139. The implementation of the Democratic Security Policy requires significant resources, at a time when the country is going through a difficult fiscal situation. The main sources of resources will be, on the one hand, the most compliant and efficient collection of taxes, such as the wealth tax exclusively for security. The National Government is at the same time committed to a fiscal adjustment, with the reforms of the pension system and the tax system, and with a restructuring of the State (85), which will free up the necessary resources for investment in security and social investment. Starting in 2005, the higher tax collection expected with the expansion of the VAT tax base will guarantee the sustainability of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy.

140. Periodic monitoring and evaluation of each of the programs of the Democratic Defense and Security Policy will ensure compliance with the strategic objectives. To this end, two types of indicators will be developed, which correspond to the specific objectives stated above (57):

Indicators of administrative and financial management, which measure the efficiency in the management of resources.

Impact indicators, which measure the effect of policies on achieving security, in accordance with performance criteria that are tied to the strategic objectives.

The information generated through these evaluations will allow: (i) making the necessary adjustments to the programs that do not yield the expected results; (ii) provide transparency to the actions of the sector; and (iii) create accountability mechanisms and delimitation of responsibilities.

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responsibilities matrix

MATRIX OF POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF DEFENSE AND DEMOCRATIC SECURITY

STRATEGIC AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MINISTRIES													ADDITIVE DEPARTMENTS			PROGRAMS PRESIDENTIAL					OTHER OTHER ORG. STATE			
1. STRENGTHEN STATE CONTROL IN THE WHOLE TERRITORY	9	5				6						8	7		8		5				7		9		
- Gradual recovery of the presence of the Public Force in all municipalities	4					6									8		5			6					
* Rehabilitation and consolidation zones 15																5									
* Comprehensive Security Strategy in Roads	3				16					4		4			8	8									
- Increase in the prosecution of crimes with a high social impact	4		8														8				3				
- Extension and strengthening of the administration of justice and State institutions in the areas in which state control restored	5															5				8					
- Decrease in complaints for violation of Human Rights		3															15				3				
2. PROTECTION OF THE POPULATION																									
- Dismantling of terrorist organizations													4			3				4	9				
- Reduction of Kidnapping and extortion													4		6		9	4		5	8				
- Reduction of homicide																	12				7				
- Prevention of forced displacement and facilitation of the return of the displaced population to their places of origin																4									
- Demobilized															8	3									
3. ELIMINATION OF THE ILLICIT DRUG BUSINESS IN COLOMBIA																									
- Air, sea, river and land interdiction of drug and commodity trafficking		7											3			3		12							
- Eradication of coca and poppy crops 15 13 8																		3	8	4				9	
- Disarticulation of networks of drug traffickers.													3			3		14							
- Seizure of illicit assets and finances	7												3			3		13							
4. MAINTAINING A DETERRENT CAPACITY																									
- Protection of land, sea and river borders	8	9				5						9	4				8			11					
5. EFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY		2																							
- Obtaining a greater impact through the optimal administration of resources		3														5		11							
- Generation of savings by reviewing administrative structures and processes	8	3				7												8		4					
- Development of transparency and accountability mechanisms		5																	8	6	8				

Degree of commitment: High | Medium | Bass

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As a result of the government workshop held on April 5, 2003 at the Hato Grande Presidential Treasury, this first matrix of responsibilities for the Democratic Defense and Security Policy was prepared. The matrix outlines the degree of commitment of State entities in relation to the strategic objectives, as well as the comprehensive action required for their development.

In the rows of the matrix are the five strategic objectives of the Policy and their respective specific objectives; in the columns, all the national entities and the current presidential programs that are committed to achieving the objectives.

The President of the Republic, all the ministers, the General Commander of the Military Forces, the Commanders of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force, and the Director of the National Police participated in the preparation of this matrix. The Attorney General of the Nation helped coordinate the efforts of the Attorney General's Office with those of the Executive branch.

Based on this matrix, each entity or program will set priorities in their respective plans to comply with the responsibilities that concern them within the Democratic Defense and Security Policy.

comunicacion@mindefensa.gov.co

Ministry of Defense,
Carrera 52 - Avenida el Dorado CAN, Bogotá DC
www.mindefensa.gov.co