

New York, 5 December 2013

Gustavo Gallón Giraldo
Director
Colombian Commission of Jurists

Dear Gustavo,


On behalf of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, I would like to extend my warm congratulations to the Colombian Commission of Jurists' on the occasion of its 25th anniversary, celebrated last 28 November.

Over the past decades, the Coalition has been witness to the tremendous work that you and your team at CCJ have carried out with the purpose of advancing human rights in Colombia. The role that CCJ has played and continues to play in this regard has been truly remarkable and admirable, amidst a difficult and challenging environment. In particular, CCJ's determined advocacy for the rights of victims to justice and reparations; its role in ensuring the compatibility of Colombian domestic legislation with Colombia's obligations under International Law; and its work in documenting human rights violations in the country, among other issues, has made CCJ one of the most vocal and leading human rights organizations in the region, and a true ally in the fight against impunity.

Colombian society continues to face many challenges ahead. In particular, as the world focuses its attention on the outcomes of the peace negotiations, I echo your call in ensuring that justice must be an integral component in the road toward peace. I am truly confident that during this key moment in Colombian history, the Colombian Commission of Jurists will continue to bear the torch of the fight against impunity and give a voice to the thousands of victims awaiting justice.

We look forward to continuing working together in our common quest for justice over the next decades.

Sincerely,


William R. Pace
Convenor