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NGO in general consultative status
with the Economic and Social Council

New York / The Hague, February 11, 2015

H.E President Juan Manuel Santos
President of Colombia
Bogotá, Colombia

Dear Mr. President Juan Manuel Santos,

On behalf of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), a non-profit, non-partisan international network of over 1100 committed legislators from 140 elected parliaments, we express our deep concern and condemn the death threats against Sen. Ivan Cepeda Castro, his adviser, Agustin Jimenez and Ana Jimena Bautista.

Sen. Ivan Cepeda Castro, Member of PGA, is a human rights defender, co-chairman of the Peace Commission of the Congress, a member of the group Colombians for Peace, official spokesman of the Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVIC) and has played a very important role in the peace process, the promotion and protection of human rights.

An official complaint was filed on February 3, 2015 in the Attorney General's Office, after Sen. Ivan Cepeda Castro and one of his advisors, Agustin Jimenez received alarming threats during the month of January. Such activities have already been deplored a year ago, when PGA wrote [a letter](#) expressing the same concern.

In an increasingly complex landscape, such threats not only endanger the life and physical integrity of some individuals from various sectors who are committed to peace, but they also undermine the peace process, which the Colombian government has made great efforts to advance, by demonstrating its commitment to the creation of a universal system of international criminal law, strengthening democratic institutions and the establishment of the rule of law. The importance of the peace process has been recognized in , [the Annual Forum of PGA, held on 9 and 10 dicimebre, 2013 in the Parliament of Colombia](#), which benefitted from your honorable presence and where **Dip. Minou Tavárez Mirabal**, (Dominican Republic), president of PGA and signatory of this letter, had the privilege to meet you. We also take this opportunity to express our most sincere gratitude for your participation in

such an event and especially for your endless support, relentless efforts and constant commitment to the fight against impunity.

It is for these reasons that PGA calls on you, as President of Colombia, to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of Sen. Ivan Cepeda Castro, his adviser, Agustin Jimenez, Ana Jimena Bautista and all the people whose safety is at risk. Additionally, PGA calls on the Attorney General's Office to immediately investigate and judge those responsible for these threats, setting the tone of the government that Colombia aspires to be: a responsible, democratic government, respectful of the rule of law and Human Rights.

President
Dip. Minou Tavárez Mirabal, Dominican Republic Sen. Alain Destexhe, Belgium