Cancillería

SCOPE OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA'S RESPONSE - VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REQUEST OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ENFORCED OR INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCES

This document was prepared to provide further details regarding the response already submitted by the Colombian State in response to the request of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances within the framework of Human Rights Council resolution 54/14, through which the Council requested contributions and inputs from States for its study on enforced disappearances and memorialization.

In this regard, the Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs received information from the Specialized Directorate against Human Rights Violations (DECVDH) of the Office of the Attorney General (FGN) on May 25, 2026, in response to one of the points in the request; Therefore, this information is brought to the attention of the Working Group, in the hope that it may be useful for its study or for future occasions.

QUESTIONNAIRE

2. **Practical and inclusive approaches to remembrance by States, victims, and civil society**

In response to this section, the FGN reported the following: "[...]

> *Although this matter does not fall entirely within the jurisdiction of the Attorney General's Office, the DECVDH reports that, as part of the agency's mission, it is evident that work is being done to document human rights violations in criminal proceedings involving serious violations, including victim profiles, declarations of crimes against humanity, and reports analyzing patterns of victimization, all of which are incorporated into the respective judicial proceedings. In this regard, this work could be understood as an act of remembrance that broadens the strictly legal perspective by contributing to the recognition and dignification of the victim within the judicial process.*

Similarly, in specific cases, search reports have been provided to the victims' families, as in the case of the massacre of the 19 merchants, which can be considered an exercise in memory and recognition of the victims.

Furthermore, in the document on the duty of due diligence prepared by the DECVDH in 2025, the agency includes recommendations for law firms, urging them to observe certain commemorative dates, such as the International Week of the Detained and Disappeared (last week of May), the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance (August 30), the National Day of Women Searching for Victims of Enforced Disappearance (October 23), as well as significant dates specific to the victim and their family. The purpose of the above is to ensure that prosecutors have up-to-date information on the proceedings in the cases, so as to reflect the guarantee of the rights of victims and searchers. However, these considerations are presented in the document as suggestions and do not constitute binding obligations.

[…]"