**Public statement of participants within the events:**

**Habitat III / Seminar Towards an Alternative Habitat 3 / Habitat III Resistance:**

**PEACE NOW WITH NO DELAYS FOR COLOMBIAN INHABITANTS, HABITATS AND TERRITORIES**

**Quito, October 17th to 20th, 2016**

Women and men of different countries gathered in Quito, researchers, leaders, community members and citizens, belonging to academic and research groups, universities, community organizations, non-governmental organizations and state agencies, participants in different events of Habitat III / Seminar Towards an Alternative Habitat 3 / Habitat III Resistance, between 17th and 20th of October 2016, express our solidarity with the Colombian people, in their
eagerness to search for peace, and we urge the international community to look after an early realization of the agreements leading to its achievement.

We recognize the profound political and social implications of this national moment, following the refusal obtained in the plebiscite last October 2nd by a slim difference, and we are aware of the implicit fragility in the situation of derived uncertainty and of the risk that crosses the Peace Agreement than was signed between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP.

As part of the global community working on habitat issues, we highlight how the Colombian armed conflict has been one of the strongest determinant impediments to achieve the claimed rights to dignified housing, security of tenure, territorial stability and the right to the city; constituting such conflict one of the most serious gaps to achieve those. This is reflected in the more than six million displaced people, caused by the different actors of the armed conflict, and in the destruction of their habitats, towns and entire societies. Likewise, we highlight the fact that the armed conflict has been one of the major barriers to achieve territorial and habitat democratic management, as participation in institutional decision-making settings is strongly violated or denied by the anti-democratic exercise of armed actions.

It is our ethical duty to act in solidarity with the millions of victims of the Colombian armed conflict, without differentiating its origins, with peasant and indigenous people, with the people in displacement conditions surviving in Colombian cities and with the territories devastated by war. Picking up the spirit of reconciliation expressed from the huge demonstrations, marches and rallies of the Colombian people, calling for peace from their different territories: we call on society and on the Government of Colombia to urgently materialize the PEACE AGREEMENTS, without DELAYS that could risk the achievement of this historic opportunity, crystallized today after more than 52 years of suffering one of the longest and most fateful wars between brothers.

Being present here in Quito, this broad universe of persons and organizations from almost every country in the world, we call on the strengthening of international support that has so far been given to the peace process in Colombia, to achieve continuity and keep getting the bilateral ceasefire, restitution to the victims of war, protection of former combatants and the inclusion of social, gender and territorial diversity, and to materialize in the shortest time possible adjustments to the agreements between the Government of Colombia and FARC-EP.

Finally, given the high risk involved in the delay of this process, we demand clear immediacy commitments to all the actors involved in the final definition of these agreements, and we insist that the present moment demands that all efforts are to be made, even the impossible, so that Colombia does not return by the way of its painful fratricidal war.

We sign this public statement,

| **Name and last name** | **Identification document** | **Nacionalidad** | **Country of residence**  | **Group, entity, organization or community to which I belong or represent**  |
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