

**Benelux Statement during the Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's Report on
technical assistance in Colombia – item 10**

59th Session of the UN Human Rights Council

July 3rd, 2025

Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Belgium, the Netherlands and my own country, Luxembourg. We fully align with the statement of the European Union and thank the High Commissioner for his report.

We commend the Office of the High Commissioner for the support provided to Colombia in the implementation of the Peace Agreement, while regretting that the liquidity situation has affected the OHCHR's capacity to carry out all the technical assistance mandated by this Council.

We welcome the commitment of the government of Colombia to fulfil the recommendations by the Truth Commission and the progress made. However, we consider that stronger action is necessary to ensure its comprehensive implementation and that of the Peace agreement. Especially the persistence of impunity surrounding cases of serious human rights violations and abuses and the obstacles to justice are a challenge that needs to be addressed effectively and without delay.

We remain concerned by the killing by non-state actors of social leaders and human rights defenders, among whom LGBTQI+ persons, by the increasing number of recruitment and use of children by non-State armed groups and organized crime, and the persistence of disproportionate violence against indigenous authorities, the Afro-Colombian community, members of community action committees and campesino organizations.

Mr. High Commissioner,

How can this Council and Member States further support Colombia in its efforts to ensure the full protection of human rights and in building a culture of peace and dialogue for conflict resolution?

I thank you.

[249 words – speaking time: 1.30 minutes – LU 3rd]