STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the decision by the Colombian Government and the FARC to publish the provisional agreements from Havana peace talks

“We welcome the joint announcement by the Colombian Government and the FARC, on 24 September, of the publication of the full texts of the provisional agreements reached during the Havana negotiations on land issues, political participation and illicit drugs. The EU supports the Havana peace talks and is encouraged by the presentation of these partial agreements, which show the depth of discussions and the willingness on both sides to address fully the core issues, leading to a solution to the conflict.

The publication of these texts will enable Colombians to develop an informed opinion on the issues at stake and to better appreciate how a successful conclusion of the talks will transform Colombia and create new opportunities for economic and social development. Open debate and political participation must replace armed confrontation in settling differences and defining a way forward for the country.

The EU encourages both parties in the negotiations to step up their efforts and continue discussions on the two remaining chapters, in a spirit of mutual responsibility and compromise, to bring the talks to a successful and timely conclusion. Continued dialogue and information to the public about progress in the talks will strengthen confidence in building a common post-conflict Colombia. The EU stands ready to contribute to this effort.”

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