

**Trees and Reefs Foundation on behalf of the Indigenous Raizal People
of San Andres, Old Providence, and Santa Catalina Islands, Colombia**

Report on State's Response

**Information Submitted and Provided by:
Trees and Reefs Foundation**

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Prepared by and Contact:

Nicole Friederichs, Legal Representative
Dana Goss & James Mooney, Student
Attorneys
Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples Clinic
Suffolk University Law School
120 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02108, USA
nfriederichs@suffolk.edu
1 (617) 305 1682

With support from:

Marion Howard, Professor Emerita
Center for Global Development and
Sustainability
The Heller School
Brandeis University
Waltham, MA, USA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. INTRODUCTION
- II. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO GUARANTEE AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR THE RAIZAL
 - a. Regarding adequate housing after the extensive destruction caused by the hurricanes.
 - b. Regarding compensation for losses suffered, and measures taken to adequately enable the expression of cultural identity.
 - c. Regarding the climate resilience of homes in light of the increase in severe weather events.
- III. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE RAIZAL PARTICIPATION
 - a. Regarding the right to participation, especially Raizal women.
 - b. Regarding the rights of participation in the design, implementation, monitoring, assessment of disaster preparedness, response, and reconstruction.
- IV. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT FOOD IS AVAILABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND NUTRITIONALLY ADEQUATE.
 - a. Regarding access to nutritionally adequate food in light of the destruction of natural resources.
 - b. Regarding measures taken to repair or replace fishing boats and the military dock that blocks the former wharf of the fishermen's cooperative.
- V. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO DRINKING WATER
 - a. Regarding access to potable water.
 - b. Regarding the traditional systems of gutters and cisterns.
- VI. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES
- VII. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO THAT THE RAIZAL CAN EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION, AND TO BE CONSULTED IN DECISIONS THAT AFFECT THEM INCLUDING THOSE THAT HAVE AN IMPACT ON THEIR CULTURAL RIGHTS
 - a. Regarding the rights to self-government, self-determination, and prior consultation.
 - b. Regarding the Raizal Statute.
- VIII. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO PROTECT AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES
- IX. CONCLUSION
- X. ATTACHMENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Seven United Nations Special Rapporteurs (“the Rapporteurs”) sent a joint communication (“the U.N. joint communication”) to Colombia (“the State”), which became public on January 14, 2023. In light of these concerns, the Rapporteurs requested that the State respond. The State’s response was subsequently shared with the Trees and Reefs Foundation (TRF). In coordination with 16 other Raizal organizations, TRF gathered reactions and responses from the Raizal living on San Andres, Old Providence and Santa Catalina (OPSC) and submit this response to the State’s report. It highlights the common themes of the State’s response, namely a lack of accountability and a failure to answer and address the concerns raised by the Rapporteurs. The data provided by the State are often vague, and any measures that the State has taken fail to consider Raizal culture and knowledge. In spite of the few measures taken by the State, an ongoing humanitarian and environmental crisis remains. Houses are still inadequate; access to food, water, and health services are unsecured; hurricane shelters and viable preparedness measures are still non-existent, and the State continues to restrict the Raizal people’s ability to participate in the decision-making processes regarding the present and future of their homeland.

II. COLOMBIA’S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO GUARANTEE AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR THE RAIZAL

a. Regarding adequate housing after the extensive destruction caused by the hurricanes.

2. The general theme of the State’s response regarding housing is that the Raizal were involved in the rebuilding, consultations were carried out, and the climate and weather of the islands and Raizal culture were taken into consideration. In reality, the State ignored the vast majority of what the Raizal requested. Consequently, the homes are neither structurally adequate nor climate resilient and do not take into account the Raizal culture. The following are reactions of Raizal community members after reading the State’s response, compiled by Fanny Howard¹ of TRF:
 - Immediately after the hurricanes, members of the Raizal community requested international aid. The Raizal diaspora presented model home plans, materials, and technical advice with experts from the Cayman Islands. The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) of Puerto Rico offered to help by rebuilding 300 houses. Similarly, support was offered from the Navajo Nation, Rockefeller Foundation, World Vision, and the Government of Jamaica, spearheaded by Raizal connections and contacts. However, the State, working through the national unit for risk management (UNGRD), informed all international relief agencies that no work could be done directly with the Raizal people or local entities and that any assistance had to be channeled through the State and used in accord with UNGRD priorities, plans, and at their discretion. The Raizal petitioned the

¹ Fanny Howard, M.Ed. Counseling Psychology and M.A. Sustainable International Development.

State to work directly with relief efforts given the urgency of their plight, but these requests were ignored.

- Once reconstruction finally began, the Raizal community agreed upon the type of homes. These were to be built in traditional architectural style of either wood or concrete, with every house including a secure zone of concrete. However, the type of houses agreed upon in the meetings listed by the State are not what was ultimately built. The State mentioned construction standards, and yet the majority of workers did not follow any kind of construction standards and did not respect the traditional architecture, appropriate for the tropical island lifestyle and climate.
- The State introduced 300 prefabricated homes, with walls made of a galvanized mesh material and plastic-composite roofs, without the Raizal community's consent. These houses were imposed upon the Raizal community, and many feel as though they were lab rats used as experiments by the State. The so-called consultation process turned out to be a fraud.
- Not only were the houses imposed upon the Raizal community, but the entire rebuilding process was unequal in assignment with a total lack of transparency. There was negligence in the methods of construction, lack of technical expertise of workers, poor quality of materials, and no attempt to adapt to the maritime climate and local needs. Consequently, most of the pre-fab galvanized houses (more than 80%) already have serious structural flaws. For instance, the walls are made of a metal mesh filled with mortar (a mixture of sand and cement) that do not resist humidity, salt air, and heavy rain so are prone to seepage and leaking. Houses are traditionally built on pilings. However, the new house posts are not underpinned by concrete footings, so the foundations are shaky. Some of the posts were not placed deep enough into the soil, and the community doubts that a soil analysis was done, despite the State's indication that money was spent on such studies.
- The wooden railings of the verandas on all of the new houses are already rotting or filled with fungus. The wood and lumber used was not cured or sprayed for termites. Hurricane shutters were called for but only some houses have them. The shutters that were installed are made of chipboard that disintegrates in the rain. Front doors are made of aluminum alloy, which rusts and cannot withstand strong winds. Rust-resistant paint was not used to protect materials from salinity. The gutters on houses are too close to the exterior walls because of lack of roof overhang, and therefore contribute to leaking at the windows. Large sloping roof overhangs are a fundamental characteristic of tropical architecture, protecting from sun and rain while expanding the surface area for water collection.
- Some members of the Raizal community requested houses made of concrete blocks. Most of those requests were ignored, and the few houses that were constructed with blocks also have serious flaws. For instance, the posts do not have steel on the inside to sustain the walls, and lack a structure that ties together the walls at the top in order to put on the roof. It is very possible that a hurricane would cause the walls to fall on the dwellers.

- The septic tanks are far below the standards required by the environmental authority. To protect the fragile environment and human health, specifications call for 3-chamber tanks of sufficient size and for only toilet waste to be channeled into the tanks. The new tanks fail to comply with these regulations and are so small that after a month, yards were contaminated with sewage.
- Finally, the Raizal community fears that the bulk of the funds were not appropriately spent on quality materials, expert workers, safe buildings, or environmentally sound structures. The community would especially like to have a detailed account of how the donation funds were spent.²

b. Regarding compensation for losses suffered, and measures taken to adequately enable the expression of cultural identity.

3. In the working meetings, the State’s response indicated that characteristics of the culture and island architecture were considered. The State noted a special meeting organized in OPSC on December 17, 2022, where guidelines of the housing were presented. According to the State, community strengthening was emphasized along with utilization of local labor, respecting architecture and indigenous methods of construction. The State cited various articles of the National Constitution. Specifically, the State mentioned the Ministry of Culture and the Ten-Year Plan of Native Languages of the State, which aims to recognize and promote languages of indigenous peoples. Further, a planning process was carried out in local Creole language at a meeting in San Andres on October 14, 2022, with the purpose of formally delivering the language plan. Finally, an event was held on October 2022, that commemorated the Raizal as a day of cultural conversation and interaction.
4. The State’s response fails to address measures taken to compensate for losses suffered. The State’s response does not specify actions taken to compensate for the lack of rental subsidies for those in uninhabitable homes, or for those who were forced to leave OPSC after the hurricanes. Nor did the State address measures to ensure compensation for the 79 houses taken off the government’s list of homes, which remain unbuilt.³ As for measures taken to adequately enable the expression of cultural identity, the State’s examples fall short. Despite the State’s assertions that measures were taken, the disregard of Raizal requests, knowledge, and traditions prove otherwise. What follows are Raizal community reaction to the State’s response:
 - The State’s slow response, prevention of timely international help, and the inadequacy of the reconstruction has left the Raizal community worse off than before the hurricanes.

² See also Josefina Huffington Archbold (“the amount of resources mentioned by UNGR and FINDETER that has been invested in each house is striking, but it does not correspond to the quality of the materials used.”).

³ Reported by Fanny Howard, Trees and Reefs Foundation, & Elsa Robinson, Raizal Council member (the 79 houses have not been rebuilt. Even the home of a known person with disabilities in the section of Jones Point has not been rebuilt).

- After the hurricanes, many did not have support for paying rent or buying food and other needs. The Raizal community would like to see the list of the people who were given the rent subsidy to know who was left out.
- During the reconstruction process, the workers (especially engineers) treated the Raizal community members with total disrespect. The workers lacked knowledge of the Raizal culture, and treated Raizal community members as inferior beings, and as if the Raizal did not know what was best for themselves and their homes. Contrary to what the State said, local labor was rarely used.
- Island architecture was not considered. For example, during the reconstruction process, workers did not respect the cisterns and consequently many were destroyed. The traditional system of gutters cannot be implemented because new roofs have little or no overhang. Cisterns are important to Raizal culture and health, and yet the State will not replace the ones damaged or destroyed and instead has ignored the cultural practice of the Raizal.
- The State mentioned the planning process carried out in the Creole language, and yet, the State's response continues to translate the names of the islands and any place names on the islands into Spanish, ignoring their proper names.⁴ The community also pointed out that these meetings had nothing to do with OPSC reconstruction or the lack of cultural respect during reconstruction, which is an example of how the State's response is full of padding and irrelevant programs that have no connection to reconstruction or to the abuses the Raizal suffered.

c. Regarding the climate resilience of homes in light of the increase in severe weather events.

5. The State's response discussed their framework for disaster relief management and that concrete actions were taken from the beginning of the reconstruction to ensure climate resilience housing for the Raizal. Specifically, the State listed the technical criteria of increasing the wind resistance, defining palaphytic structures⁵, implementing hurricane anchors/straps on roofs, training by professionals, technical management, personnel onsite to ensure correct installation, and implementation of construction standards. Further, the State noted that churches, the airport, schools, and the fire station, all of which were rebuilt after the hurricanes, can serve as shelters in the event of a future hurricanes.
6. The State's framework for disaster relief management did not work, as seen by the ongoing humanitarian and environmental crisis of the Raizal. The State has a duty to anticipate environmental impacts and to ensure the homes and infrastructure on OPSC can withstand severe weather. However, instead of adopting adequate measures to address the multiple human rights violations and negative consequences of climate change, the State's response

⁴ See also Josefina Huffington Archbold ("its proper name in English Creole Old Providence and Kethleena").

⁵ Note that OPSC had few if any palaphytic structures; many coastal residences and buildings were on pilings but not situated over the water.

simply relies on their failed disaster relief framework.⁶ Again, here are reactions to the State's response to the Special Rapporteurs' communication, collected from Raizal people:

- There are no secure homes or shelters.⁷ There is still a great threat to Raizal lives and property since another hurricane season will be coming soon. Some Raizal are drawing on their own savings to build their own hurricane shelters. And as far as the Raizal people know, the government is not presently doing anything to update hurricane preparedness and disaster relief management planning.
- The State did not take into account the climatological conditions (prevailing wind patterns and rains) such that now many parts of the homes are not secure from rain. The roofs of many houses were not installed correctly and the angles miscalculated. This causes leaks and seepage in many of the homes. Further, the roofs were cut off exactly at the external wall, resulting in the walls and windows having no overhang to protect against rain, wind, and salt spray.
- The windows were not installed at the proper angle and very thin glass was used. Many windows have already fallen out of the frames. Consequently, not only are the windows useless in the event of another hurricane, but they are also dangerous if they shatter or fall on inhabitants.
- Hurricane straps were used only occasionally and incorrectly. For instance, one of the workers put hurricane straps on a cistern rather than the house. Further, Raizal community members had to find straps themselves and supervise the contractors to ensure that they were installed correctly.
- Finally, an important part of the housing model approved by the Raizal was to have bunkers and safe areas designed of concrete, along with the construction of separate shelters for sections of the islands. There were supposed to be secure zones within the homes that were large enough to fit the entire family; for instance two rooms in addition to the bathroom. The majority of homes, however, do not have these safe zones.⁸ The few that do already had a concrete structure, or the homeowners built it on their own.
- As for the State's assertion that buildings such as the churches, schools, etc. can be used as shelters, those buildings were built after the hurricanes with shoddy methods like the houses. They do not have reinforced walls, strong foundations, hurricane shutters, roof straps, or hurricane-proof windows. As for amenities, they lack kitchens, adequate bathrooms (some have no bathrooms), water sources, or even beds. Some of these new buildings already flood when it rains.

⁶ See also Howard, M. 2010. Indigenous People's Plan for the Raizal People of the San Andres Archipelago Colombia: Inclusion in the Integrated National Adaptation Program. Technical Report. Conservation Int'l & World Bank/GEF.

⁷ See also Josefina Huffington Archbold ("The houses built still do not meet the anti-hurricane technical standards.").

⁸ See also Josefina Huffington Archbold (noting that the Raizal community was told that the houses would have cement bathrooms that could serve as bunkers. However, some of the houses were not made of cement and the metal mesh roofs can easily blow away in the wind. The model homes which do have bathrooms that could serve as a bunker, are too small to accommodate an entire family).

III. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE RAIZAL PARTICIPATION

a. Regarding the right to participation, especially Raizal women.

7. As noted above, the State referenced various meetings where those who attended purportedly were given an opportunity to participate in decisions. As to women specifically, the State cited programs that strengthen breastfeeding networks and units aimed to provide reparation for pregnant women and nursing mothers. The State's response fails to address any measures taken to ensure the right of participation of Raizal women. Here are reactions from Raizal community members:

- Raizal women are often involved in designing projects for the benefit of the community, are often the ones petitioning the government, and many Raizal women have advanced knowledge and training of all kinds.⁹ Despite this, however, the State excluded Raizal women from the reconstruction by directing questions to Raizal men instead of Raizal women. This happened especially during the final decision-making of the model houses, where agreements with Raizal women and consideration of their participation and stated needs were not taken into account.
- Further, about 30% of farmers are women and more than half of the businesses in tourism belong to women (native lodges, food stalls, restaurants). Many of these businesses are still not ready to re-open. Fondo Nacional de Turismo (FONTUR), the technical body of the Ministry of Commerce Industry and Tourism, has harassed Raizal women into signing and receiving unfinished buildings and works.
- Most of the programs for women in the State's response had nothing to do with the reconstruction or with participation or control of the process by Raizal women.

b. Regarding the rights of participation in the design, implementation, monitoring, assessment of disaster preparedness, response, and reconstruction.

8. The State's response does nothing more than claim that they have contemplated Raizal participation. However, simply holding workshops and meetings to discuss Raizal participation in no way ensures Raizal participation. The trend of ignoring the Raizal was seen before the hurricanes, and has continued throughout the reconstruction. For instance, prior to the hurricanes, the Raizal voiced their concerns over threats to their environment, natural resources, culture, and survival. The Raizal have been voicing these concerns for decades. For instance, in collaboration with CORALINA, the Raizal contributed to the State's national climate change project, Integrated National Adaptation Program (INAP), but ultimately most contributions from the Raizal to avoid the impacts of climate change were ignored by national project partners.¹⁰ Further, as will be discussed in more detail below,

⁹ Further, the Raizal community report that women often get paid less than men in the same position or in a comparable role, despite Raizal women having more formal education, such as specific training courses and certificates, college degrees, and even graduate school degrees.

¹⁰ Howard, M. 2010. Indigenous People's Plan for the Raizal People of the San Andres Archipelago Colombia: Inclusion in the Integrated National Adaptation Program. Technical Report. Conservation Int'l & World Bank/GEF.

the “*Estatuto Autonómico del Pueblo Raizal*” (referred to as the Raizal Statute), which explicitly recognizes the right of the Raizal to self-determination, has been suspended and postponed several times since 2014.¹¹

9. The State’s response mentioned that issues related to climate change are being discussed as part of the Raizal Statute, which is in the process of “protocolization”, and that projects to reduce vulnerability of the Raizal are being contemplated, including mitigation, adaptation, carbon neutrality, risk management, and insurance of disaster risk. Further, the State mentioned the National Planning Department’s participation in the reconstruction plan and consultations.
10. After the hurricanes, the State held various meetings. However, beyond stating that meetings were held, the State does not indicate any true measures taken to enable Raizal participation or that the Raizal had been consulted during the reconstruction. Finally, not only did the State fail to ensure Raizal participation and consultation, but the State took the opportunity to assert greater control over the Archipelago. For instance, removing decision-making power from the Office for Control of Circulation and Residence (OCCRE) eliminated the Raizal’s ability to regulate internal migration from mainland Colombia and control the influx of non-residents into OPSC post-hurricane. Here are the community reactions to the State’s response to the UN’s communication:
 - The community is not sure what workspaces the State is referring to, but can say that whenever Raizal community members had questions during reconstruction, the State would either ignore petitions, give vague explanations, or say that UNGRD and Findeter knew what was best.
 - There were rarely translators at meetings, and access to information was limited. For instance, members of the Raizal community were not allowed to see or obtain access to meeting minutes until recently.¹² At the same time, they found out that secret meetings were held with UNGRD and a few State-selected members of the Raizal community following the public consultations, at which meetings outcomes were changed and new agreements reached.
 - The Raizal commented that they know of no projects related to mitigation, adaptation, carbon neutrality, risk management, or insurance of disaster risk. Those involved in developing the Raizal Statute point out that it is not advancing and is nowhere near ready for signing, so the State’s response makes no sense.
 - Due to changes in the OCCRE that allowed the migration of hundreds of workers for the rebuilding process, and the denial to hire more local workers, the islands were inundated with strangers who did not respect the natural environment or culture. It was

¹¹ Raizal Council, Declaration of Raizal Territory.

¹² The Raizal finally received copies of minutes in response to a ruling from the Constitutional Court that the State must comply with the Right to Prior Consultation, including sharing any and all documents and information related to Prior Consultations held during reconstruction. This ruling will be discussed further later in this document.

an overwhelming experience that the Raizal community and their local authorities had no control over because of UNGRD's assertion of control.

- The influx of workers and military took away resources from the Raizal community.¹³ Further, because there is no sewage system except septic tanks, the increased population led to overflowing sewage and wastewater. The staff from Findeter ignored or verbally abused Raizal community members when they complained about the septic tanks and health hazard from overflowing waste.
- Additionally, having more than 680 military personnel on the islands was very intimidating since they were driving around in vehicles that are generally used in war zones. The military also contaminated a fragile gully ecosystem with old concrete slabs that have not been removed nor has the area been recovered.

IV. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT FOOD IS AVAILABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND NUTRITIONALLY ADEQUATE.

a. Regarding access to nutritionally adequate food in light of the destruction of natural resources.

11. The hurricanes caused severe damage to the islands, and significantly limited the Raizal people's ability to cultivate and access nutritionally adequate food. Few actions have been carried out to ensure the sustainability of local agriculture or to prepare for future impacts of climate change on the Islands' food security infrastructure. The State's response included a lot of information; listing several programs such as detecting disease and malnutrition in children, providing supplements to pregnant women, mobile units that provided nutritional screening and psychosocial services, a school feeding program, a mangrove nursery built by National Parks, and more investment in the restoration of terrestrial, coastal, and marine ecosystems of OPSC.
12. However, the State's response lacked information on how these measures are actually meeting the needs of the Raizal. For instance, many of the programs mentioned by the State do not appear to have any substantive bearing on the issue of food security. There are a number of claims, policies, and programs outlined in the State's response that appear to bear a tangential relationship, if any, to the question of Raizal nutritional security. For example, the "Return to Joy" program, the management of a radio strip on the National Army station, the "New Providence New Beginning" mural program, and a Christmas Novena were all described as primarily cultural projects which, while potentially beneficial in their own rights, seem to have no or, at best, tangential connection to the nutritional security of the Raizal people.

¹³ See also Josefina Huffington Archbold ("This phenomenon has subjected ecosystems to an overload, there is a shortage of food, water does not reach all sectors, there is overflow of sewage in the streets, among other afflictions that do not allow the local population to enjoy a dignified life.").

13. Similarly, the State's response spent approximately two pages describing a number of activities and educational programs aimed at sexual education on the islands. This, again, is possibly a fine program in its own right, but has no connection to the issue of Raizal food security or access to nutritionally adequate food. Whether intentional or not, these tangents distract from the real issue of the Raizal peoples' right to nutritionally adequate food and the State's failure to substantively meet its obligations to them.
14. At times the State's response did seem to address parts of the question as to measures taken to ensure access to nutritionally adequate food in light of the destruction of natural resources. The State indicated that their long-term goals are to assist the Raizal in regaining self-sufficiency and restoring their agricultural capacity. In meeting these goals, the State discussed the creation of community gardens and investing in smaller poultry farms and home gardens. These programs and the goals of these programs sound promising on paper. However, the reality of these programs does not live up to the goals indicated by the State nor does future Raizal control over these programs appear to be assured.
15. Further, when the State addressed the long-term goals regarding Raizal self-sufficiency, the State often just mentions the amount of money given to a certain group without information on how it will be used, the degree to which it is or will address the material needs of the community, the current status of these projects, or next steps these plans may include. Additionally, the State's response failed to substantively address steps being taken to establish climate change resilient agricultural infrastructure in order to prevent or minimize damage of this kind occurring again.
16. Finally, not only is there a lack of food because of the destruction of natural resources, but the Raizal have seen a massive increase in their cost-of-living expenses, especially concerning access to nutritionally adequate food because of the influx of mainlanders to OPSC after the hurricanes. The influx led to a massive issue in supply of basic necessities upon which the Raizal depend. This poses a serious threat to the Raizal's right to nutritionally adequate food, and it deserves a substantive response from the State. The following are Raizal reactions to the State's response, compiled by TRF:
 - The mangroves in McBean Lagoon National Park are dying as a result of the environmental devastation of the hurricanes. The State planted mangrove seedlings but did not open the channels for fresh water to get to them, which all but prevents them from properly developing because of the proximity of these forests to the airport.
 - Food costs have increased so much that many Raizal are not able to get their normal three meals and the government does not help. The minimum wage is \$1,000.000 COP (USD \$237) and for many it is impossible to pay rent (\$600,000 COP monthly), eat, pay for school supplies, and pay bills (electricity, water, garbage collection). Further, the Raizal community did not have any support for paying rent, buying food, and other

needs after the hurricanes and many could not work, so had to rely on their small savings and charity to survive for up to two years.¹⁴

- Again the people pointed out that many of the programs the State mentions in its response had no value to the reconstruction, such as mime shows put on by soldiers for the children, the Christmas Novena, etc. These irrelevant programs were paid for with reconstruction and relief funds, which may be why the State includes them in their response. The people are convinced that even the military and national police were paid from reconstruction funds for their involvement in these so-called “relief” programs, so their presence in OPSC was not a State contribution or service.
- Few actions were carried out for the sustainability of local agriculture to lower vulnerabilities (climate change) and insure local production. For example, there is a municipal farm where little has been done. A program called “Let it Grow” was supposed to support home gardens, but again, not much has come of it and there is no plan to address the lack of water and infrastructure to irrigate farms. Also access to these programs has been politicized, resulting in inequity and mistrust.
- Projects are being realized, but they lack concrete goals geared toward the real needs to organize an integral agriculture system that will have a lasting and favorable impact. Further, the techniques and strategies are still not appropriate for the region or in tune with the needs of an island. For example, the Raizal have not seen plans or minimum actions to get water to the farms. Seeds were delivered, but what can you do with seeds without water or tools to farm or fence lands?

b. Regarding measures taken to repair or replace fishing boats and the military dock that blocks the former wharf of the fishermen’s cooperative.

17. One of the most notable consequences of the hurricanes was the destruction of the Raizal fishing infrastructure, significantly limiting or cutting off access to one of the primary sources of food on the islands. The Raizal consider the seas to be their greatest source of economic stability, as well as providing spiritual and nutritional support. The destruction of the islands’ ecosystems by the hurricanes was devastating to the Raizal and to their livelihoods, and seriously restricted their ability to maintain their collective health.

18. Although the State’s response mentioned the fishermen and fishing organizations, the only reference made to recovery of their livelihoods is a small chart in which the State outlined money being given for: “Strengthening 6 fishermen’s organizations through the acquisition and provision of collection centers and points of sales in the Archipelago.” There is no mention made about the sufficiency of their surviving fishing vessels or impediments to access their fishing grounds such as lack of proper vessels, engines, fishing gear, and changing regulations. While these collection centers and the tools that they will include will likely benefit the fishermen’s organizations included in this program, this response does not appear to address all of the issues facing the Raizal. The promised government aid was

¹⁴ See also Josefina Huffington Archbold (noting that the Raizal do not have access to traditional food such as fish and shellfish because of the influx [of mainlanders] and extreme inflation).

repeatedly delayed and postponed. When the promises were delivered upon, many in the Raizal community believe that these projects lack concrete goals geared towards the real needs of the community, employ techniques and strategies that are inappropriate for the region, and fail to consider the needs of the islands. For example, promises to assign boats and outboard motors to members of fishermen's cooperatives were postponed five times. The inconsistency and repeated delays in these services have seriously undermined the Raizal ability to sustain their community and forces them to rely on government aid due to the persistent lack of sustainable infrastructure.

19. One topic on which the State's response remained silent was the construction and restrictions surrounding the new military dock on Old Providence, which has created another impediment to the resumption of sustainable fishing practices and poses a threat to Raizal food security. The dock blocks the location of the former wharf utilized by the fishermen's cooperative, which was destroyed in the hurricane and has yet to be rebuilt. The military dock would be part of a proposed coastguard base, and requests for fishermen to use the dock have been repeatedly denied. When the Fishermen's Cooperative filed a complaint about this issue, the Administrative Tribunal of the Archipelago Department of San Andres, Old Providence, and Santa Catalina (Auto No. 0166), ordered the navy to suspend construction of the new base. The navy has appealed this decision. While there is no military presence at this site now because of the Tribunal's ruling, the navy intends to proceed with the proposed coastguard base if permitted, despite the strong objections of the Raizal community.
20. The increased military presence was intimidating, and also contributed to the influx of people and inflation, affecting food security, self-determination, and sovereignty. The military has yet to remove the dock or relinquish control of the area. In spite of Raizal opposition for over 25 years, including in two prior consultation processes, the navy still hopes to move forward with the construction of a coastguard station. Below are more reactions to the State's response from community members:
 - After the hurricane, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries promised a fishing boat for every fishermen's co-op and association but this has not happened. Every time the community asks about this, the State offers a different excuse.
 - The military authorities still have not removed the dock they built at the beginning of the reconstruction process or given this dock to the fishermen's co-op. These authorities plan to build a coastguard station, even though the Raizal people in two different prior consultation processes opposed the construction, and as far back as 1996 rejected the coastguard base in a petition that was signed by the head of every household in OPSC and was delivered to the president, attorney general, minister of defense, newspapers, and others at the time.
 - Although now the navy encampment with tents and guards near the fishermen's co-op has been removed, no official statement has been made in this regard. The Raizal community wants the State to hand over the dock and land to the local government for the express use of the fishermen's co-op as part of community infrastructure.

V. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO DRINKING WATER

a. Regarding access to potable water.

21. As part of the State's response regarding access to water, it noted its emergency response of providing bottled water after the hurricanes. During the week of November 16, 2020, the State reported that 5 to 6 liters of bottled drinking water were delivered each day per person, and that 3 portable water treatment plants supplied by the Red Cross were installed, which supplied the community with 15 liters per person per day. Based on an analysis of water demand and other considerations attributing to loss of water, the State noted the risks of water shortage. As a way to encourage reduction of water consumption, the State indicated that the Ministry of Housing trained 400 users with awareness and recognition campaigns. Further, the State cited zoning areas coordinated with the UNGRD and the municipality for the installation of 47 potable water distribution tanks for the population of OPSC, as well as routes to supply water in tanker trucks for those who do not have a connection to the distribution network. Finally, arrangements were made with World Hope International for the provisional installation of 7 desalination plants in Santa Catalina to supply drinking water while the water supply network was being developed.
22. The State's response on the question of water access is detailed; however, it fails to address key issues facing the Raizal, specifically details on how to return control of the island's water supply to the Raizal. During the reconstruction, the State transferred control of the island's water infrastructure to a private company on mainland Colombia. The State's response did not address how, or if, it will give back control of the island's water authority to the Raizal, who are the most familiar with their own needs and the best methods of collecting and distributing water within the fragile ecosystems of their small islands.
23. As a result of the widescale destruction of homes, cisterns, and rainwater collection systems, drinking water on the island remains scarce. The Raizal face constant water shortages and are forced to depend on private companies for drinking water. Additionally, OPSC has seen a drastic increase in the demand being placed on their water supply and infrastructure, due to the influx of mainland workers and military personnel. By bringing in mainland workers instead of utilizing Raizal workers, the State increased the population of the islands significantly. This has put a devastating strain on the island water supply, just as it had done with other vital resources such as food.
24. Similar to the issues surrounding food prices, the Raizal have faced increased water prices that pose an extreme burden on families and individuals, especially during dry season when there is little rainfall to be collected. The water that is delivered to the Raizal either comes from the reservoir or from the desalination plants, a significant new expense given that the traditional method of home rainwater collection was virtually free, requiring only maintenance of the infrastructure (gutters, pipes, and cistern).

25. The Raizal do not have a choice as to which source they receive water from and cannot control the prices. This is not a free market where customers can "vote with their dollars", as the system currently established by the State and the private companies that the State has contracted leave the Raizal no choice but to pay their inflated process or to go without water. The costs have risen nearly 35% as a consequence of limited supply and the desperation of the community for this fundamental necessity.

26. Finally, the State mentioned its "awareness and recognition campaigns" that trained 400 homeowners on the islands about how to reduce water consumption. This campaign, however, failed to take into account the State's own contribution to the water shortage. Raizal reactions to the State response were gathered by TRF:

- Although the people admit that they can be confused about what happened immediately after the hurricane, no Raizal remembered being given water by the government in the first 5-7 days after Nov 16. It was raining; they collected water where they could in whatever implements they had. Later small bottles and plastic bags of water were distributed sporadically, but not the quantity or frequency mentioned in the State's response.
- Regarding other claims in the State's response, the Raizal are skeptical. Those who were in Old Providence post-hurricane said that a few tanks were set up but most neighborhoods did not have one. Everyone was looking out for their families and close neighbors, as they were not receiving water or aid. Water was very scarce, and people worried about disease because they had no way to purify what water they found. Eventually filters were distributed to each household. People who were in Keteleena reported that several generators were installed to provide electricity but only one desal plant. This plant was later moved to Freshwater Bay.
- The Raizal do not doubt that the leaders and workers of UNGRD and the military had the reported amounts of water daily, but not the OPSC community. They said that they attended meetings at which the community begged UNGRD for water only to be told none was available.
- The Raizal community reported that the awareness trainings were primarily given to the Raizal, who are already well-acquainted with the water consumption practices necessary for life on small islands. Instead, the training should have been given to the mainland contractors, workers, and military who are not familiar with living on islands and the need for water preservation. The Raizal considered this training a waste of their time and of precious reconstruction funds, and also disrespectful of their heritage and indigenous knowledge, as they could have been training the newcomers, including the trainers, how to live on a small island.

b. Regarding the traditional systems of gutters and cisterns.

27. The State explained that, by law, the Ministry can only finance projects that guarantee the supply of potable water and that the traditional form of collecting and storing rainwater

used by the Raizal does not guarantee safe drinking water and therefore, the reconstruction cannot fund traditional cisterns. The State has repeatedly refused to repair and help maintain cisterns. Instead, it provided families with 1000–2000 liter plastic barrels, which do not present a viable long-term solution, as they are in no way as storm resistant as a well-built cistern and hold a very small amount of water: 1,000 liters is about 264 gallons, whereas a normal sized cistern stores 5,000-10,000 gallons or more; pre-hurricane some homes had cisterns that held more than 20,000 gallons. Given that climate change is predicted to increasingly limit rainfall and water access on small islands and increase the severity and frequency of hurricanes like Eta and Iota, cisterns are crucial to long-term survival and sustainability of Raizal life on the islands.

28. The State’s response completely disregards Raizal culture and demonstrates a serious misunderstanding of the methodology and function of traditional Raizal water collection methods. Traditionally, Raizal homes have utilized systems of gutters and cisterns to collect and store rainwater that can later be purified and used for drinking, cooking, or whatever other uses they may have. These cisterns are traditionally built at least partially underground so not usually affected by storms, although the historic severity of these hurricanes resulted in significant damage to some cisterns and to virtually all the gutters and pipes used for collection. The cisterns have been used successfully to store water by the Raizal for centuries. Due to the generally acquired resistances/immunity to bacteria and microorganisms that might be present in the water, sanitary methods of handling water, maintaining the system, and regular cleaning of infrastructure (including roofs, cisterns, and gutters) many Raizal can drink the water from their cisterns without boiling or filtration, which demonstrates that even if there were no additional steps in the collection process, potability is not an issue. And yet, the State disregards this and imposes their own ideas and practices upon the Raizal.

29. Further, the refusal to repair cisterns forces many Raizal to rely on external water sources, specifically the private company to which the State has transferred control of the islands’ water supply. This reliance upon an outside source does nothing to guarantee that water infrastructure will be resistant to future storms, and severely undermines the Raizal right to self-determination and their ability to sustain themselves as an independent community, while increasing their poverty and adding to mainland wealth. Here are more responses from Raizal community members:

- Approximately two times per week community members have access to water through pipes from the municipal dam. However, this water is expensive to produce and consequently more expensive. Further, there are many within the Raizal community who do not regard this water as potable, since there has not been any information made available to the public regarding water quality testing. Another concern of the Raizal community is the residue going into the sea and the harm this could do to the environment.
- The Raizal community insist on their cultural practices of cisterns in each home to harvest rainwater. During reconstruction, the workers ignored the cultural practices and

destroyed many cisterns. The contractors did not budget to build them back, instead they gave the community plastic tanks, which are in no way equivalent to the cisterns and cannot hold even close to the same amount of water.

- Finally, the Raizal have ideas for harvesting rainwater for agriculture purposes in addition to household use that would help with food security for all and income generation for the farmers, but the State does not listen to them.

VI. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

30. Among the various responses by the State regarding the right to health of the Raizal was the installation of the field hospital, statistics for various health services provided as of April 30, 2022, mental health and psychosocial support, funds to rebuild the health center destroyed by the hurricane (classified by the State as a level 1 hospital) and to provide medical equipment. The State also said construction of a full-service hospital (level 2) for OPSC is underway and that as of November 30, 2022, its progress was at 24%.
31. In response, as of today, there is still only a wooden building with one doctor and two medical students on OPSC. The building is inappropriate with hardly any medical services. Those who require hospital care such as an injury, illness, surgery, birth, or other emergency, have to travel to San Andres. For example, there has not been a single birth in OPSC for over 20 years. As with many indigenous and tribal peoples, for the Raizal, it is very important to be born in their homeland--not only culturally and spiritually, but also the Raizal worry that not being born in their territory could have serious legal or political implications in future to Raizal status, human rights, and birthright. Furthermore, the cost of flying to San Andres, not to mention the mainland, to receive adequate medical care is even higher than it was prior to the hurricanes, due to inflation on the islands and the airline monopoly, leaving many who are forced to travel or to send loved ones off-island for health care without enough funds remaining to pay for rent, food, and water.
32. The State indicated that medical services were provided to 14,595 people since the hurricane, but fails to distinguish who is represented in these statistics. Especially considering the number of Raizal who were forced to relocate and the influx of workers and military, it is unclear who received these services and what kind of services. The same holds true for mental health services.
33. When discussing the health center, the State noted that construction was delayed due to logistical issues. As of September 2022, construction had not started. The "logistical issues" resulting in such a long delay are unclear. As of today, construction has begun. However, the health center is still not completed enough to use, and there are concerns that the materials used to construct the health center are inadequate to withstand storms.
34. Finally, the State indicated that as of November 30, 2022, it has progressed 24% towards the construction of a full-service hospital for the population of OPSC. The State then clarified that the 24% progress meant that designs were ready and that they were in the

process of finding contractors and financial sources. This is inadequate. Requests for a hospital were made prior to the hurricanes. It should not have taken the State more than two years to simply create a design for a hospital. What follows are responses from Raizal community members to the State's response.

- Emotional support provided for the community was sporadic, only lasted approximately two months, and was not provided for everyone. For instance, the mental health of the elderly was ignored.
- There is not a functional lab, there is no ambulance service, no pharmacy, not even potable water at the current facility. Patients have had to bring their own water, food, and bedding. Further, there has been a lack of access to basic medication for diabetes and hypertension, which are the most common ailments in the community.
- Those who have to fly to San Andres to receive medical care have sometimes had to wait up to 7 days to be airlifted to the hospital because of administrative procedures. Round-trip airfare costs between \$350,000-\$500,000 COP. Since the hurricanes, the government's commercial airline, Satena, is the only airline flying to OPSC so there is no longer competitive fare pricing. Further, the airport has no illumination for night flights, and after 4 pm it is impossible to get a flight.
- Although the State sent medical brigades sporadically, this is not equal to fully enjoying the right to health.
- The Raizal community is not satisfied with the building materials being used for the Level 1 hospital, and as for the Level 2 hospital, it is uncertain when the State will begin construction.¹⁵

VII. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THE RAIZAL CAN EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION, AND TO BE CONSULTED IN DECISIONS THAT AFFECT THEM INCLUDING THOSE THAT HAVE AN IMPACT ON THEIR CULTURAL RIGHTS

a. Regarding the rights to self-government, self-determination, and prior consultation.

35. The State's response said that to determine how best to comply with Sentence T-333 (2022) from the Constitutional Court¹⁶, it held two inter-institutional coordination meetings of the State institutions cited in the Court Order, and also included the OPSC mayor's office. The institutions agreed to create a commission within the Ministry of the Interior, as the entity responsible for civic participation, prior consultations, and related human rights. The

¹⁵ See also Preliminary Report on Hospital Level 1

¹⁶ The ruling resulted from an injunction (*tutela*) brought by Josefina Huffington Archbold against the President of the Republic, UNGRD, the Minister of the Interior, and the Minister of Housing for the State's failure during reconstruction to protect her fundamental rights and those of the Raizal people to a dignified life, potable water, sanitation, a healthy environment, health, access to public information, prior consultation, and cultural identity. The Constitutional Court ruled that the State must meet with the Raizal community and provide full, transparent information about the reconstruction process, and consult with them going forward to address issues and problems that resulted from reconstruction. <https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/relatoria/2022/T-333-22.htm>

commission would be composed of two representatives from the National Authority for Prior Consultation; two representatives from the Directorate of Affairs for Black, Afro-Colombian, Raizal, and Palenque Communities; and representatives of OPSC's Raizal community. The purpose would be to learn about the reconstruction process from the Raizal and get information from them that could help the State comply with the Court Order. In the second meeting, it was agreed that the institutions involved would comply with the Court Order by sharing both the reconstruction report listing executed projects, projects in execution, projects to be executed, and a matrix with technical and financial data, and also the minutes of meetings with agreements reached with the Raizal about the reconstruction, minutes of family agreements for reconstruction or construction of new housing, technical sheets for each case, and the technical guidelines for contractors.

36. The State's response mentioned the plan for the Integrated Management of the Insular Caribbean Coastal Environmental Unit (POMIUAC PROY-01581) and meetings. The meeting was for the analysis and identification of impacts and formulation of management measures with Raizal, with another meeting scheduled for March 2023. This meeting was held as scheduled, but the State failed to clarify that this plan is fundamentally a scientific and technical ecosystem management plan with little connection to reconstruction. The POMIUAC project has been ongoing since 2018, well before the hurricanes.
37. The State's response mentioned various meetings aimed to strengthen the Raizal community. For instance, the Ministry of Culture reported that it carried out the annual assistance to the San Andres Archipelago in 2021 and 2022. The State indicated that this was meant to strengthen the National System of Culture, such as planning, participation, institutional development, and sources of funding to facilitate access to cultural goods and services for the community. The State noted that an issue addressed was the implementation of cultural councils both at the departmental and municipal levels. However, these participation sessions have not been able to re-start.
38. Finally, the State discussed a series of actions being carried out to harmonize the Raizal cultural heritage. The State claimed that in 2021 they identified leaders in Old Providence, resulting in a characterization of what they understood as heritage and a press strategy. As for 2022, the State noted that the harmonization process is being carried out in San Andres, and that they are currently doing surveys and interviews in the Raizal community to identify their cultural heritage. Finally, the State said that they will continue with a series of workshops and meetings on practices such as traditional cooking and dance, which will help the leaders raise awareness on how to safeguard their heritage.
39. Despite the State's assertions of prior consultation and Raizal self-determination, the reality is that Raizal rights continue to be violated and Raizal voices ignored. State actions in response to the hurricanes have increased their control over various functions reserved for the Raizal. Rather than protecting the Raizal's right to self-government, the State has infringed upon it. In previous submissions, the Raizal shared information about the Office of Control of Circulation and Residence (OCCRE). The OCCRE has historically been led by the

Raizal, making decisions concerning migration and population density to protect Raizal culture and heritage, and preserve the natural environment, as called for by the National Constitution. Following the hurricanes, that control was removed and placed with the State by Presidential Decree (243 of 2021).

40. Another Presidential Decree (205 of 2021) taken out soon after the hurricane also greatly reduced Raizal control in OPSC. This decree eliminated the requirement for locally granted construction licenses and permits that allowed the Raizal to protect their cultural heritage, fragile environment, and socio-economic power by controlling the quality and type of construction in the islands. Also, as mentioned earlier, management of the local water authority was taken from OPSC and given to a mainland company.
41. Additionally, the on-going threat to construct a coastguard base and expand military facilities on the islands, in opposition to the repeated protests of the Raizal community, presents a significant concern for Raizal self-determination. The State's response to the question of self-determination does not mention the proposed base, the military dock, or their plans for future military and national police presence in OPSC. What follows are reactions of the Raizal community after reading the State's response, compiled by TRF:
 - The Ministry of Interior is never fully prepared for consultation meetings, rarely even bringing translators.
 - Access to information has been inconsistent and limited throughout reconstruction, and community members have reported that their participation and questions were routinely ignored in consultation meetings, making it increasingly difficult for them to get the information that they need from the State. As a result of the Court Order, the Raizal finally received the reconstruction report and minutes of consultation meetings, so are gaining insight into how decisions were made and who decided.
 - Consultation meetings and procedures were exclusively designed and intended for the participation of the Raizal. Despite this, throughout reconstruction, the State routinely allowed non-Raizal Colombian residents to participate in these meetings, something that would never be permitted in prior consultations with protected ethnic groups on the mainland. This reduces the Raizal community's powers of self-determination and dilutes their ability to have their unique needs reflected in the kinds of decisions for which these consultations were designed.
 - In regard to the creation of an inter-institutional commission, this is a future plan with no impact now on Raizal rights. Also the response says nothing about how the Raizal representatives would be chosen, how many, and what power they would have—if their knowledge would be used mainly to benefit the State or if they would be included in decision-making about how best to comply.
 - Since submitting this response, to comply with the Court Order the State scheduled a series of meetings with the Raizal and representatives of institutions cited in the Court Order and involved in reconstruction. After several meetings, State representatives failed to show up as scheduled. As a result, Raizal organizations pulled out of the process, including the Movimiento de Veeduría Cívica de Old Providence (Civic

Movement). The Civic Movement informed the Ministry of the Interior that the Court Order was not being complied with, and the Ministry asked this Raizal NGO to send a commission to Bogota. Four people went the week of June 5-9, 2023.

- Finally, as for including the POMIUAC, annual actions of the Ministry of Culture, and State “harmonization” program in the State’s response, these have nothing to do with the reconstruction or prior consultation process. Again, Raizal see this as irrelevant padding that distracts from the failure of reconstruction to respect or protect cultural aspects like self-determination, territorial control, Raizal values, and way of life. The Raizal were clear that they do not need the State raising their awareness of how to protect their own cultural heritage, which goes far beyond “cooking and dance.” Again the example of destroying cisterns was used to point out that if the State had listened to them and acted on what they said, that would be protecting their cultural heritage.

b. Regarding the Raizal Statute.

42. The State’s response referenced the National Development Law that calls for creation of a Raizal Statute, in accord with prior consultation with the Raizal people, in its Article 131.¹⁷ In regard to the Statute’s progress, the State said 151 articles have been agreed upon, 14 to be agreed, and 4 without agreement. The State noted that these are currently pending because of the consultation process. The Raizal Statute has been “on the table” several times since 2015 but has not been approved. The remaining articles include those that relate to territory, which for the Raizal is key to their autonomy and self-determination. If there is not agreement on these, the Raizal Statute is unlikely to come to fruition. Without the Raizal Statute, this group’s protections stem mostly from residual benefits from laws protecting other ethnic groups that do not address the specific concerns and needs of the Raizal, which are unique from many of the issues faced by mainland groups. The lack of a particularized protective statute has opened the Raizal up to repeated abuses by failing to recognize their needs as a culturally and historically distinct people with a territory that is also distinct from the mainland.
43. The Colombian legislature, Constitutional Court, and Declaration of the Raizal Council on the Raizal Territory, all affirm the Raizal right to govern themselves, but this right is not being respected by the State. Among other rulings rooted in the special protections granted to the Raizal, during reconstruction the State ignored Sentence T-701 (2013) that upholds the right of the Raizal to limit residency in their territory, Sentence T-800 (2014) that guarantees the right to prior consultation specifically for the Raizal people of OPSC, and Sentence T-308 (2018) that upholds the fundamental rights of Colombia’s indigenous communities, specifically naming the Raizal, to prior consultation, territory, and self-determination.¹⁸ Further, Colombia has repeatedly undermined or ignored the position of the Raizal Council

¹⁷Law 1753 of 2015, “*Por la cual se expide el Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2014-2018 “Todos por un nuevo país”*”.

<https://www.funcionpublica.gov.co/eva/gestornormativo/norma.php?i=61933>

¹⁸ <https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/relatoria/2013/T-701-13.htm>

<https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/relatoria/2014/t-800-14.htm>

<https://www.corteconstitucional.gov.co/relatoria/2018/T-308-18.htm>

in the process, as established by Presidential Decree 1211 (2018) "by which the platform for dialogue, participation, and follow-up is created to fulfill the commitments of the National Government with the Raizal People."¹⁹ The following are reactions of Raizal community members after reading the State's response, compiled by Fanny Howard of TRF:

- The Raizal peoples are one of the only ethnic groups/communities of peoples in Colombia that do not have special laws to protect them. The statutes of protection for the Raizal have been on the table, but never approved. The people are only protected by case-by-case rulings related to benefits from laws protecting other ethnic groups in the whole country, and this is a violation of equality in front of the law for all.
- The national government of Colombia prevented timely international help from getting to the Raizal and working with them after the hurricanes, which violates their self-determination and autonomy and even right to survive and develop as a people.

VIII. COLOMBIA'S LACK OF MEASURES TAKEN TO PROTECT AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

44. The State discussed how the Presidential Council for Human Rights and International Affairs deployed a territorialization strategy to advance measures protecting against human rights abuses by companies under the State's jurisdiction. Specifically, focused on providing assistance to the Archipelago, the State indicated that various meetings and technical assistance were provided during March 2022, and that there has been a constant dialogue with officials of the government of San Andres and OPSC.

45. Although the State mentioned the various meetings and technical assistance during March 2022, there is still the issue that throughout the reconstruction process, the workers and engineers treated the Raizal with complete disrespect, which was never addressed. The following are reactions of Raizal community members after reading the State's response, compiled by Fanny Howard, TRF:

- The workers were emotionally abusive, and would stop construction for weeks if Raizal community members did not agree with what the workers wanted to do. Raizal community members were coerced into accepting many things, and feared that if they did not accept, the workers would not come back and finish their homes. The State did nothing to control this. This was one of the issues the Civic Movement said it would raise with the Ministry in its June commission.
- Most of the outside engineers and workers have left now, which is positive. On the other hand, there was no closing plan or review, and they just suddenly left. This means that some houses remain unfinished, and many others have problems that have not been repaired from the poor construction (mentioned earlier). The Raizal complained to Findeter several months ago, inquiring what will be done, but have had no response.
- Further, there were many instances where Raizal community members were pressured to sell their land when they were most vulnerable and desperate. The Land Institute and

¹⁹ <https://www.funcionpublica.gov.co/eva/gestornormativo/norma.php?i=87440>

other offices of the State did nothing to protect Raizal ownership of the lands. The Raizal community sent a petition to the State to protect indigenous land, but that petition was ignored.

- In its response, the State raises topics of national security. However, the Raizal point out that self-determination and protection of their cultural heritage are vital for their security, so that they might be respected and that their rights might not continue to be violated. The State may regard the military and national police as essential for security, but for the Raizal the presence of over 700 armed military and police personnel during reconstruction was very intimidating. The armed forces do not speak their language and know nothing of their culture, values, and history. The military also occupied an environmentally fragile area of confluence of a gully and the bay, damaging the natural environment on which the Raizal depend.

IX. CONCLUSION

46. The rights to a healthy environment, life, nutritionally adequate food, water, participation, enjoyments of cultural heritage, and many others have all been implicated repeatedly in UN communications and pronouncements, such as the Torres Island decision, regarding the obligations of States to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change. Colombia is clearly aware of these obligations and implicated rights, because on January 9, 2023, the Republics of Colombia and Chile cosigned a request for an advisory opinion to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on the “State’s substantive and procedural obligations to preserve the right to life and other correlated rights – such as the right to life, property, health and participation – in light of the climate emergency.” Colombia’s request for guidance is commendable, and we hope to see them carry this commitment to the preservation of the full range of Human Rights and Freedoms into all future engagements with the Raizal.

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. Statement from Josefina Huffington Archbold, President, Movimiento de Veeduría Cívica de Old Providence
2. Preliminary report on progress of hospital, March 2023
3. Photos of hospital (taken March 28, 2023)
4. Videos of homeowners (recorded March 2023)
5. Information on cisterns