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Inclusive Security to Conduct Training with Supreme Court Magistrates in Colombia

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Building on its [May 2007 training](#) for Colombian prosecutors, [The Initiative for Inclusive Security](#), in collaboration with the National Commission for Reparation and Reconciliation (NCRR), will hold a two-day workshop in Bogotá, Colombia for magistrates of Colombia’s Supreme Court Wednesday and Thursday.

The goal of the workshop is to guarantee that women are included in transitional justice processes underway in accordance with Colombia’s Justice and Peace Law, which regulates the demobilization of United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) paramilitaries. The workshop is part of a weeklong consultation in Bogotá aimed to secure women’s inclusion in Colombia’s anticipated negotiations with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN).

“Across conflict zones, women’s contributions to transitional justice are critical. According to a recent United States Agency for International Development report, approximately 90 percent of claimants under Colombia’s Justice and Peace Law have been women,” said [Miki Jacevic](#), Inclusive Security’s deputy director for partnerships and consultations. “Even when facing threats, these women continue to be on the frontlines of Colombia’s transition to peace and justice. Colombian institutions, including the Supreme Court, should ensure integration of gender concerns into their efforts, particularly as they relate to the implementation of the Justice and Peace Law.”

While in Bogotá, members of Inclusive Security are scheduled to participate in a series of advocacy meetings with Sen. Nancy Patricia Gutierrez, president of the Colombian Senate; Sen. Marta Lucía Ramírez, chair of the Senate’s foreign relations and defense committee and a member of the [Women Waging Peace Network](#); several members of the Civilian Facilitation Commission, a civil society advisory group to the ELN-government dialogues; Women Waging Peace Network members Patricia Buritica and Ana Teresa Bernal, both also members of the NCRR; and embassy representatives from Venezuela, France, Switzerland and Sweden.

The Initiative has worked closely with Colombian women peace builders since 1999 and has made four previous trips to Bogotá since August 2005. In May 2007, the Initiative led training for more than 30 prosecutors working in Colombia’s Attorney General’s Justice and Peace Unit to ensure that judicial processes are gender-sensitive.

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