



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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## Colombia

CO140 - Wilson Borja

***Decision adopted by the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians at its 155<sup>th</sup> session (Geneva, 25 January - 2 February 2018)***

The Committee,

*Referring* to the case of Mr. Wilson Borja, a former member of the Colombian Congress and a vocal critic of the Colombian Government, and to the resolution adopted by the Governing Council at its 190<sup>th</sup> session (April 2012),

*Recalling* its previous concerns in this case with respect to the recurrent reported deficiencies in Mr. Borja's security detail,

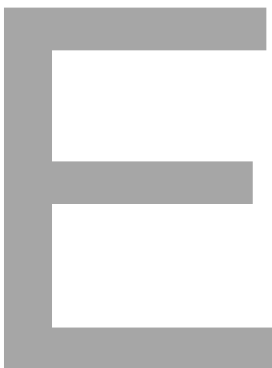
*Recalling also* its previous concerns about the possible early release of three military officers who were sentenced to prison sentences of up to 55 years for their responsibility in the attempt on Mr. Borja's life in 2000,

*Considering* that, according to the information provided by the complainant on 11 January 2018, hearings are about to be fixed to examine their release; the complainant also mentions that former paramilitary leader, Mr. Éver Veloza (known as 'Hernán Hernández' or 'H.H. '), who has confessed to having killed the police officers involved in the attack on Mr. Borja, might soon be released; according to the complainant, Mr. Borja has asked the Prosecutor's Office to widen the investigation so as to identify all those responsible for the attempt on his life,

*Considering furthermore* that Mr. Borja's security detail has been reduced to two body guards and an armoured vehicle, which, according to the complainant, disregards the risks he runs in pursuing his efforts to shed full light on the attempt on his life and identify the masterminds,

*Considering finally* that Mr. Borja will stand as a candidate for the political party *Polo Democrático Alternativo* in the parliamentary elections of March 2018, which means, according to the complainant, that his security situation is ever more fragile,

1. *Is deeply concerned* about the potential repercussions on Mr. Borja's security of the possible release of those convicted for the attempt on his life and of Mr. Éver Veloza, and on the efforts to shed full light on and establish full accountability for this crime; *wishes* to be kept informed of significant developments regarding their possible release and to know the precise legal grounds and basis invoked in support of their release;
2. *Calls on* the authorities to do everything possible to swiftly strengthen Mr. Borja's security detail so that he enjoys the protection his situation warrants; *wishes* to be kept informed of steps taken to this end;



3. *Also calls* on the relevant authorities to step up efforts to identify and hold to account all those who ordered the attack on Mr. Borja; *wishes* to know in this regard what Mr. Éver Veloza's status is in the investigation; *requests* the authorities to provide information as to whether they are looking at other possible suspects and what, if any, criminal action has been taken against them;
4. *Requests* the Secretary General to convey this decision to the relevant authorities, the complainant and any third party likely to be in a position to supply relevant information;
5. *Decides* to continue examining the case.