



Public Correspondence from the Black, Afro-Colombian, Palenquero and Raizal People's Summit

Due to the absence of high-level government officials at the summit, members will go to Bogotá to deliver the demands personally to the President of the Republic

On October 22, 2021, in Santiago de Cali, Valle del Cauca department, representatives from the five macro regions of the country held a public meeting to engage in collaborative work and analysis to create the following mandates:

1. To create a national coalition to facilitate communication from smaller territories to the national level with the Colombian state and the international community.
2. To demand that the national government regulate Law 70 and establish the necessary mechanisms to expedite the process through a solid relationship-building effort.
3. Urgently establish a roundtable with the country's important economic actors such as businessmen and government to promote an economic reactivation targeted towards the Black, Afro-Colombian, Palenquero, and Raizal populations.
4. Dialogue with the government to promote Black, Afro-Colombian, Palenquero, and Raizal political representation in the National Government.
5. Construct a protection strategy in collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior, the National Protection Unit (*Unidad Nacional de Protección*, UNP), and all relevant security agencies, which is not only based on the presence of the security forces but also on social investment and the strengthening of ethnic governance.

This mandate is preceded by lament from the Black communities due to the absence of state agencies, even when President Ivan Duque Márquez sent a video to introduce the Summit, only two of the many entities invited were present.

In view of this absence, the Summit will go to Bogotá and call upon the national government to listen to the conclusions reached as well as establish a framework to promote the realization of the rights of Black, Afro Descendant, Palenquero, and Raizal people.

Finally, we would like to thank the international community for their presence during the summit and we call on them to accompany us in the new stage of the national organization of Black people.