



*Por los derechos de todos. Mandato I Asamblea, Tumaco, 1990*  
*Informar y Consultar Siempre. Mandato II Asamblea, Bogotá, 1992*  
*Somos un sector del Movimiento y de la Diáspora Africana. Mandato III Asamblea, Puerto Tejada, 1993*  
*Resistir no es Aguantar. Mandato IV Asamblea, Cali, 2007*  
**SANKOFA: No es equivoco volver a aquello que hemos olvidado V Asamblea, Buenaventura 2017**



## URGENT CARE FOR MUNICIPALITY OF ROBERTO PAYÁN AND ITS COMMUNITIES

The human rights and protection situation in the communities of the Telembí Triangle is absolutely critical. The territorial dispute in the municipalities of Roberto Payán and Magüi Payán between the 30th Front, Alfonso Canon, the Gulf Clan, and the ELN has led to clashes between these armed structures for more than a month. The forced displacements date back to May 7th, 2021, with the displacement of hundreds of families from communities along the following rivers: Ispí, Saundé, Patía, and Telembí, among others. Towns like Fátima, Conquista, Negritos and Ricaurte were left deserted and many others are currently confined. Apparently, the armed groups were instructed to only allow women, children, and the elderly to leave the confined areas, but they were not permitted to allow males (youth and adults) to flee.

Some of the displaced people are accused of collaborating with an armed group and others are being recruited by armed groups. There are many who have disappeared. As if that weren't enough, armed groups took cell phones away from the residents and destroyed the internet antennas in the rural sector to isolate and prevent communication with the leaders and those who remained in the communities.

This situation makes the displacement to the municipal seat of Roberto Payan (San José) permanent. Every day more people arrive. According to a census of the population, approximately 1,638 displaced families (or 4,197 people) have been displaced, including 700 children (650 of which are girls). This population is going through enormous difficulties since the municipality does not have enough shelter. Therefore, some displaced people have found refuge in relative's homes, others in the Mayor's Office, and others in educational institutions. Furthermore, the displaced people do not have access to health care because the emergency overwhelmed the municipality's capacity for care.

Many families do not have access to mattresses and are forced to sleep on the floor. They eat at most two times a day. The displaced people are not the only ones lacking food and healthcare--the situation affects all of the inhabitants of Roberto Payán. Due to the conflict and blockades, the connection with the rural zone is non-existent and people are unable to acquire food leading them to eat anything, even if it lacks nutritional value.

There is an urgent need to provide support with the following items: **1. Food, 2. Hygiene kits (Sanitary pads, soap, tooth brushes, surgical masks, baby and toddler diapers, rubbing alcohol), 3. Sleeping kits (mattresses, blankets), 4. Medicine, 5. Learning materials for children and water purifiers.** Twenty days after the displacement, international support and assistance has been received, but the level of humanitarian aid remains insufficient. It seems that aid from the Colombian government through the Victims' Unit has not arrived due to road blockades that complicate accessibility, but they have not sent them by air either. Today, there is confinement and displacement of many communities, and it is necessary for the national government to provide aid via airplanes or helicopters.

May 31, 2021

*With our traditional affirmation of life and joy, hope and freedom.*

**BLACK COMMUNITIES' PROCESS (PROCESO DE COMUNIDADES NEGRAS, PCN)**

**#AcuerdoHumanitarioYa**  
**#ResistirNoEsAguantar**

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