Dr Juan Manuel Santos  
President  
The Republic of Colombia  

Geneva, 11th November 2016  

Dear Dr Santos  

It is with great pleasure that I write on behalf of the members of the World Federation of Public Health Association (WFPHA) and the “Asociación Colombiana de Salud Pública” to congratulate you on being awarded the Nobel Price for Peace.  

It is the well-deserved recognition of what you and the government of Colombia has done in order to seek an end to the civil war in your country.  

You have demonstrated to the world that a process of peace-making can be embarked upon even when the situation seems to be blocked from all sides. Your actions provide a signal of hope to all the regions of the world where the majority of people look so desperately for an end to war. Places such as Syria, Somalia, Congo and Iraq can now take heart that a peace process is possible.  

We understand that there is still much to be done. However, you have started down a new path and we wish you and the people of Colombia the strength and the wisdom to continue on your way.  

In war and civil unrest people cannot live fulfilled happy lives. Even the basic human right to health cannot be achieved.  

The WFPHA is a worldwide voice of people working for the public’s health. Our member associations know the paramount role of peace in the health of all populations.  

For this reason, in the name of over 100 member organizations representing a wide range of public health professionals, we wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you and hope you will continue your work with even more energy than prior the referendum.  

Kind regards  

Adjunct Professor Michael Moore  
President  
WFPHA  

Professor Bettina Borisch  
Executive Director  
WFPHA