

Informative Notice
Final Report of the Special Commission to Investigate and analyze the events that
occurred in Bagua

Today, the “Special Commission to investigate and analyze the events that occurred in Bagua” – made up of seven individuals who represent the Executive Branch, the indigenous communities, and the Regional Governments - released its final report.

From this report, it can be concluded that the unfortunate events of June 5 were the conclusion of a succession of violent actions. The situation was exacerbated by several elements from the political opposition, who took advantage of the incident to incite contention, confuse the arguments, and obstruct any potential avenues of dialogue and opportunities to build consensus.

In effect, the report finds that:

- There was no genocide, mass murder, or state-sponsored action against indigenous peoples. The clashes in Bagua resulted in the deaths of 23 policemen and 10 civilians, including 5 indigenous people. It also resulted in the disappearance of one police officer. Furthermore, the report concludes that, at all times, the actions of police officers were defensive, not offensive; it also states that a number of police officers were subjected to torture.
- The people of Bagua were encouraged to react disproportionately to the situation, having been deliberately incited by Congress members, civil society activists, union and religious leaders, and various media that acted irresponsibly and on the basis of distorted information.
- The Executive Branch acted in haste, and was tactless when it informed the indigenous communities, and particularly the native Amazonian communities, about the scope of legal regulations (Legislative Decrees 1090 and 1064 – now repealed), which those groups believed affected their rights.
- While it is possible to determine who was directly or indirectly responsible for the events of June 5, there is one fundamental fact that must never be overlooked: the Government is fully committed to the eradication of poverty and exclusion of the majority of our population, especially indigenous and Amazonian peoples.

This report helps elucidate the events that occurred on June 5 2009, with objectivity and veracity. The recommendations put forth by the Commission must be taken into account in order to prevent the occurrence of new incidents of violence that could endanger human lives, jeopardize peaceful coexistence, or thwart the rule of law. With this in mind, the Peruvian Government wishes to reiterate its firm commitment to democracy, to the promotion and protection of human rights, and its ever-present willingness to engage in dialogue with all sectors and stakeholders involved, in seeking to find an effective and permanent solution to the fundamental problems created by a situation we all hope will never happen again.

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