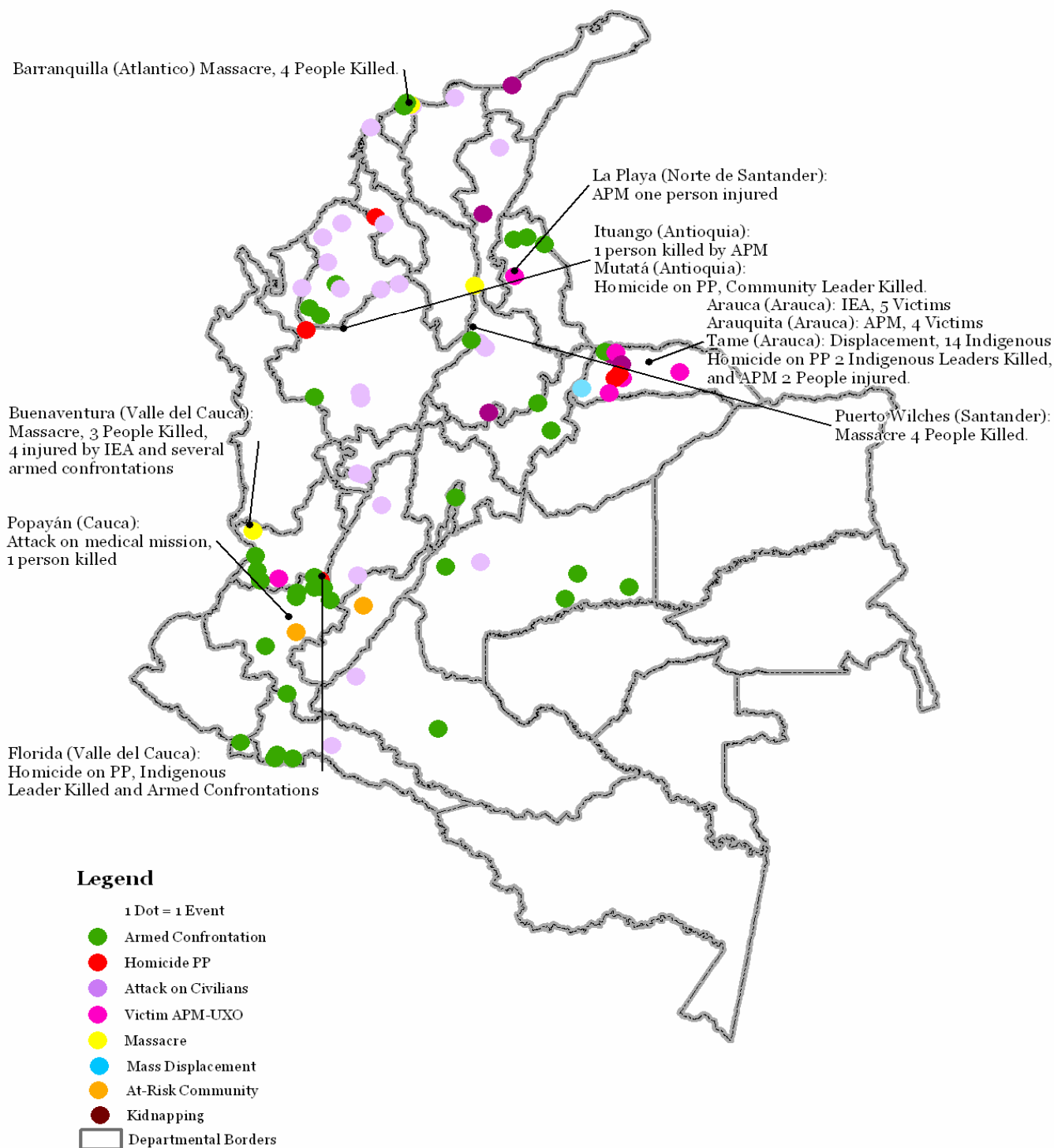


Key highlights during the week

- 1) Three Indigenous leaders killed in Arauca and Sucre Departments
- 2) UN presented the first publication on The State of the World's Indigenous Peoples Report. Also, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people issued the Report on his visit to Colombia in 2009.





HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN

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COLOMBIA

Three Indigenous leaders killed in Arauca and Sucre Departments

On 24 January, an indigenous, apparently Uwa, was killed in the rural area of Tame municipality, Arauca Department, according to press source. On 15 January, after an illegal armed group killed the leader and threatened the community, two Uwa families (14 persons, among them 7 minors and one pregnant woman) were displaced to the "Indigenous Community House" in the urban center of Tame Municipality, Arauca Department. These families joined six other indigenous families (48 persons) who were already sheltered in the "Indigenous Community House". The Mayor's Office has provided food in coordination with the Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF) and Acción Social has provided hammocks and kitchen utensils to the two Uwa families arriving on 15 January.

On Saturday 23 January, the Secretary of the Zenú Indigenous Council of Sucre and Córdoba Departments, Efraín Antonio Basilio Basilio, was murdered. Reportedly, the leader was deeply involved in land protection issues. In August 2009, another leader of the Zenú community was killed.

UN presented "The State of the World's Indigenous Peoples Report" and also the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of HHRR and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people released the report on his visit to Colombia in 2009

[The Reports underline the critical situation of the indigenous communities.](#)

On 14 January, Mr. Bruno Moro, the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nations in Colombia presented the first publication on The State of the World's Indigenous Peoples Report. The document highlights that "while the indigenous communities constitute 5% of the world population, they constitute 15% of the world's poor". The report was simultaneously released in several capital cities, including Bogotá. The report is a collaborative effort authored by seven independent experts working with the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

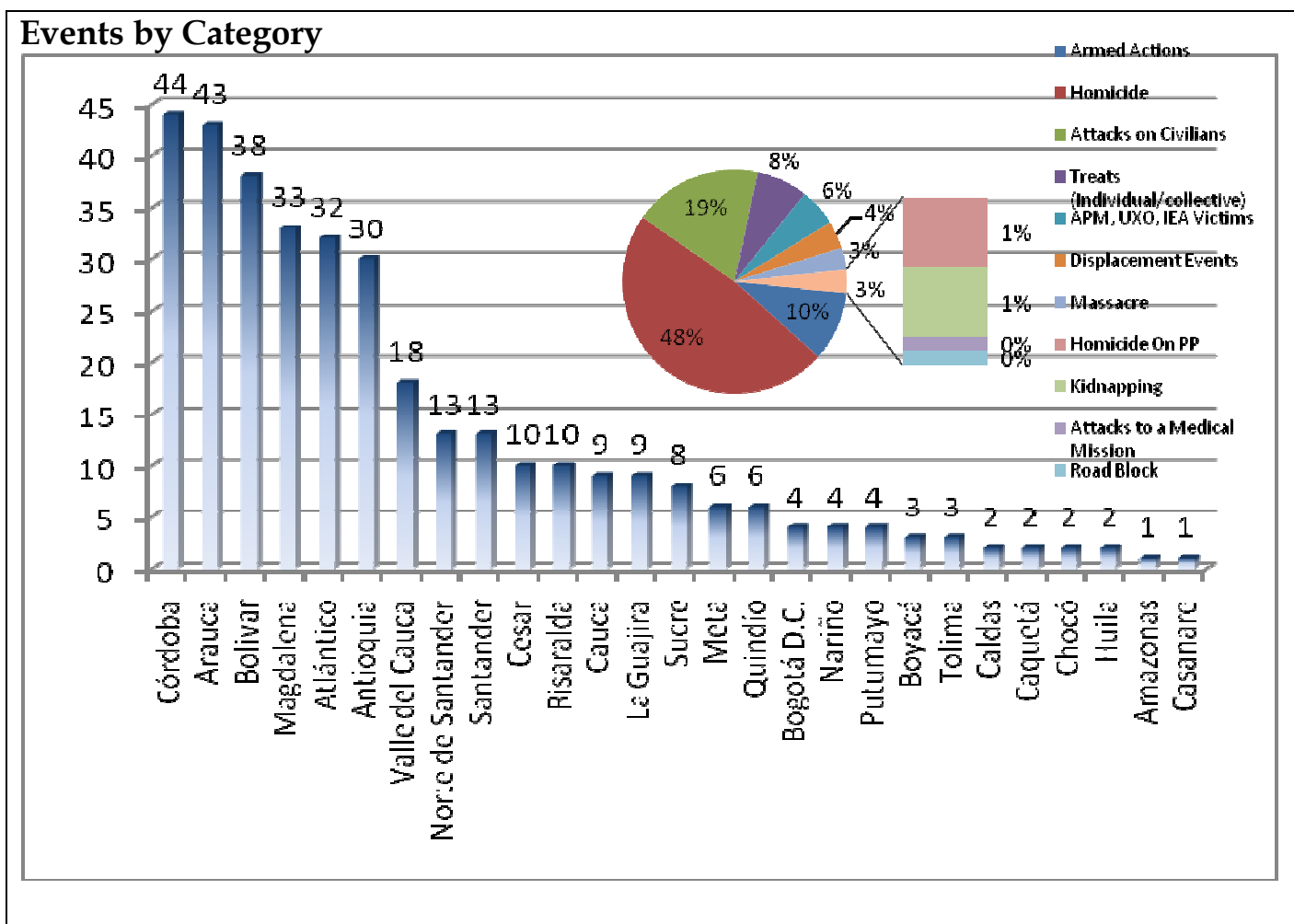
On 13 January, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation on human rights and fundamental freedom for indigenous people, Professor James Anaya, published his report on the situation of indigenous communities in Colombia, following his visit to the country 22-27 July, 2009. According to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) "the report shows that the situation for the indigenous people is worsened by the internal armed conflict affecting the country". Professor Anaya emphasized that "he had received information about an extremely worrying situation of violence and other crimes directed towards indigenous communities, as well as forced displacement and confinements, which threatens the survival and culture of the indigenous communities in the country".

Assassinated community leaders in Antioquia and Atlántico

[One of them demanded return of land.](#)

On 14 January, a community leader and the President of the Fishermen's Association (Asopesca) in Bocas de Ceniza, Santander Caraballo Barbosa (62 years of age) was killed in Baranquilla by two men on motorcycle.

On 13 January, a community leader and spokesperson for the Community Council in Curvaradó, Argénito Díaz Tapias, was killed while he was traveling between Chocó and Antioquia Departments. There is no information so far about the assassins. Díaz Tapias was one of the leaders who claimed the return of land belonging to the afro-Colombian communities of Jiguamiandó and Curvaradó. Two other leaders advocating for the rights to land issues for the same communities were killed on 17 December 2009 in Chocó. The Comisión Nacional de Reparación y Reconciliación (CNRR) blames the FARC guerilla for the killing and called the national and International community to support the afro-Colombians involved in this event. The regional authorities have informed that measures are being taken in order to protect the leaders of the Community Council.



* Data is processed by OCHA through official and secondary sources.