

The Las Pavas Case

Communication and Outreach Statement

We would like to reassure all stakeholders that DAABON is committed to solving the dispute of Las Pavas Ranch. We are respectful of the legal proceedings as well as the ethics and social aspects of the dispute. From the very beginning, we have engaged all stakeholders, looking for the most adequate process and as many recommendations as possible to arrive to a satisfactory outcome for all involved.

On the 13th November of 2009 we brought forward a proposal to initiate a process with the aim of understanding and addressing the concerns that have been raised. A key part of the process was the engagement of a team of independent specialists, who would analyze the dispute and make recommendations on how to move forward. We commissioned ProForest www.proforest.net to coordinate the assessment team and lead the process in designing the terms of reference, hiring the independent consultants and follow up on the results of the study.

Our proposal was rejected by the community and NGO's supporters of the community because DAABON was sponsoring this commission. After engaging with all parties and hearing their views, we decided to continue to explore other alternatives that would overcome the resistance. In December 2009, one of the stakeholders, well known for their philosophy and adherence to their principles, offered to mediate and to sponsor the study. DAABON suggested handing over the management and coordination of the proposed Assessment Commission to the above stakeholder and to ProForest .

Unfortunately one of the NGO's representing the community rejected this proposal, despite the fact that DAABON was no longer involved. We continue to explore alternatives that could be accepted by all stakeholders. In the mean time, we would like to add the following:

-Fedepalma commissioned the NGO Enlaza www.enlazacolombia.org to conduct a study and make recommendations to DAABON on ways to move forward.

-DAABON has approached the NATIONAL OMBUDSMAN "La Defensoria del Pueblo", www.defensoria.org.co, to carry out an assessment.

-DAABON will continue to engage the community and their representatives. Some members of the community have changed their perception about the Consortium activities and are now seeking to be part of the work force.

We hope to reach fair solution for all parts involved. We will continue to inform all stakeholders of any developments on the case. In the mean time do not hesitate to contact us should you need further information.

Best Regards;

Felipe Guerrero

Director of Sustainability.