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**Letter of congratulations from M. Jacques CHIRAC,
President of the Republic, to Mr Alvaro URIBE
VELEZ, President of Colombia**

Paris, 31 May 2006

President VØlez,

Now that the Colombian people have renewed their complete confidence in your ability to take your country forward, I want to extend to you, on behalf of the French people and personally, my sincere congratulations and warm wishes of success.

Your re-election reflects your fellow citizens' hope that answers may be found to their concerns and to the challenges confronting your country.

Last December, you accepted the proposal we drew up with Spain and Switzerland to facilitate the quest for a dialogue which could lead to a humanitarian agreement. Rest assured that France remains totally ready and willing to support Colombia on this path, as she has striven to do over the past few years.

(complimentary close, with handwritten addition)/.

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