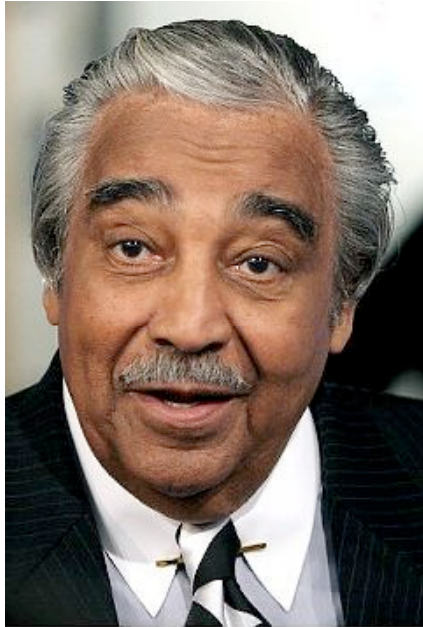


EMERGENCY DEMONSTRATION:

Charlie Rangel: Say No to Free Trade with Colombia!



Getty

**Monday, Nov 17,
2008 @12 Noon**

**Adam Clayton Powell
State Office Building 163
West 125th Street (at 7th
Avenue), Manhattan, NYC.**

**Subway: A, B, C, D, 2, or 3 to 125th.
Bus: M100, M101, M60, Bx 15, or M2**

Colombia's rainforests, cloudforests, and indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities are under attack by oil palm, petroleum, and mining interests and the right wing paramilitaries and state military and police forces who support their interests. In the last six years more than 1200 indigenous Colombians have been assassinated, 55,000 displaced and 400,000 left without land, leaving a total eighteen indigenous groups in danger of extinction. Colombia's government has admitted that its troops have been slaughtering civilians in an attempt to inflate body counts to give a false sense of success in Colombia's civil war against left-wing guerillas.

For the last ten years, the US government's Plan Colombia has pumped billions in military aid into Colombia, making US voters and taxpayers complicit in human rights atrocities. Now the Bush administration wants to pass a free trade agreement with Colombia, including new investor rights protections that will grant extractive industries new rights to override environmental laws in the name of investor profits.

Uptown Manhattan Congressional Rep, Charlie Rangel is the Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, which oversees trade agreements. Last year, under pressure from Rangel, 10 out of 13 New York Congressmembers voted to pass the Peru Free Trade Agreement, over opposition from environmental, labor, and human rights groups. When Congress returns on November 17, Rangel may try to push the Colombia Free Trade Agreement (TLC in Spanish) through Congress at a time when Congressmembers will have already been reelected and few people will be paying attention. Rangel knows that voters are fed up with the NAFTA free trade model, but Democratic leaders want to pass this agreement as payback to the financial industry corporations that financed their electoral campaigns—the same corporations responsible for the current financial crisis and who will be the primary beneficiaries of the \$700 billion bailout!



SATURDAY, Nov 16: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Join us on Saturday, November 16th at 11AM at the Brecht Forum to prepare signs, props, and practice street theater in anticipation of Monday's protest. The Brecht Forum is located at 451 West Street (between Bank & Bethune Streets. A, C, E or L to 14th Street & 8th Ave, walk down 8th Ave. to Bethune, turn right, walk west to the River, turn left Or, 1, 2 or 3 to 14th Street & 7th Ave, get off at south end of station, walk west on 12th Street to 8th Ave. left to Bethune, turn right, walk west to the River, turn left. For additional details email info@tradejustice.net or call (917) 214-4870.

WE MUST NOT LET THE COLOMBIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT PASS!

**Sponsored by TradeJustice NY Metro, Wetlands Activism Collective/
Global Justice for Animals and the Environment, and the NY
Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador.**
*Visit www.tradejustice.net to learn more about the fight against free
trade agreements!*