**Transcription from Participant Observation notes**

Date: June 23, 2023

Location: Streets of Santo Domingo

Activity: Presentation to the Water Defence Committee and last observation

Observer: A

I arrive in Santo Domingo at 6:05. I come to give the presentation of my fieldwork progress. With this activity I close the fieldwork. It is probably not the last time I will be in Santo Domingo. The sun is still up, it is one of the longest days of the year. I think about what I am going to say. I think about when I introduced myself to the group, about the phone call, about being here and now today. I arrive at the meeting point at 6:15. That's fifteen minutes earlier than the meeting time. I arrive early to see if I can meet anyone. The one who arrives is a guy who asks me for money for a quesadilla, and I give him five pesos.

Neighbours arrive and I greet them. First Martina arrives with her son. Carolina arrives too. I greet them and talk to them a bit. Another participant arrives and I see that more and more are arriving. The teacher says that she has had problems with the water supply. I greet almost everyone I recognise and with whom I have had interviews. I go over and greet other participants and Waldo and Beni Ros. I ask Waldo if he can take pictures of me while I make the presentation.

There are about 40 people in the meeting at the start. The number rises to just over 50 when it's my turn to present.

Waldo talks about supply failures. That elections are coming and people have to be vigilant. That they should not let water become a political booty. That people have to be organised in how to monitor and take care of things. "Fortunately we have the well". This is something he says, as it would be much more difficult to face these moments if the well was not ready.

Beni Ros says that a car crashed into the doors of the well. They were warned by the neighbours next to the well. He says that there are valuable things there. He tells of the incident and says that we have to be very attentive to make sure that the well is working, that the pump is working properly and that if anyone notices anything, they should report it. He says that we have to check the cameras and be aware of everything. He says that it is not just a matter of getting involved when there is no water.

Waldo says that he is going to report to the local water administration and also ask for a report. He asks how the water supply and water pressure has been. Some of the neighbours say that there is no water, and that when there is, there is not much, and the pressure is low. It seems that almost all those who live in Calle Llave have not had water. But this also happens with neighbours in other areas, who have had very little water. Waldo says that they are going to send a report. A person interrupts and asks who he can ask for more information, as this is the first time he has been here. Waldo tells her that they are her neighbours. He says that, when it comes to something like this, "the best thing to do is to talk to the neighbour, he lives near me and I know him". This is when they ask him who to talk to. They talk about putting a camera in the well and using the money that was collected for that.

As Waldo speaks, there are cars passing by and making noise. A taxi tries to pass. It has to turn around because the street is closed for the meeting. More people are arriving, more people I recognise. Some people have brought their chairs. There is also a person who has brought his dog.

Then it's my turn to speak. First I hand out summary sheets of my fieldwork to everyone present. Then I take the opportunity to say hello to many people. When I finish handing out, I talk about what it says on the sheet. First I talk about who I am, my motivation for doing this thesis, what the thesis is about, its objectives, why fieldwork is important and what it is for, and why I changed people's names. Then I talk about what I did: 22 interviews, 11 diaries, 8 walking interviews, plus all my field notes.

Then I give the floor to two neighbours, Leticia and Beni Ros, who talk about their experience of being participants. They both say that it was nice to tell and also to hear stories. Then I talk about some preliminary reflections born from the fieldwork and also about the next steps to finish and hand in the thesis. I am very grateful for the possibility to be with them and to participate in their struggle for justice. At the end I gave out sweets to each of the participants.

When I finish speaking, a young man announces that he is selling bread and then the meeting ends. People form up to buy bread and sign up on the attendance list for the meeting. This meeting was scheduled for a week ago, but had to be moved to today. I say goodbye to the leaders and neighbours. Many wish me good luck and success. I say goodbye to many, Lucia gives me bread as a gift. I say goodbye to the leaders like Martina, Waldo, Carolina, Beni Ros, Juan. Tita arrives at the end and I also say goodbye to her. I thank her very much for everything. I tell them that they have my contact details and that we are still in contact. I walk off with Juan who is heading in the same direction as me.

I arrive at Tetl street at 19:55 and walk to the metro, where I arrive at 20:00. I think about the valuable people I have been able to meet. I am grateful for the time shared with this group.