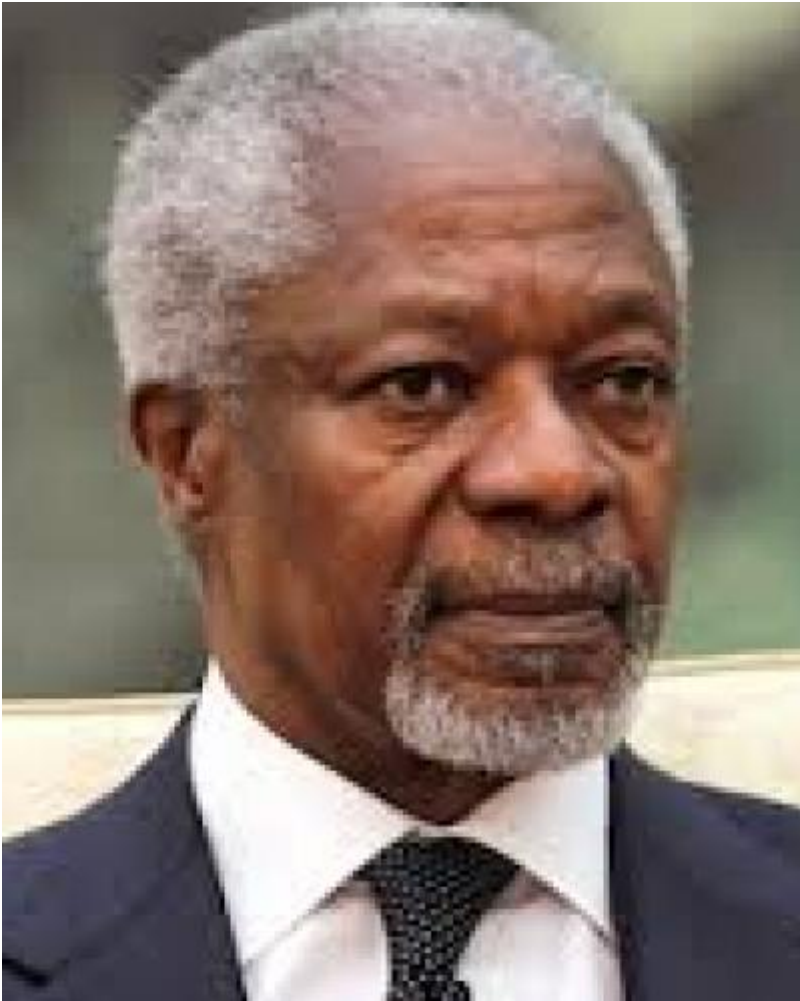


# *Kofi Annan Travels to Cuba For Colombian Peace Negotiations*

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Havana, February 26 (RHC) -- Former Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, arrives Thursday in Cuba, where he will hold meetings with Colombian negotiators taking part in the peace talks between FARC rebels and the government of President Juan Manuel Santos.

Earlier this week, Annan participated in Bogota in the Colombian Forum "Ideas for Peace."

The 33rd round of peace talks began Wednesday in Havana. The talks started in November 2012 in the Cuban capital, and acquired a new dynamic with the addition of victims' testimonies. The conflict in Colombia has left about 6.5 million displaced and more than 200,000 people dead, so it is crucial to find mechanisms for peace and ensure that hostilities do not resume.

With Cuba and Norway as guarantors and Venezuela and Chile as observer countries, these talks have reached consensus on the points of rural reform (May 2013), political participation FARC-EP (November 2013) and illicit drugs (May 2014).

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