

# *FARC-EP Optimistic Regarding Peace Process in Colombia*

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Bogotá, October 13 (PL-RHC)-- FARC-EP top leader Timoleon Jimenez has expressed optimism regarding the peace dialogue with the Colombian government, aimed at ending the long-running internal conflict.

“We started the week with the expectation to make announcements at the end to reinforce hope. We will go for peace,” the guerrilla leader wrote on his Twitter account.

The government delegations and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army (FARC-EP) already achieved preliminary agreements on issues of comprehensive rural reform, the fight against illegal drugs, and demobilized future participation in political life.

Meanwhile, legal teams from both warring parties will meet again on October 17th to outline the transitional justice pact signed on September 23rd in Havana, venue of the talks since 2012.

Government and FARC-EP agreed to develop a treaty on Special Jurisdiction for Peace, the most important achievement of the process in favor of easing tension, rebel spokesman Ivan Marquez said in that social network.

The rebels insist on the need to preserve the spirit or essence of what was agreed after the

representatives of the Executive referred to the document signed as an unfinished text that needed more elements.

According to a joint statement, the lawyers will resolve differences on certain aspects of the agreement, in virtue of which courts will be established to investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for military confrontations, with no impunity for crimes against humanity, but with benefits of pardons and amnesties in cases of political crimes.

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