

Colombian Government and FARC Resume Talks with Focus on Victims of the Conflict



Havana, July 15 (PL-RHC) -- Delegates of the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces-People's Army (FARC-EP) and the Colombian government return to Havana to resume their peace dialogue with the focus this time on a vital topic -- the issue of victims of the conflict.

According to the parties' Communiqué No. 38, the two sides, after holding preparatory meetings during July 6th and 7th, have agreed to meet to seek progress in relation with this point on the agenda of the talks which started on in November 2012.

The note says that progress was made in discussions as representatives of the victims will participate in the dialogue, which seeks to end a conflict of more than half a century.

This will be the first meeting between the government and the guerrillas since the re-election of Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, the winner in a process in which the subject of peace was a key issue.

Since beginning in Havana, the peace process between the government and FARC-EP has finalized agreements relating to three of the scheduled points -- comprehensive agricultural development, political participation and solution to the problem of illicit drugs.

Thus, it was decided to talk about pending topics, such as the victims, one of the topics on which 12 points for debate have been defined, and the end of the conflict.

According to the agreed points the discussion concerning the victims should be on the principles of truth, justice, compensation and respect to fundamental human rights.

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