

FARC-EP Proposes to Create Rebel Normalization Team



Havana, September 3 (RHC) -- The FARC-EP has expressed their intention to create a working team that would serve as a counterpart to the Transition Command established by the government to undertake a study regarding demobilization and delivery of weapons from the rebel forces.

The need for a Guerrilla Command of Normalization, "not of transition," is called for because the equality of the parties at the negotiation table means that if citizen co-existence is achieved, the issue will have effects on both sides, they argued.

In a statement read by rebel spokesman, Pablo Catatumbo, at Havana's Conference Center, the insurgents stated that the established governmental mechanism, due to its military nature, will only have effects within the public force.

No one can forget that the dialogue we have started implies that the solution to the conflict is political, and not military, the text says.

Catatumbo also expressed the relevance of establishing an Investigating Commission

into the para-military phenomenon, as another step to clarify the origin, causes and effects of the armed conflict in Colombia.

After beginning the 28th cycle of talks yesterday, the rebels rejected the uni-lateral initiatives being pushed by the government, and invited Colombian Interior Minister, Juan Fernando Cristo, to travel to Havana for talks.



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