

Colombia's Peace Talks Pass Two Year Milestone



Bogota, October 22 (teleSUR-RHC), -- Two years have past since peace talks between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) were announced, and experts agree negotiations are showing far greater progress than previous peace processes.

Since the announcement made in Norway in October 2012, the process has been accompanied by the United Nations, the Catholic Church and conflict experts based at Bogota's National University, as well as the support of a number of countries, including Chile and Venezuela.

"I believe the most important thing is that the process is healthy and maintains a good rhythm. Some extremely testing issues still remain, but I believe what has already been agreed on will help with those new issues," said Dr. Marco Romero, a member of the National University's team involved in the talks.

The two delegations have so far reached partial agreements on three issues - rural reform, political participation, and illicit crops and the drug trade - with the issue of victims currently under negotiation and disarmament not yet tackled. Once those five points conclude the agreements, an implementation will be discussed, followed by a national referendum giving Colombia's 46 million population the opportunity to accept or reject the agreement.

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