Colombian Peace Talks Achieve Positive Results: FARC Malaysian News Agency 28 November 2012

HAVANA, Nov 28 (BERNAMA-NNN-XINHUA) -- Colombia's largest rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), said Tuesday the ongoing peace talks with the government are making good progress.

As the closed-door negotiations in Havana entered the seventh day, FARC senior commander Jesus Santrich told reporters that the two sides had reached a deal last Sunday to support a public forum in December to discuss agrarian development, which is one of the key topics of the talks.

The decision was confirmed by a joint statement of FARC and the government announcing that the United Nations and National University of Colombia would organise a forum together on rural development in Bogota from Dec 17 to 19.

On Nov 19, the two sides began negotiations on land reform in a bid to end the half-century-long conflict between the leftist rebels and state forces.

Among other issues on the five-point agenda are victim compensation, laying down arms, aiding the rebels and drug trafficking that had served as a financial source for FARC's struggle.

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