

NOTE OF THE CEH ON RESOLVING THE POST-ELECTION CRISIS 2015-2016

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1- The Catholic Bishops' Conference of Haiti (CEH), meeting in extraordinary plenary session at its headquarters, salutes the courage of the Haitian people in these difficult days regarding the social, political and economic future of the country;

2- The CEH had asked, informally, to facilitate exchanges and build bridges of dialogue between some actors involved in the current crisis. It had to unlock difficult or seemingly impossible communications: others have done the same. These Haitians, who worked for a negotiated solution to end the crisis, have made proposals that were compiled in a minimum basic text to be finalized. Many other outstanding crisis proposals express great concern as to the governability of the country after the constitutional deadline;

3- We all know: February 7, 2016 completes the constitutional mandate of President of the Republic. It is high time that the people know how the country will be governed after that date. But the CEH noted that no agreement has so far been adopted in order to solve in a consensual manner the current crisis. It believes that all political and state actors must work to find, before the February 7, 2016 date, a negotiated and mutually acceptable solution to the crisis with wisdom, insight, moderation and patriotism. As it is imperative to prepare all the Haitian people to manage the coming days as responsible citizens.

4- The CEH strongly encourages all forces of the country to come together in order to reach an agreement based on the Constitution and Haitian wisdom, to ensure the continuity of the state and political stability in the country, respect for life, property and fundamental rights of the human person;

5. Accordingly, the CEH urges all actors and the Haitian people as a whole to avoid statements and actions that could inflame tensions, inciting violence and aggravating the already fragile situation of the country. The CEH strongly encourages finding a consensus in the shortest time for the consolidation of national unity, promotion of democratic culture and the greater good of the nation;

6- The CEH renews to the Haitian people, its determination to accompany them on the path of dialogue, peace and development, especially in these times of uncertainty concerning its security and its future.

7. May, by the Maternal intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, God bless and protect our beloved Haiti!

Done at the Headquarters of the CEH, January 28, 2016, the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas.

<p>His Eminence Cardinal Chibly Langlois Bishop of the Diocese of Les Cayes President of the CEH ...</p>	<p>Monsignor Yves Marie Péan SE, CSC Bishop of the Diocese of Gonaives</p>
<p>Bishop Max Leroy Mésidor Archbishop of Cap-Haitien Vice-President of the CEH ...</p>	<p>Bishop Pierre André Dumas Bishop of the Diocese of Anse à Veau and Miragoane ...</p>
<p>Bishop Joseph Gontran Décoste, sj Bishop of the Diocese of Jeremiah Secretary General of the CEH ...</p>	<p>Bishop Launay Saturne Bishop of the Diocese of Jacmel ...</p>
<p>Bishop Marie Erick Toussaint G. Auxiliary bishop of Port-au-Prince Bursar of the CEH ...</p>	<p>Bishop Alphonse Quesnel, SMM Bishop of the Diocese of Fort-Liberté ...</p>
<p>Mgr Guire Poulard SE Metropolitan Archbishop of Port-au-Prince ...</p>	<p>Mgr Louis Faublas diocesan administrator Diocese of Hinche</p>
<p>Bishop Pierre-Antoine Paulo OMI Bishop of the Diocese of Port-de-Paix</p>	