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UNITE DE GESTION DU PROGRAMME NATIONAL DE
DESARMEMENT, DEMOBILISATION ET REINSERTION

REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO

Unité – Travail - Progrès



Siège :

*Dixième étage de la Tour Nabemba
Centre-ville de Brazzaville (CONGO)*

PRESS RELEASE

Pool Department Seat of Kinkala to Host Seminar on the Culture of Peace

Brazzaville, August 17, 2007 – Within the implementation framework of the *PNDDR* (*Programme National de Désarmement, Démobilisation et Réinsertion*), the High Commission for the Reinsertion of Ex-Combatants is organizing a seminar in Kinkala (Pool Department) from August 21-24, 2007. The theme will be, *“The culture of peace, citizenship, and national reconciliation.”*

The nearly 200 invitees to the meeting, include village and neighborhood heads, directors of the departments, political party representatives, NGOs and associations, religious groups and ex-combatants.

The seminar’s main objective is to ensure the promotion of peace by improving knowledge of national institutions and symbols on the one hand, while propagating concepts such as human rights and citizenship on the other.

Specifically, the seminar curriculum is designed to allow participants to work individually, in small groups and in plenary sessions to:

- identify the defining criteria for rule of law
- list rights and responsibilities of the citizen
- identify sources of conflict
- examine the process of conflict resolution

With regards to the conflict resolution process, participants will work to objectively analyze a range of conflict scenarios, some imaginary, and others drawn from community experience, beginning with family and domestic conflicts.

The Kinkala seminar will be held in two phases lasting two days each. The first phase will consist of workshops and plenary sessions. The second will train some sixty people in teaching and facilitation techniques for peace and reconciliation issues. These people will in turn be charged with the organization of meetings on the same topics with citizens of neighborhoods and villages in the Pool Department.

Such meetings were already held in Dolisie (Niari Department) and Sibiti (Lékoumou Department) from July 4-13, 2007, as well as in Madingou (Bouenza Department) from August 7-10.

Financed by an international multi-donor trust fund (the World Bank, the European Commission, Germany, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom, and Sweden) through the framework of the Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program, the PNDDR has five components, one of which centers on the prevention and resolution of conflicts.