

Religions for Peace

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We take the floor in this Conference in the name of “*Religions for Peace Haiti*”. We hail the efforts of solidarity and subsidiarity already accomplished to stand with and raise up again the Haitian people after 12 January. We thank all for their generosity.

Speaking as representatives of the various religious traditions of this wounded land, believing in the transcendence of life and wishing to take part in the historic reconstruction of Haiti, we call for a vast integral Marshall plan to rebuild our country, a plan respecting the cultural and spiritual values and the religious and traditional references of our people.

We also ask that Haitians, working together with international partners for the welfare and future of Haiti, be protagonists of their own destiny and first actors of their development. We ask that the deep aspirations and concerted wishes of various sectors in the Haitian population be duly taken into account. We ask that the human person, with its dignity and the sacredness of life, be at the center of any plan for integral development and reconstruction.

We, religious leaders, believe that true reconstruction demands rebuilding the person, recovering civic virtues, refounding the social web, rediscovering citizenship and life in common, an education, therefore, in the values of peace, tolerance, transcendence and self-denial.

Finally, as representatives of the different religions in Haiti, we commit ourselves to common actions to give life to our people and teach the faithful to take positive attitudes towards reconstruction.

Port-au-Prince, 24 March 2010

Senior Haitian representatives of:

- the Roman Catholic Church
- the Evangelical Protestant Churches
- the Federation of Protestant Churches
- the Lutheran Church
- the Muslim Community
- the Voodoo Confederacy