

May 2010 Monthly Update

What God is doing?

God is mobilizing his servants, key religious and civil society leaders, to be involved in the peace process of our country.

God continues to use his servants to bring peace in our dear nation Côte d'Ivoire. Key religious and civil society leaders attended a meeting in Washington D.C. from April 26 to May 1, 2010 held by the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (ICAR) and the United States Institute for Peace.



Koffi Tehua (far right) with other delegates to the Peace Conference in Washington DC in April.

An eleven man delegation attended the meeting and included Pastor Koffi TEHUA OUATTARA, National Coordinator of Breakthrough Partners – Côte d'Ivoire. The group made a special appeal to the Ivorian Government and the people of Côte d'Ivoire which is intended to foster peace and unity in the nation. Below is a highlight of the appeal.

“We, the religious and civil society leaders of Côte d'Ivoire were invited to meet in Washington D.C. from April 26 to May 1, 2010, by the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution and the United States Institute for Peace. A feeling of helplessness affects us all, as the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire has reached an impasse. We are very worried for our country's future, with the many difficulties and challenges we all face in the months to come. After much reflection, we take note of our responsibilities and call upon the men and women of Côte d'Ivoire, as well as the political leaders of our country to answer our appeal:

The suffering, fear, and mistrust, our people feel must absolutely stop. Many are concerned about the fate of our future. Our country must overcome the many uncertainties fueling hostilities, mistrust, and fear.

For all that dwell in the worry of suspicion and fear, for those who are resigned to the status quo, for those who only see enemies, and those who feel we can continue waiting, we implore you; be brave, take the first step! Nothing will be lost with peace! Let's not leave the potential of Côte d'Ivoire wither and in the process, lose sight of a brighter future! Although much talk has taken place, and while peace may seem risky, it is the only possible solution for our destiny!

We call upon the political stakeholders to engage in dialogue with civil society to discuss the entire peace process. Let's talk about our future! We propose a Guarantee Agreement that can foster good will among us all, in the efforts to maintain peace, security and harmony for all, before, during, and most importantly, after the elections.”

Also, as a follow up to the training we organized last year we were privileged to received Tom LePage from the Chalmers Centre. Together we visited several microfinance facilities in Abidjan.

Goals for this year:

Firstly, we want to train 25 people for economic development to share the vision of the nation.

Secondly, we want to organize training for managers of NGOs, members of government, church denominations, schools, and business for thirty people to be efficient in managing their respective institutions.

We continue to appoint regional representatives in all the regions to share the vision of BTP – CI.



Koffi Tehua at the Côte d'Ivoire Embassy in Washington DC

What we are doing this coming quarter:

We are training religious leaders of Côte d'Ivoire to work for a guarantee agreement before the presidential elections.

Our challenge:

We thank God for the wonderful opportunity for religious leaders to meet outside the country and to unite with one voice in quest to restore peace and unity in the nation. The challenge for us now as a nation is to bring politicians together to reach a Guaranteed Agreement.

Our praises and thanks:

We thank God for what the international community is doing for the nation and also thank him for using us for the good of the nation.

Prayer needs:

We pray for God's protection for the family, team members of BTP – CI and the nation. We also pray for financial assistance in building our church.