



## **AMERICA/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - Dialogue and collaboration, the only way to solve the common problems of Dominicans and Haitians**

Jimani (Agenzia Fides) - The progress made so far in the ongoing dialogue between the authorities of the Dominican Republic and Haiti are assessed favorably by the weekly "Camino", the official voice of the Dominican Episcopal Conference. Both the first meeting, held on 7 January in Juana Méndez (Haiti), and the second held on 3 February, in Jimaní (Dominican Republic), according to the weekly "are the scenarios for a frank and sincere dialogue, in order to achieve harmony between the two neighbors who are called to understand each other".

Government authorities between Haiti and the Dominican Republic are tackling the issue of immigration, which affects more than 1,500 people of Haitian descent living in the Dominican Republic, and that, following the judgment issued by a court, run the risk of losing Dominican citizenship. The Catholic Church said it is always ready to mediate in these dialogues (see Fides 25/10/2013; 02/12/2013; 06/12/2013).

"People understand each other when they talk": this saying of popular wisdom proves to be true throughout history, "we have seen that the greatest and most deplorable conflicts in the world found a solution through dialogue".

Following these examples, we have to follow the same path: "These events should show us, Dominicans and Haitians, that our common problems have only one solution: dialogue and mutual cooperation". (CE) (Agenzia Fides07/02/2014)