

EDUCATIONAL DELEGATION to HAITI, June 10-18, 2006

[please re-distribute this information]

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Konbit Pou Ayiti/KONPAY invites you to participate in an educational delegation on the environment in Haiti

WHEN: June 10-18, 2006

CONTACT: Melinda Miles, Melinda@konpay.org, to request an application or more information.

Join KONPAY for an educational delegation to study the environmental crisis facing Haiti today. Sit down with experts and people most affected by the crisis. The delegation will focus on giving participants a broad view of the environmental situation in Haiti through meetings with community-based and grassroots organizations onsite.

The delegation will visit:

. The village of Gros Morne, one hour north of Gonaives. Gros Morne is the home of the Jean Marie Vincent Memorial Reforestation Center and model tree forest, supported by the U.S.-based Quixote Center.

. The village of Fond Verrettes, east of the capital of Port-au-Prince. Fond Verrettes was destroyed by Hurricane Georges in 1998. When the government did not heed warnings to relocate the village, it was struck again by deadly floods and rock slides during the summer of 2004.

. Directly above Fond Verrettes, the ancient pine forest, Foret de Pins. Foret de Pins is one of the only protected sites in Haiti, however poachers anxious to cut down trees to make charcoal are decimating what is left of the forest.

. Spend the night with the peasants of Gros Cheval, a village that straddles the mountaintop beside the forest.

. Visit environmental projects on the way to and in Jacmel, several hours south of Port-au-Prince. Plant trees with the youth movement for the environment and survey the community-organized water system in the village of Cyvadier.

The delegation will begin with an orientation. Throughout the trip participants will engage with community representatives to learn more about the five pillars of environmental work in Haiti: (1) tree planting and reforestation, (2) soil conservation and renewal, (3) potable water and irrigation, (4) alternatives to charcoal, and (5) alleviating poverty by increasing family level food security.

Safety is always a major concern, so KONPAY will maintain an open discussion about potential risks. Participants will sign a waiver, accepting responsibility for what might happen while they are in Haiti with this delegation.

COST of the delegation is \$1100 for in-country expenses, which includes 3

meals a day, lodging, all in-country transportation, translation, coordination and honorariums for community-based groups the delegation meets with. Participants are responsible for their own round-trip travel to Port-au-Prince (visit www.aa.com for lowest prices). If you would like to participate in the delegation, a deposit of \$500 will hold your space and final payment of the remaining is \$600 is due two weeks prior to the delegation, May 27, 2006.

CONTACT: Melinda Miles, Melinda@konpay.org to request