



High-Level Meeting of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti with Caribbean Partners

New York, 21 September 2023

Chair's Summary

Introduction

1. The High-Level Meeting of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) with Caribbean partners was convened on 21 September 2023 during the High-Level Segment of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly. The meeting provided an opportunity for participants to discuss the multidimensional crises in Haiti and their profound impact on the Haitian population and on the region. It aimed at identifying concrete avenues in which the international community can support Haitian-led solutions to strengthen Haiti's stability and sustainable development.
2. The meeting, convened by Canada, as Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, was attended by leaders, ministers and other high-level government officials from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Spain, Suriname, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Uruguay. High-level representatives from the United Nations, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of American States, the European Union, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Center for American Progress, Aruba, and Sint Maarten, also participated in the meeting.

Summary of discussions

3. Participants expressed concern about the deteriorating situation in Haiti, exacerbated by political instability, high levels of insecurity and armed violence. This has led to escalating gang violence, including sexual-based violence, human

rights violations, killings, kidnappings, and forced displacements in the country. Around 200,000 people, with the majority being women and children, were estimated to be internally displaced. The deteriorating food situation and limited access to basic services, in particular health services, remained a concern.

4. References were made to the Secretary-General's letter dated 14 August 2023 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2023/596), submitting a written report outlining the full range of support options the United Nations could provide to enhance the security situation. Participants underscored the urgency to strengthen the Haitian National Police, restore the rule of law, and build the capacity of government institutions providing basic services to Haitian people. Participants also called on the Security Council to urgently authorize the establishment of a multinational force to support the national police in restoring security.
5. While discussions are taking place to address the security situation in Haiti, about half of the country's population need immediate humanitarian assistance and protection. Despite the skyrocketing humanitarian needs, regrettably the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (\$719.9 million) has only received 28.7 per cent of its financial requirements. Calls were made to substantially increase funding for the Humanitarian Response Plan so that humanitarian partners can help meet the urgent needs of Haitian people.
6. Any long-term solution for Haiti would require addressing the root causes of the country's vulnerability and instability. The new Cooperation Framework for Sustainable Development for the period 2023-2027 provides a common vision and strategy for achieving sustainable development over the next five years, with a focus on governance, security and rule of law, inclusive economic transformation, social services, and the environment. In this connection, partners, the United Nations system and the international financial institutions were called on to enhance their support to Haitian people to address the socioeconomic root causes of the multidimensional crisis.
7. No single actor can address the challenges in Haiti alone. This requires a whole-of-society approach, that is well coordinated and financed. Furthermore, solutions need to be Haitian-led. In this regard, many participants emphasized the importance of an inclusive national dialogue to establish a transition government of national unity and pave the way for credible, free, fair, and transparent elections. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) spoke to its continued efforts to engage with the Haitian stakeholders to restore political



stability. Participants also highlighted the need to engage Haitians in meaningful ways in their efforts to build resilient institutions and strengthen state capacity to deliver services for Haitian people.

8. Participants underscored the need to increase international attention around the deteriorating situation in Haiti and to mobilize transformative actions to help Haitians address the complex and multi-faceted challenges facing the country. Coordination and coherence among partners and meaningful engagement of Haitians in these efforts would be key for long-lasting results that enhance the country's capacity to thrive and benefit Haitians. Proposals included creation of a trust fund focused on education and health needs; establishment of a more coordinated single platform for assistance to Haiti; and development of a comprehensive plan for Haiti by the United Nations.

Next steps

9. The ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti will continue to mobilize support for Haiti's efforts towards long-term stability and sustainable development in line with its mandate contained in ECOSOC resolution [2023/32](#).

More information on the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, including its annual reports, can be found on the website of the Economic and Social Council at: <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/ecosoc-ad-hoc-advisory-group-haiti>