

## Ministerial Meeting of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti New York, 23 September 2025 Chair's Summary

## Introduction

- 1. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (AHAGH) of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) convened a Ministerial meeting on 23 September 2025 during the High-Level week of the eightieth session of the General Assembly. Participants discussed concrete avenues to support Haitian-led and Haitian-owned solutions to strengthen Haiti's stability and advance its sustainable development.
- 2. The meeting, convened by Canada, as Chair of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, was attended by ministers, high-level government officials and high-level representatives of United Nations entities, regional organizations, international financial institutions and private foundations<sup>1</sup>. The opening included remarks by The Honourable Ms. Anita Anand, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada; H.E. Mr. Jean-Victor Harvel Jean-Baptiste, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Haiti; H.E. Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations; and H.E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Tapa, President of the Economic and Social Council. Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti and Head of the UN Integrated Office in Haiti provided perspectives from the UN in Haiti, and H.E. Mr. Bob Rae, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, moderated the discussion.

## **Summary of discussions**

- 3. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Haiti underscored the dire situation that requires urgent action, in particular highlighting the 1,000 per cent increase in sexual violence against children. The Minister called on the international community to remain collectively engaged in support of Haiti's priorities to address the root causes of instability and facilitate development.
- 4. Participants expressed deep concern about the continuing security crisis, exacerbated by surging gang violence, resulting in human rights violations, development setbacks and humanitarian challenges. Stressing the urgent need to restore security,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Attendees included ministers and other high-level government officials from Antigua and Barbuda, Algeria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United States, and Uruguay. In addition, high-level representatives from the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, the European Commission, the Caribbean Development Bank, the United Nations system, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross, International IDEA, UN Foundation and the WK Kellogg Foundation also attended the meeting.



participants called for coordinated international security support to strengthen national efforts, protect civilians, and help restore the rule of law.

- 5. Participants expressed gratitude to the Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission, led by Kenya with contributions from partner countries, for its efforts to improve the security conditions in Haiti. Participants acknowledged the deliberations in the Security Council on the future role of the UN in Haiti and called on the Security Council members to decisively respond to Haiti's request for urgent, robust and sustained assistance to restore security. The proposed transformation of the MSS mission must be informed by past lessons, with a robust and clear mandate strengthened with logistical support, personnel and financial resources. It must comply with human rights law and include oversight mechanisms and safeguards for the protection of women and children. It should also work with the Haitian government and National Police.
- 6. While noting that security remains the immediate priority, participants indicated the path work towards democracy must be Haitian-owned, led, and managed. The Transitional Government was called upon to address corruption and impunity; strengthen national security; implement economic reforms and restore democratic governance through free and fair elections.
- 7. Participants welcomed the ongoing efforts of regional partners, including the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organization of American States (OAS), to support Haiti's path to security and stability. These organizations are supporting Haiti to rebuild its institutions, restore security, and create the foundations for sustainable development. In this regard, the OAS roadmap for stability and peace in Haiti was commended.
- 8. Participants urged stronger enforcement of the arms embargo on Haiti to help restore stability and the rule of law. Regional and international cooperation are critical to halt the illicit flow of weapons and illicit financing to and from Haiti, and to ensure those aiding armed gangs are sanctioned and prosecuted. Initiatives to enhance maritime security and Haiti's border and customs capabilities were highlighted.
- 9. Participants called for urgent increase in the funding for the 2025 Haiti Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, which as of September 23 2025 still requires87.3 percent of the required US\$908 million. Approximately 6 million people in Haiti require humanitarian assistance and protection, with 5.5 million facing acute food insecurity. Gang violence hinders humanitarian efforts and places humanitarian workers at risk. Flexible funding and unrestricted access is critical for effective humanitarian assistance.
- 10. The crisis has disproportionately impacted the most vulnerable groups, including children, youth, women, older persons, and persons with disabilities. Children and young Haitians must have access to education and protection from violence and gang recruitment. Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration efforts are critical to support safe exits from gangs and promote reintegration and social cohesion. Armed gangs were called on to release children from their ranks.



- 11. Participants expressed concern that more than 1.3 million people have been displaced in Haiti amid worsening insecurity and impunity. Gender-based violence remains a concern in Haiti, particularly in displacement sites where half of the displaced population are women and children. Participants called on the international community to support stronger protection measures, and provision of mental health and medical services to affected women and girls, including through provision of safe spaces, psychosocial support, dignity kits, and cash assistance for the most vulnerable. Women must continue to play meaningful roles in Haiti's economic and social development.
- 12. Long-term solutions will secure Haiti's future. This includes investment in youth education, inclusive economic development, resilience to natural disasters and reforestation initiatives. The international community was called on to support Haiti's development efforts and to ensure a coherent approach to the coordination, implementation and financing of priority interventions.
- 13. 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 is mandate contained in ECOSOC resolution 2025/22.

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