

1999/11. Long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling paragraph 17 of its agreed conclusions 1998/1 of 17 July 1998,⁶ in which the Council noted the need to develop, through a strategic framework, when appropriate, a comprehensive approach to countries in crisis, in which key aspects of durable recovery, peace-building, all human rights, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences, were included,

Recalling also that the development of such a comprehensive approach must involve national authorities as well as the United Nations system, donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and that national authorities must take a leading role in all aspects of the recovery plan,

Recalling further its resolution 1999/4 of 7 May 1999, by which it created an Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, with the mandate of submitting to the Council at its substantive session of 1999, for its consideration, its recommendations on how to ensure that international community assistance to the efforts to support the Government of Haiti in achieving sustainable

development is adequate, coherent, well coordinated and effective,

Reaffirming the leading role of the Government of Haiti in all aspects of the recovery plans for Haiti,

Having examined the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti,¹⁴

Emphasizing the need to develop a strategic framework and a comprehensive approach for a long-term United Nations programme of support for Haiti,

Emphasizing also that capacity-building is a key element to enable Governments and civil society to manage their affairs and effectively absorb international assistance in post-conflict situations,

Stressing the vital link between national stability and economic and social development,

Taking note of the request by the Government of Haiti for international electoral assistance for its plans to organize and hold the forthcoming legislative, local and presidential elections,

Bearing in mind the importance of the role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with regard to human rights issues in Haiti and of the work of the independent expert on Haiti of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, and welcomes its recommendations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Haiti and making use of the existing United Nations presence in Haiti, to take the necessary steps to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti in such areas as education, peace-building, poverty eradication, social integration, productive employment, trade, durable recovery and sustainable development, aimed particularly at reinforcing capacity-building objectives in both governmental and civil society institutions;

3. *Requests* the programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations system, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, other multilateral institutions and regional organizations, bilateral donors, including within the Consultative Group meetings led by the World Bank, non-governmental organizations and the rest of the donor community to continue to support and to work in close collaboration with the Government of Haiti for the purpose of elaborating and supporting the long-term strategy and programme for Haiti, including prioritizing sustainable development and capacity-building objectives;

4. *Urges* that the coordination of the work of the organizations of the United Nations system in Haiti continue to function through the resident coordinator mechanism, since it has proved to be an adequate means for effective coordination, and that such coordination should be further

¹⁴ E/1999/103.

strengthened through the completion of the common country assessment and subsequent preparation of a United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Haiti, which will provide the elements to define an effective long-term United Nations development assistance programme for the country;

5. *Recommends* that the long-term programme of support for Haiti address the issues of capacity-building of governmental institutions, especially in areas such as governance, the promotion of human rights, the administration of justice, the electoral system, law enforcement, police training and other areas of social and economic development, which would enable the Government of Haiti to adequately and effectively coordinate, manage, absorb and utilize international assistance and development aid;

6. *Also recommends* that the long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti also address the issue of capacity-building in civil society institutions, particularly community-based organizations, labour unions and professional associations;

7. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue to support the preparations for legislative, local and presidential elections in Haiti, including supporting financially the ongoing efforts of the Government of Haiti to organize those elections;

8. *Recommends* to the General Assembly to review all aspects of the mandate and operations of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti in the light of the situation in Haiti and to consider renewing the mandate of the United Nations component of the Mission;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to coordinate with the Government of Haiti other modalities under which reinforced support from the international community can be ensured for the electoral processes;

10. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue to work in the areas of consolidation of democracy and training and professionalization of the national police force of Haiti, and, to that end, recommends to the General Assembly to consider devising a United Nations special training and technical assistance programme for the Haitian National Police;

11. *Recommends* to the General Assembly to consider requesting the Secretary-General to continue his good offices in Haiti through his Representative and to maintain the existence of the office there, which would also have the responsibility of managing any new civilian mission mandated by the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2000, and to the appropriate United Nations intergovernmental bodies, an integrated synthesis report on the elaboration and implementation of the long-term programme of support for Haiti, including observations and recommendations on the work of the relevant United Nations bodies in their respective areas of competence.