

**SUMMARY AND COMPILATION OF STATEMENTS OF THE ARRIA FORMULA
MEETING TITLED: “*BEYOND THE INCONVENIENT TRUTHS ABOUT
UNDERDEVELOPMENT IN HAITI: SEEKING PAN-AFRICAN
SOLUTIONS/PATHWAYS AND SUPPORTING NATIONAL DIALOGUE AND
RECONCILIATION*” – OCTOBER 15, 2021**

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UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL ARRIA- FORMULA MEETING ON HAITI

Title: Beyond the inconvenient truths about underdevelopment in Haiti: seeking pan-African solutions/pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation

Date and time: 15th October 2021, 3:00pm (New York time)

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction

The A3+1, namely, Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines together with Ireland, Mexico, Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the Dominican Republic and Ghana, as early and main co-sponsors, will convene a virtual Arria Formula Meeting on 15 October 2021, titled “*Beyond the inconvenient truths about underdevelopment in Haiti: seeking pan-African solutions/pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation*”. The main aim of the meeting will be, among other issues, to encourage genuine dialogue on how Haiti can transform itself from the current state to regain stability and focus on socio-economic development agendas.

Background and context

Haiti, once the richest country in the Western hemisphere and the first black republic in the world, became a beacon of freedom and hope for many colonial countries fighting for independence during the 19th and 20th centuries. It was in Haiti where slavery was first abolished and the triumphant Haitian Revolution that inspired oppressed people and triggered liberation crusades across continents, paved the way for many democratic societies today.

Unfortunately, Haiti's glorious march to freedom and independence has suffered tremendous setbacks. As a result of the Haitian revolution, and its struggle to protect and defend human rights, adverse policies were imposed on the Caribbean nation in a way that deeply curtailed its stability and economic development.

Specifically, Haiti had to pay, rather than receive reparations, for ending slavery, and this has had lasting negative impacts. Haiti also became the first country to ever face an international embargo imposed by colonial powers.

During the latter part of the 20th Century, the Haitian people overthrew a brutal dictatorship that ruled the country for over 30 years and then created the conditions for free, fair and democratic elections. At the start of the 21st century, the country was, once again, facing another setback after a coup d'état overthrew the elected constitutional government, bringing a brutal end to democracy and prompting the United Nations to establish the first peacekeeping mission in the Caribbean country.¹

Haiti, included amongst the forty-six members of the LDCs, is today in an extremely dire situation that is overlapped by political, constitutional, security, socio-economic and humanitarian crises. The country also continues to grapple with the catastrophic effects of the 2010 earthquake, as well as this year's 7.2 deadly earthquake, cataclysmic tropical storms, the COVID-19 pandemic and the assassination of former President, Jovenel Moise.

Though underreported, Haiti continues to experience increasing levels of sexual and gender-based violence which disproportionately affects women and girls; a problem further exacerbated by natural disasters and the pandemic.

Uncertainty looms large and the country needs more than humanitarian aid. Haiti is in urgent need of solidarity, support and cooperation from the international community. As acute and dire the problems are; one cannot lose sight of the context of Haiti's multifaceted crises. Their interconnected nature demands durable parallel solutions, commencing with addressing the root causes and drivers of existing problems.

Emerging solutions must therefore ensure that Haitian women and youth fully and meaningfully participate and lead in the institutional and state-building process, and that they too are beneficiaries of socio-economic transformation. The role of Haitian women traders in underwriting the economy is well documented. Addressing root causes requires an approach that values women's contribution, and positions women as equal partners in and beneficiaries of change at all levels of Haitian society.

¹ On May 30, 2004, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1542 establishing the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for a period of six months.

Furthermore, the legacy of slavery, colonization and environmental degradation must be addressed to overcome the security, political, economic, humanitarian and human rights crises Haiti faces today, as well as to bring justice, reconciliation and right historic wrongs. Additionally, keen attention to the intersections of gender and race as historically structuring arrangements in Haiti is necessary in developing a suitable response from the international community to the security situation, the lack of institutional capacity, the impact of rainfall and natural disasters on Haiti and the chronic hunger and poverty in the country.

Haitians have shown that they are capable of taking ownership of their challenges. In order to find solutions to existing challenges, they require the support of the international community. The Haitian people, their political organizations/parties and civil society must be the ones to devise and implement a Haitian solution to Haiti's problems and challenges. The Haitian people require meaningful and efficacious engagements with, and support from, regional, hemispheric, and international partners to assist in charting and implementing the way forward.

Objective

To facilitate a dialogue between Haitians and actors who have experience in post-colonial nation building and national dialogue processes, as well as other partners and friends of Haiti. This is a step to directing their practical solidarity to assist in the implementation of solutions generated and backed by the people of Haiti, and that are equal to the dire challenges the country is facing and rooted in a vision of transformation.

It is hoped that Africa, as represented by the African Union and its member states, will join its efforts to those of the CARICOM, hemispheric partners and the United Nations in support of Haiti. Across the African continent, there is a wealth of experience in resolving difficult political crises in the context of resource constraints, insecurity and geopolitical contestation. Haiti can draw from such experiences to its benefit. The African Union member-states may also be invited to more concretely offer assistance during the transitional period in Haiti.

This event will be held as an Arria Formula meeting to better inform the Security Council, which determines the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti and helps pave the way for humanitarian assistance. It is hoped that the discussion will, at a minimum, offer ideas on how to support and strengthen the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) to be a more effective and achieve solutions for Haiti.

It will also be imperative that the participants indicate how the international community can move beyond the business-as-usual approach, including in the Security Council, and consider the efficacy of some, or all, of the following initiatives:

- 1) How to support a comprehensive national dialogue and reconciliation process to accompany ongoing local efforts that is informed by best practices in similar resource and political settings.
- 2) To look at existing CARICOM initiatives aimed at addressing the legacy of underdevelopment in Haiti.
- 3) Ways to link the solidarity of the African Union and its members to the stabilization, recovery and development of Haiti.
- 4) Means of addressing the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons, including gender responsive and youth focused approaches.
- 5) Determine how to support and strengthen BINUH and make it more adaptable to the circumstances in the country, including by strengthening coordination with the UN Country Team.
- 6) In the context of COP-26, how to advocate for climate change adaptation efforts in Haiti that safeguard the country from further harm and contribute to giving relief and opportunity to the most vulnerable.
- 7) The full and meaningful participation of women and youth in institutions and state building process.
- 8) Building and strengthening institutions. For instance, considering what benefits that Haiti can enjoy by joining the UN Peacebuilding Commission.
- 9) How to minimize insecurity caused by gang violence and address gendered effect of insecurity.
- 10) Strengthening the approach to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including in fighting poverty and inequality.
- 11) Tackling the legacy of past human rights violations and promoting the rule of law in Haiti.
- 12) How to build social inclusion into the Haitian state as a way to strengthen cohesion and resilience.

These are major subjects that will not be exhaustively discussed in a single sitting but it is hoped that this event will at least indicate the future shape of a fuller process of engagement for the United Nations and the broader International Community with Haiti's government and civil society.

Possible Briefers/ discussants:

1. **Hon. Ariel Henry, Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti**
2. **Ms. Magali Comeau-Denis, Coordinator of the Commission for Haitian Solution to the Crisis and Former Minister of Culture and Communication of Haiti**
3. **Ms. Myrtha Désulmé, FOHPDD, Member of the Commission for a Haitian Solution to the Crisis**

4. **Mr. Jacques Ted St Dic, Member and Spokesperson of the Commission for Haitian Solution to the Crisis**
 5. **H. E. Dr. Carla Natalie Barnett, Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**
 6. **H. E. Macharia Kamau, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya**
 7. **H. E. Professor Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Governor of Kisumu County, Republic of Kenya**
 8. **H. E. Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary- General of La Francophonie**
 9. **Dr. Sarjoh Bah, Chief Advisor on Peace, Security and Development, Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union to the United Nations**
 10. **Ms. Kalinda Magloire, CEO and Founder of SWITCH**
 11. **Representative for the CARICOM Expert Group on Haiti, Ms. Donna Forde, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Barbados' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.**
 12. **H. E. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**
 13. **H. E. Osama Abdelkhalek, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission**
 14. **H. E. Bob Rae, Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti**
- Briefers presentations (5-7mins)**

Modalities

- The meeting, to take place on 15th October at 3:00pm, will be Co-chaired by H.E. Inga Rhonda King, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations and H.E. Dr. Martin Kimani, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations.
- Participation is open to all members of the Security Council, all members of the United Nations, permanent observers, and regional organisations.

- Group interventions are limited to 5 minutes, and 2 minutes for individual member states. Participants are encouraged to offer concrete, practical, solution-oriented remarks and interact with briefers through directed questions.

Format for participation: All interested Permanent and Observer Missions are invited to register via the following [link https://forms.gle/Jjfhcet1mnRSUFy5](https://forms.gle/Jjfhcet1mnRSUFy5), and indicate whether they wish to inscribe to the speakers list by C.O.B. 14 October 2021. Connection details will be shared with registered participants only. A kind reminder that group interventions are limited to 5 minutes, and 2 minutes for individual Member States and Permanent Observers.

Written statements “as delivered” should be submitted at the end of this meeting to Ms. Roxanne Russell at ambassadorassistantsvg@gmail.com.

Language: English and French

Live Streaming: The Arria- formula meeting will be streamed live and opened to the public via <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>.

Expected Outcome: Compilation of statements and a Chair’s summary

SUMMARY

Haiti has faced dire circumstances resulting from political instability further compounded by constitutional, security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges. The country continues to struggle with the catastrophic effects of the 2010 earthquake, as well as this year's 7.2 deadly earthquake, cataclysmic tropical storms, the COVID-19 pandemic and the assassination of former President, H.E. Jovenel Moïse.

On October 15, 2021, Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (the A3+1 Group), convened an Arria Formula meeting, titled "Beyond the inconvenient truths about underdevelopment in Haiti: seeking pan-African solutions/pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation." Haiti, Barbados, Ireland, Mexico, Guyana Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the Dominican Republic and Ghana, were the main co-sponsors of the meeting. The Arria-Formula sought to encourage genuine dialogue on how Haiti can transform itself from its current state to regain stability and focus on socio-economic development agendas.

This summary reflects the key issues discussed during the meeting. There were forty-one statements from participants, including:

1. Leaders from the African and Caribbean region, noteworthy, the Prime Ministers of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Republic of Haiti, and a statement on behalf of the President of the Republic of Kenya;
2. Regional organizations, namely the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the African Union, the International Organization of La Francophone and the European Union;
3. The United Nations bodies - the President of ECOSOC, the Peacebuilding Commission;
4. Advisory groups: CARICOM Expert Group on Haiti and the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti;
5. Haitian civil society briefings from three (3) members of the Commission for Haitian Solutions for the Crisis and SWITCH;
6. Members of the United Nations Security Council - China, Estonia, France, India, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, Russia, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States of America and Vietnam
7. The wider UN membership - Haiti, Dominican Republic, Antigua and Barbuda, Ghana, Slovakia, Ecuador, Switzerland, Guatemala, Brazil, Greece, Malta, Japan, Holy See; and
8. Professor Peter Anyang'Nyong'o, Governor of Kisumu County, Republic of Kenya.

Most interventions centered around notions that Haiti is a nation in economic, social, political and constitutional crisis and stressed the importance of an inclusive Haitian-owned and led approach

supported by international cooperation efforts; recognizing that this approach must include the full and meaningful participation of women and youths. The meeting provided conclusive recommendations to support Haiti's progress through dialogue, presidential and legislative elections, addressing security challenges and vulnerabilities, rebuilding of democratic institutions, and the involvement of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Haiti (BINUH). A number of interventions also noted the approach to transitional governance, regional and intra-regional support, Haiti's economic conditions, sustainable development, justice and national reconciliation, the failure of multilateralism and inclusive United Nations action. This summary aims to consolidate the main issues highlighted and recommendations to aid in resolution of the protracted crisis in Haiti.

i. Dialogue

It was noted that there are many civil society and political actors who are engaged or wish to be engaged in the resolution of the ongoing crisis in Haiti, but in some cases, parties working in silos, distrust amongst parties and lack of consensus building, have gravely affected the process. To this end, participants agreed on the importance of inclusive dialogue. There was an urgent need for political and civil society actors, with the full and meaningful inclusion of women and youth, to find consensus on how to achieve socio-political stability.

The inter-Haitian dialogue was deemed fundamental for a Haitian-led and owned solution to its problems, working in the spirit of reasonable compromise, political willingness and building trust between parties. However, it was also recognized that an enabling environment was needed to facilitate meaningful dialogue, which includes minimal peace, security, safety and access to livelihood. Further, this dialogue should be facilitated by international partners including CARICOM, the African Union and the United Nations through BINUH.

i. Security Challenges

It was noted that in Haiti there is a proliferation of gangs and arms, evidenced by an increase in kidnappings and gang violence, thereby continuing to challenge and weaken the State's authority. Participants acknowledged that improving the security situation would be imperative for holding free, fair and safe elections, rebuilding the Haitian economy and institutions, and protecting human rights. Women, children and the groups made most vulnerable are the most impacted by the protracted insecurity.

Regional and international cooperation and bilateral partners efforts were considered necessary to reform and rebuild the Haitian security apparatus. There were also calls to strengthen the capacity of the Haitian National Police to restore stability and security through financing, training and capacity building, and advisory support.

ii. Rebuilding of democratic institutions

It was recognized by most participants that the democratic institutions in Haiti, including legislative, judicial, and administrative, as well as their infrastructure, are under extreme threat. Participants noted the urgent need to return to rule of law and constitutional order, including the handing over of political leadership to elected officials.

Rebuilding and reforming to strengthen national institutions for government, security, justice, good governance, and legitimate constitutional order were recognized as fundamental to the achievement of peace. These institutions must be effective, accountable, inclusive and responsive to foster a relationship built on trust and confidence between the state and citizens.

Further, global funding to support building and sustaining credible political and judicial institutions was recommended. Kenya offered two thousand (2000) places at Kenyan institutions for training and capacity building in areas of governance, government, policing, defense, health, and teaching. The importance of regional cooperation and engagement, including through the African Union for expertise in post conflict state building and anti-corruption system available through the OAS were further highlighted.

iii. Transitional Governance

Emphasis was placed on Haiti undergoing a transition process, during which time the interim government should facilitate inclusive elections. The September 11, 2021 “Political Agreement for Peaceful and Efficient Governance of the Interim Period” demonstrated a willingness of political parties and civil society actors and social organizations signatory to the Agreement, to provide an environment capable of fostering the participation of Haitian citizenry in credible elections in 2022, through the creation of a non-partisan Provisional Election Council.

There is need for broad-based social and political participation in the transitional government to address the dire political and security obstacles, thereby supporting progress towards free and fair elections and the restoration of constitutional order.

iv. Presidential and Legislative elections

For the resumption of constitutional order in Haiti through the transfer of power to elected officials, it is imperative that inclusive, free, fair, transparent and credible presidential and legislative elections are held. These elections must be held in a peaceful environment which allows for the full participation of women and youth, with the ultimate goal of establishing state owned institutions. There is also a need to reform the electoral system to support the holding of elections in which the population is mobilized, confident in the process and in its leaders and participates massively; this is essential to achieving political stability, which aids in providing an environment conducive to tackling the drivers of economic instability, developmental challenges and insecurity.

Recognizing the limitations of Haiti's current state apparatus, participants recommended that CARICOM should provide support to the electoral process and the restoration of democratic order, BINUH should also support this process. Mindful of the imposition of external solutions to Haiti's challenges, it was noted that the UN and the international community must remain supportive to the Haitian-led solutions.

v. Regional and Intra-regional support

The meeting highlighted the significance of regional and intra-regional support for Haiti, including through South-South cooperation, acknowledging the historical linkages between Caribbean and African countries. There are many tools and strategies which have been successful in other Latin American and Caribbean or African countries, which can be beneficial in rebuilding Haiti.

Regional cooperation through CARICOM, OAS and CELAC should be used to support the electoral process, political dialogue and state building efforts, whilst technical cooperation with African countries for capacity and state building, resource and sectoral development and national reconciliation, as well as strategies to combat the proliferation of arms and gangs from the African Union were suggested.

The international community and institutions should work with CARICOM and Haiti to identify its needs and support a comprehensive development agenda for Haiti, which focuses on security, humanitarian needs, human rights protections, socio-economic advancement and brings sustainable development to the country.

vi. United Nations Integrated Mission in Haiti (BINUH)

The United Nations has been engaged in Haiti in various ways since 1994, its current mechanism – the United Nations Integrated Mission in Haiti (BINUH), must be fit for purpose and support of Haiti's current dynamics. BINUH's mandate was renewed for nine (9) months by the Security Council while the Arria-Formula meeting was taking place, including requirements for an assessment of its mandate by the United Nations Secretary-General. BINUH must become more adaptable to Haiti's circumstances. BINUH provides a space for the United Nations to continue work on the humanitarian-development-peace pillars to aid the transition process and provide much needed support for the new government in Haiti.

vii. Economic conditions

Haiti's economic challenges require humanitarian and emergency assistance in the short-term but long-term support is required to ensure that the economic conditions are improved to promote sustainable development and employment, peace and security; pervasive poverty is a root cause of unrest and instability. For Haiti there is a linkage between political instability, security and development. Deteriorating economic conditions have resulted in high unemployment, food insecurity and challenges for the delivery of basic services including health and education.

Through international cooperation including Haiti's traditional partners, multilateral agencies and international financial institutions should mobilize resources to promote economic development including jobs and social inclusion for women and youth, technical and capacity building for key institutions and sectors including the modernization of the agricultural sector. There must be a long term, predictable global funding strategy to support Haiti and recommendations for international cooperation through a Group of Friends of Haiti.

viii. Geographic vulnerability and climate change

Haiti's geographic location makes it vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, earthquakes and natural disasters. Participants noted that the country's economic, political and humanitarian crises are further exacerbated by these vulnerabilities, for which groups made the most vulnerable suffer the most severe impacts. Therefore, the international community has a responsibility to support the Haitian recovery, mitigation and adaptation efforts. Many participants stressed the importance of delivering on climate action for Haiti, which was linked to economic recovery initiatives including infrastructure. These vulnerabilities significantly impact Haiti's developmental efforts.

ix. Sustainable development

As a consequence of the protracted political, economic and security challenges in Haiti, its sustainable development agenda continues to lag behind many other countries; evidenced by pervasive poverty, a demise in education, migration patterns and increasing humanitarian needs. The nexus between sustainable development, peace and security in Haiti, cannot be divorced.

A multi-actor approach which includes government forces, civil society, the private sector and Haitians supported by the international community is fundamental to putting Haiti on a path to future development. Gender equality, opportunities for youth and the full respect of all human rights must play a central role in this process. This development plan must promote education and economic sectors through quality employment and human capacity building, and reestablish the country's public infrastructure including education and health facilities.

For Haiti to be successful, it requires more meaningful engagement with the international community to implement a Haitian Development Fund which provides flexible and predictable funding and institutional support.

x. Justice and National Reconciliation

Accountability is indispensable to the rebuilding process and emphasis must be placed on restorative and retributive justice. Establishing strong, credible judicial institutions and other accountability mechanisms such as Truth and Reconciliation Commissions are important. Effective, accountable, inclusive and responsive institutions are critical to fostering trust among people and between the people and the State. Through intra-regional cooperation, the African

countries have rich experiences in national reconciliation processes, which would be beneficial to Haiti. Haiti's legacy of underdevelopment cannot be disconnected from the historic injustices brought on by slavery, colonialism, and imperialism, as such reparatory justice must also be considered.

xi. Failure of Multilateralism

The international community has been unable to deliver solutions or conclusive support for Haiti to sustain peace, facilitate development or provide political stability and good governance. This demonstrates a failure of multilateralism in the context of Haiti. The need for an assessment of the BINUH and repurposing of the Mission to support Haiti's efforts to restore constitutional order, political stability and maintain peace is crucial, and the system must adapt to ongoing circumstances to be effective.

xii. Inclusive United Nations actions

For the United Nations to be efficient and effective in its approach to Haiti, it requires the mobilization of a 'whole of system' approach, requiring engagement from the Security Council, ECOSOC, the General Assembly and the Peacebuilding Commission. Haiti's challenges are wide ranging and touch on the mandate of each organ and requires collaborative efforts. The meeting highlighted the importance of assessing not just BINUH but the effectiveness of the Peacebuilding Commission for Haiti.

The PBC has the potential to meaningfully support Haiti's efforts to build strong and trustworthy institutions, further supported by the commitment of the Peacebuilding Fund in Haiti to fill critical peacebuilding gaps. A key recommendation which emerged referred to the hosting of an Informal Interactive Dialogue between the Security Council, the ECOSOC Ad-hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, the PBC and the Government of Haiti to further discuss lasting peace and sustainable development in Haiti.

Conclusion

The Arria-formula meeting allowed for interventions between several actors in Haiti and key regional and international actors with a vested interest in the resolution of the protracted crisis. The importance of dialogue, rebuilding democratic institutions and the holding of inclusive, credible, free and fair elections cannot be overstated, but it is important for Haiti to receive international support to promote an environment that is conducive for these activities. The development, peace and security nexus is clearly illustrated by the Haitian experience: the root causes of this crisis show that lasting political stability is heavily dependent on security and economic factors. While the solution must be Haitian owned and Haitian-led, the supportive role of regional, intra-regional and international partners remains fundamental, particularly based on Haiti's vulnerabilities, the threat of violence and the ailing state institutions.

COMPILATION OF STATEMENTS

Dr. The Honourable Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Representatives,

I have the honour to address you on behalf of Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. I further express our sincerest appreciation to all co-sponsors, distinguished briefers and participants, in particular the esteemed representatives of Haiti, including His Excellency Dr. Ariel Henry, Prime Minister and Ms. Magali Comeau-Denis, Coordinator of the Commission for Haitian Solution to the Crisis and Former Minister of Culture and Communication, whose voices are extremely critical to today's dialogue.

Let me first extend, once more, our deepest condolences to the Government and people of the Republic of Haiti, following the dastardly assassination of President Jovenel Moise, as well as for those who have lost their lives in the wake of the devastating earthquake last August and Tropical Storm Grace.

Excellencies, Distinguished Representatives,

Today's Arria Formula emerges against the backdrop of multifaceted socio-economic and political crises facing Haiti. The A3+1, the three members of the Security Council from Africa and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the A3+1, is extremely concerned about the situation in our sister nation. Our hosting of this dialogue and the high-level participation are testimonies to the seriousness with which we view the recent grave occurrences and extant difficulties in our beloved Haiti. We also believe that today's focus on Haiti is timely and apt; and we hope it will provoke among us all, concrete, solution-oriented recommendations.

Haiti is not only a sister nation of our Caribbean Community (CARICOM); its glorious yet complex history, in particular its march to freedom, is the embodiment of our existence as free nations today. Indeed, we are forever indebted to Haiti. The Haitian Revolution was not only a victory for Haiti, but for all humankind.

Excellencies, Distinguished Representatives,

Haitians are desirous of peace, security, stability and prosperity - a many-sided effort which must come from Haitians themselves, with the full support and solidarity of the international community. It is therefore essential that we reaffirm our profound solidarity with Haiti in addressing its underlying drivers of instability. Words alone are insufficient. We have faith in Haiti's future; but faith without deeds is wholly insufficient.

As we stated during the Security Council's briefing on October 4th, Haiti's legacy of underdevelopment cannot be divorced from the historic injustices meted out against it through slavery, colonialism, and imperialism. Haiti's revolutionary overthrow of slavery and colonial rule ignited severe reprisals by old-fashioned colonialism and new-fangled imperialism. Accordingly, the noble cause of reparatory justice cannot be side-stepped any longer.

At the same time, the pervasive poverty, which is a fundamental root cause of unrest and instability, needs to be tackled frontally. We emphasize that there can be no genuine stability without strengthening the country's institutions and economy, including through a long-term strategy for sustainable development.

Against the backdrop of all this, Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines put the following ideas on the table for urgent consideration and follow-up action:

1. The Haitian people, their political organisations/parties and civil society must be the ones to devise and implement a Haitian-led and Haitian-owned solution to Haiti's problems and challenges. This, we believe, should be carried out through an inclusive inter-Haitian dialogue process, with the full and meaningful participation of all sectors, including youth, and women.
2. Deeply entrenched positions need to be softened so that trust could be built amongst stakeholders. We repeat our call for reasoned, and reasonable, compromise by all political forces and civil society groups, and to undertake gestures and actions that herald a willingness to bridge the existing political chasm so that inclusive dialogue can be facilitated.
3. The Haitian people require meaningful and efficacious engagements with, and support from, regional, hemispheric, and international partners to assist in charting and implementing the way forward. These engagements should involve centrally the following practical considerations and measures from specific entities:
 - i. First: CARICOM, of which Haiti is a member, has offered its instruments and tools and is well-placed to provide:
 - a. Considerable support to the electoral process for the conduct of inclusive, free, fair, transparent and credible elections, with the full participation of women.
 - b. A "good offices" role in assisting/advising the political parties/organisations and civil society in Haiti to assist with the full restoration of the democratic order.
 - ii. Second: The African Union: Haiti is a country predominantly of people of African descent. African countries have tremendous experience in building peaceful, orderly, democratic societies amidst post-colonial challenges. They also have rich experiences in national reconciliation processes, which would be critical for Haiti.
 - iii. Third: The Organisation of American States (OAS), whose Inter-American Democratic Charter remains central to competitive democracies throughout the hemisphere. Haitian authorities should also maximize the use of the OAS' tools, such as MESISIC to build effective systems to address corruption.
 - iv. Fourth: The UN, and the Security Council itself, we have to continue to be engaged and this engagement where necessary and desirable. There must be an assessment on the current United Nations Integrated Mission in Haiti (BINUH), to determine ways on how its mandate can be strengthened for the purpose or task it is required to undertake.

An analysis should also be conducted to ascertain the effectiveness of the Peacebuilding Commission for Haiti and for corrective measures to be taken accordingly.

- v. Fifth: The Vatican is vital in helping with political dialogue between parties/groups in Haiti.
- vi. Sixth: CELAC - The Community of States of Latin America and the Caribbean, this grouping embraces the whole of Latin America and the Caribbean and can offer its technical advice and good offices to assist with the political dialogue process.
- vii. Seventh: Last, but not least, the traditional development partners of Haiti in the North Atlantic, Latin America, and elsewhere, ought in tandem with multilateral agencies to fashion, with the Haitian people, a veritable "Marshall Plan" so as to place Haiti on a path of sustainable development in the shortest possible time. Global funding for Haiti is critical even as its political and judicial institutions are being credibly built and sustained.

Further, we suggest immediate possible practical next steps for the way forward

- a. Strengthening the capacity of the Haitian National Police (HNP) to restore stability and security. The role of gangs, kidnappings and sexual and gender-based violence is very disturbing. We believe CARICOM can offer technical support in this regard.
- b. Preparing for credible elections and again CARICOM's assistance would be very helpful.
- c. Mobilizing resources, through IFIs, for peace, security, development, and institution-building.

Excellencies, Distinguished representatives,

The foregoing proposals are not exhaustive. Our Haitian brothers and sisters yearn for a new beginning and we continue to listen to their voices. As citizens of the international community, we will never give up on Haiti, never, it is our solemn duty to remain engaged.

To our Haitians brothers and sisters, we are fully cognizant of your perspectives, we encourage you to own your challenges, and we trust that you will find your own solutions. We stand in solidarity with you and will continue to accompany you on your journey for self-assertion, for a better future, and a better Haiti. Two roads diverged in the woods and I chose the one least traveled by and that has made all the difference. I thank you!

H. E. Macharia Kamau, Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Kenya

Dr. The Honorable Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and a great friend of Africa and Kenya, the Chairperson, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Rhonda King. It is indeed a pleasure for me to be here this afternoon.

I will speak to the President's recent visit to the Americas, yesterday President Uhuru Kenyatta returned home from Washington D.C. after what was a historic whirlwind tour, for what was for Kenya of historic diplomatic proportions. President Kenyatta left Nairobi and traveled to Addis

Ababa to attend to the inauguration of Prime Minister Abiy of Ethiopia but while there took the opportunity to remind the leadership and the Ethiopian people that time for making peace in Ethiopia had come, that the new government was now formed and that the Prime Minister installed and had been given a fresh mandate to build and bring the nation of Ethiopia together in peace.

From Addis Ababa, President Kenyatta flew directly to Bridgetown, Barbados, on what must have been the first ever nonstop transcontinental, transatlantic flight of any human being, let alone any Head of State in either direction in human history. President Kenyatta made the trip, because he wanted to send a signal, he wanted to be in Bridgetown, Barbados to meet and commune with the Caribbean Community at what was a significant global conference to discuss international trade and development, UNCTAD. While in Barbados, President Kenyatta spoke to leaders from the region and once again reiterated what he said during the first ever African-Caribbean Conference, which he had hosted previously, just a month earlier, that the bonds of blood and experience and heritage between the Caribbean and the African people can never be broken, not even after the treacherous, exploitative and horrific history that both the Caribbean and African people experienced and suffered through the hands of European colonisers and modern day imperialist and neo-colonisers.

Upon leaving Bridgetown, Barbados President Kenyatta flew directly to New York to take up his presidency of the United Nations Security Council, that event was itself a historical milestone for Kenya considering the enormous peace and security challenges that face countries on our continent. For President Kenyatta, being at the Security Council was an opportunity for Kenya and indeed for himself to provide leadership and to be the beacon of hope to help guide the resolution of the security and developmental challenges in our region and on our continent. And also to send a signal that business as usual at the Security Council would never deliver the solutions necessary for creating greater peace and security on our continent. And he too wanted to deliver hope for social and economic transformation that was yearned for throughout the world.

While in New York, President Kenyatta engaged the diplomatic corps at the International Peace Institute, that was a groundbreaking political and intellectual presentation, that was built around the idea that he believed the time had come for, this idea that recognized that the deep bonds that exist between African people and the larger global African diaspora in the world had matured and had finally come into its own.

In speaking to both the UN Security Council and to the International Peace Institute, President Kenyatta reminded everyone of the Secretary General's refrain that humanity was facing a stark and urgent choice to either breakdown or breakthrough. President Kenyatta reiterated the UN Security Council general sentiments that the inability of multilateral institutions to deliver bold solutions including for COVID-19, climate change, sustainable development, state collapse, protracted conflicts; becomes something that the world could no longer ignore. And indeed if we were to continue to ignore, we would do so at our collective peril.

President Kenyatta in speaking to these concerns lamented the failure of multilateralism but singled out what in his mind was the unparalleled failure of multilateralism, that is the state of Haiti. Haiti a nation that has faced incessant, protracted and seemingly unstoppable implosion and near state collapse, near social and economic and political implosion that has demonstrated just

how deep the failure of multilateralism has been in our world. For over half a century now, the international community has been unable to help this great and historic republic of the western hemisphere to find sustainable peace, to establish credible and responsive governance and to facilitate development to take root in the interest of its own citizenry.

Today, Haiti, probably unlike any other nation on Earth, is in complete despair and disrepair and is a society that is on the verge of irreversible collapse. That it has taken an African president transversing the continent and the Atlantic to come to deliver this message, is an immensely significant and seminal moment in our collective history. The message is as simple as it is poignant, the world can no longer turn its back on Haiti and the world can no longer continue to provide solutions to Haiti's problems that do not speak to Haiti's people's needs. President Kenyatta's message is clear, that post-colonial Africa which has now come of age must now also embrace a global consciousness beyond pan-Africanism that sees the suffering of its kith and kin across the globe, and that makes that suffering and injustice its own concern. This consciousness recognises that there are close to half billion people of African ancestry outside of the African continent who also yearn for a connection with the mother continent. But who also recognise that their political, economic and social future is connected to Africa and to African roots and the future that Africa promises for the global diaspora of African people.

In this regard, President Kenyatta's message was forthright, African itself has come to realize that it too must rise to the challenge that is presented, not just on the continent with sister African countries that face social, political and security challenges but now, even more importantly look to the challenges that face societies and communities of African diaspora. They too need the solidarity and the commitment of African nations in the wake of the horrors that they face in what is the modern global world that has demonstrated little solidarity for the suffering of humanity and particularly the suffering of people of African descent.

To concretize his concerns and to chart a way forward, President Kenyatta has asked that the international community take up five considerations:

First, that CARICOM should scale up its efforts to bring to the table, all Haitian stakeholders for an inclusive dialogue to decisively address the political challenges that the country faces. But for this to happen, Haitian stakeholders must be willing to converse and acknowledge that their country requires a political willingness to usher in a people-centred dispensation.

Secondly, the international community and institutions should work with CARICOM and Haiti to identify the needs and support a comprehensive development agenda for Haiti. He recommends the formation of a group of friends of Haiti as a pillar of support, in this regard, right here in New York.

Third, there is a need to rebuild Haiti's battered institutions including legislative, judicial, administrative and its infrastructure. This should go beyond the provision of physical facilities, to training of human resources to restore confidence, competence and discipline in the delivery of services to the Haitian people.

Fourth, the frequent environmental disasters that have plagued Haiti is a reminder of the impact of climate change as well as the country's geological position on earth, as the next Annual UN Conference of the Parties on climate change COP26 approaches, we should strongly propose that the international community delivers climate action linked economic recovery initiatives for Haiti, including again for infrastructure.

Last and fifth, the Security Council should strengthen the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti, given the evolving situation, this office's mandate as it is currently constituted is no longer adequate. It should be extended to go beyond offering advice and to provide real, tangible support.

In this regard, President Kenyatta emphasized that the challenge for Haiti is not necessarily a need for sympathetic response for only humanitarian and emergency needs, important and crucial as these are. Rather, President Kenyatta recognized as a leader himself and a champion for development a lot more needs to be done. Haiti needs support to turn around what is virtually state collapse, to build its institutions for government and for governance, to rebuild its social and security apparatus, to reestablish its health and education infrastructure, to help the nation indeed rise again, to help the country with the confidence of its citizens and of its investors. This is why President Kenyatta has promised that Kenya will now avail 2000 places at Kenyan institutions for training and capacity building in areas of governance, government, policing, defense, health, teaching and any other area that Haitians themselves recognise as being fundamental for their own national turnaround.

President Kenyatta is reaching out to the international community, to CARICOM and to like minded partners across the global North and South, African, American, European and Asian to join him to avail Haiti the deep institutional support to their developmental needs, this all in the effort to save this great republic whose latter day condition is a scar on the world's conscience. I thank you.

The Honourable Dr. Ariel Henry, Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti - delivered in French

Honorable Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Your Excellency Roberto Alvarez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, Your Excellency Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary General of La Francophonie, Excellency Dr. Natalie Barnett, Secretary General of CARICOM, Excellencies, Mr. President and Members of the Security Council, Your Excellency the President of the Economic and Social Council, Your Excellency, President of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, Your Excellency the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, My dear compatriots invited to this meeting, Distinguished Panelists, Dear Participants,

Let me begin my remarks this afternoon by thanking the A3+1 Group for taking the initiative to organize this virtual meeting. This shows the interest that all of you who have chosen to participate in it have in my country and the problems it has been facing for some time now. Haiti is plunged into a multi-faceted political, institutional, economic, social, security, health and environmental

crisis, a crisis that has been aggravated by the unspeakable and heinous assassination of President Jovenel Moïse.

It has been a little over three months since he did me the honour of appointing me as Prime Minister only a few days before his horrific assassination. I was not part of his circle of allies or his circle of friends. He had asked me to form a government of national reconciliation. As soon as I took the helm of the government, I quickly understood that in order to get out of this crisis I had no other choice than to try by all means to bring together Haitians from all social strata and to build a sufficient consensus around a common project. My main concern was and still is to do everything possible to bring my country back to normal functioning of democratic institutions as soon as possible. This was President MOÏSE's wish and it is the objective that has guided my actions to date and will continue to do so. Some of you may not know it, but I am called upon to lead when almost all democratic institutions no longer exist or are totally dysfunctional.

Faced with such a situation and in order to resolve the major political problems facing the country, in particular the unbearable insecurity, the dysfunction of the Legislative Power, the marked weakness of the Judicial System and a catastrophic economic situation, I had to quickly form a Government in order to take charge of the State's affairs. But it was obvious that only a dialogue with the political parties and the organized sectors of the civil society, could make it possible to reach a sufficient consensus in order to recover the socio-political stability.

It is in this spirit that, since my arrival at the head of the Government, I have increased the number of meetings and discussions with all sectors of national life, without distinction, in order to create a calm socio-political climate, which is essential for the organization of credible, transparent and inclusive general elections as soon as possible. As a convinced democrat, I believe it is essential to return to the normal functioning of the institutions, by handing over the leadership of the country to elected officials who enjoy the confidence of the population. I assure you that this is not an easy task, as the country is deeply divided in all its parts. Widespread distrust makes it difficult to find agreement even between people who say exactly the same thing, but each in his own corner with his friends, without being able to hear and understand that they have many more points of agreement than of disagreement. I wanted to break down these barriers and transcend the political and social divide by talking to everyone.

This determined and patient work has made it possible to bring together the political opponents of President Moïse, the parties close to the past power and those who, with the help of giant demonstrations, had been demanding their resignation for over three years. This is a major event in Haitian political life, something unthinkable not long ago, but which restores confidence in the ability of my compatriots to show a spirit of self-sacrifice when it comes to facing the risk of implosion and total collapse of our society. It was necessary to take the time necessary to dialogue and to try to convince everyone of the importance of reaching an agreement in order to get through this difficult period and to set our country and our society on the road to reconciliation, change and progress.

A month ago, the Official Gazette published the "Political Agreement for a Peaceful and Efficient Governance of the Interim Period" that I negotiated and signed with the great majority of the major actors of the political class who have been leading political life since the end of the dictatorship,

along with many popular organizations and actors of civil society, of various tendencies. This morning again, social organisations came to signify their support.

This agreement provides for the creation of a secure environment conducive to broad citizen participation in the upcoming elections. To this end, it provides for the creation of a credible and non-partisan Provisional Electoral Council. In the absence of a functional parliament, it will put in place a control mechanism that will make the government transparent and accountable. All sectors of national life will have a say in the drafting of a constitution that will be adopted after a popular consultation. I have chosen the quickest route to free, transparent and inclusive elections. Some people want a longer transition. But along with many others, I believe that this is not the right formula. It is essential to hand over the leadership of the country as quickly as possible to elected officials chosen by the Haitian people.

This is an important step in the process of restoring the rule of law and democratic institutions. Despite this broad participation, which some consider sufficient, we remain open to further discussions in order to expand the consensus. We want to get other compatriots, including those you have invited, to join this common project to give our country a new start. I have already met with them and I have been waiting for several weeks for their response for a new meeting. They are very busy, but I am patient. I do not despair of convincing them that we have no choice but to work together to get our country out of this impasse. I take this opportunity to reiterate before you my invitation to dialogue.

I have begun discussions with the signatories of the Agreement as part of its implementation and I must continue them in the coming days. Time is against us, we must move forward with the process. The overall situation in our country is deteriorating and we need to put aside our petty squabbles to address together the challenges that lie ahead. I urge my compatriots to tell those who have not yet embraced our inclusive approach that saving Haiti is worth a few hours of their precious time for a frank discussion.

I deplore the fact that the initiators of this meeting chose not to invite to this session other leading figures who signed the September 11, 2021 Agreement. The lasting solution to the Haitian crisis can only be found by the Haitians themselves without foreign interference. At certain stages of the process, we will certainly need the solidarity and expertise of sister countries and international institutions. I will not hesitate to call on you as needed. I know I can count on your cooperation and unfailing support.

Mr. Chair,

We appreciate the interest of the brotherly countries of Africa and the Caribbean in the cause of Haiti. This crisis can be an opportunity to strengthen and deepen the ties between our countries. I was pleased to hear President Kenyatta's generous and supportive remarks at the International Peace Institute. And I thank him for that.

In the document submitted for this meeting, several important topics are mentioned. Unfortunately we will not have the opportunity to discuss them, given the limited time available. I sincerely hope

that we will have other opportunities of the same kind or in other forums to discuss them further. My country is not only facing a political crisis. Economic, social, security and environmental issues are of great concern to us. Haiti is ranked among the countries most vulnerable to natural disasters, such as hurricanes and earthquakes. Just this morning we recorded a seismic tremor of 4.0 in the southern tip.

I do not want to be too long, but I cannot end my remarks without mentioning the growing insecurity that is of concern to all Haitians. For too long, the issue of the proliferation of gangs has not been adequately addressed. The phenomenon has become unbearable. Our police were not trained to deal with this type of organized crime. The gangs are heavily armed and defy the authority of the state every day. We are working with the means at our disposal at the level of the national police and with our embryonic army to fight these bandits and to bring about the peace without which we will not be able to regain stability, nor rebuild our institutions and our economy. For this, we need technical assistance from our sister countries to train and better equip our public forces.

The youth of my country, faced with the difficulties of finding a job, building their lives and starting a family, opt for exile and seek by all means to leave the country. To do so, they take considerable risks, only to be turned away. It is our duty to quickly create the conditions to attract massive investments, which is the only way to create sustainable and well-paid jobs for our young people and give them a future and hope.

I appeal to the patriotic conscience of all of us to put an end to our procrastination. Our country is in danger of collapse, which would be a tragedy for us and a major concern for our neighbours. In the search for a way out of the crisis, I reaffirm before you all that no side will be favoured. The next leaders of the country will be those freely chosen by the Haitian people through transparent and non-partisan elections.

Given the mistrust among my compatriots and the magnitude of the tasks to be accomplished during this brief interim period, I am committed to using ongoing and structured dialogue to resolve the many problems we face. I count on the goodwill of each and every one of us to work together for the well-being of all Haitians. I want to say to our brothers in Africa and the Caribbean, as well as to our friends around the world who want to see Haiti emerge from this slump, we are capable of doing it and that is what we will do together. Thank you.

Ms. Magali Comeau-Denis, Coordinator of the Commission for Haitian Solution to the Crisis and Former Minister of Culture and Communication of Haiti - delivered in French

Mr. Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Commission for the Search for a Haitian Solution to the Crisis and on my own behalf, we would like to thank you for this invitation. We are particularly moved to participate for the first time, in this international forum of friends of Haiti of CARICOM and by those of the Alma Mater, who understand better than any other our struggles, because you too have fought for the

emancipation of your peoples. This is a historic moment and we live it as the manifestation of your recognition of our work for more than seven (7) months.

It is from a city besieged to the North, South and East by heavily armed men that I am referring to now. A city whose nights, which begin at 7 p.m., have become frightfully silent. The voices of fasting Protestants amplified by loudspeakers have disappeared. Our "lwa", our voodoo spirits are no longer honored at night. Our drums and songs and dances have fallen silent. We live at home at night. During the day, we are in the constant psychological exercise of having to overcome fear to be able to accomplish basic gestures such as accompanying our children to school or going to the market to feed them. And so it has been for several months...

And there is no recourse. Without any recourse, because all our institutions are destroyed, they did not collapse by themselves. We are at the point where the parliament is dysfunctional since its nullification in January 2021 by President Moïse who governed by decree, no chamber of deputies, the Senate reduced to one third of its members who despite their legitimacy as elected officials, can not fulfill any of their missions. The Court of Cassation was amputated by an illegal decision of Mr. Moïse to revoke 3 of its members and in a few days, will only have 3 judges because the tenure of 3 of the 6 remaining judges are expiring. For the past two years, the courts have only been functioning for a maximum of 3 months per year.

With the unconditional support of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti to the de facto government, widespread corruption, impunity, the hegemony of mafia groups linked to drug and arms trafficking, the connivance of power with armed groups, the trivialization of life, and crime have established their reign until the assassination, which we strongly condemn, of a President of the Republic in his own room. We hope that our Justice system will finally set an example to by punishing the perpetrators of this heinous crime and that a new era will begin that will allow us to hope that justice will be rendered to the victims of more than a dozen massacres and dozens of assassinations perpetrated during PHTK's mandate.

It is with this cycle of multifaceted violence, which has hijacked the democratic process and excluded the majority from their political rights, that civil society, based on a broad consensus with political and social sectors, has decided to break away. The primary objective is the return to the democratic and constitutional order and the rule of law, I repeat, to the democratic and constitutional order and the rule of law to which we are deeply attached, for which we fought relentlessly against the Duvalier dictatorship at the cost of so many lives when the Western powers were supporting it. The Haitian people were born from its attachment to democracy through its "unthinkable" revolution, its triumphant resistance to slavery, colonialism and racism, and offered freedom to the oppressed of the earth, whatever their skin colour.

In a context of total adversity, even hostility to Haitian society on the part of the United Nations and the American administration, citizens, peasant organizations, trade unions, human rights organizations, women's rights organizations, artists Protestant and Episcopal religious associations, as well as the Voodoo community, and organizations from the Diaspora mobilized at the January 30, 2021 a civil society forum to not only say **no** to this plunge into the abyss, but also **yes** to the joining of what remains of our strength to take charge. And in the full exercise of the resumption of our right to political initiative in defining our future, in the reconquest of our

sovereignty, to find a Haitian solution to this crisis that has lasted too long, to take a break, a pause, to talk to each other, to dialogue, to tell ourselves and the whole world.

The Commission stood firm, united during these six (6) months of threats to the physical integrity of its members, with humility and listening to all social and political actors. For six (6) months, without respite, the Commission met with the majority of organized social actors, militant popular organizations, political parties and groupings of parties, ranging from Fanmi Lavalas to PHTK and allies, seeking the lowest common denominator that would allow us to put Haiti first and not our particular interests or groups. In the mechanism for choosing the Transitional leaders that we have designed, there are no names of individuals, no member of the Commission can be a candidate, no member of the Commission can submit a candidacy of anyone, no member is a voter in the mechanism. Then it organized about ten workshops, where its document of agreement was submitted to the actors of all the tendencies which modified it, sanctioned it. It arrived at this phase where the population appropriated its proposal of Agreement. More than 900 organizations, parties and groupings of parties, emblematic, influential and anonymous personalities have appended their signatures. Today, the first body, the Follow-up Bureau, has been set up and is working actively. It has written to the social and political sectors to ask them to designate their delegates to the National Transitional Council, which will elect the President of the Transition and the Head of Government, and will then become the Transitional Control Body.

For this force of society constituted around the August 30 Agreement, it is a matter of creating conditions of security, of effective exercise of citizenship, of rebuilding confidence in the electoral process in order to hold real elections that strengthen our democracy and not demean it as has been the case for several decades. Real elections which in their process, in their system, do everything possible to ensure massive participation by the population, an essential condition for political stability. It is essential to recall that, since the taking over of our elections by the international community, our democracy bears the shame of the lowest rate of participation in the world in elections. Less than 18% despite fraud and ballot box stuffing. A president elected with 500,000 votes out of a population of 600,000 voters, regardless of the technical quality of the elections, has holds such little legitimacy that he is subject to challenge on the very day of his installation. It is these bad elections that are themselves the source of the political instability of the last decades.

Our process to find a Haitian solution, because it was initiated, conceived, carried and defended by Haitians, is based on transparency, participation and inclusion, within a democratic and ethical framework. In the absence of a legal and constitutional response, civil and political society must build legitimacy in the absence of elections to elect leaders capable of establishing the peace necessary for the holding of elections. Consensus is not unanimity, as we knew from the start. But to those who like to repeat that Haiti is incapable of coming together, we reply that they must question their conception of coming together. For there is a Haiti that has come together because the status quo suits and protects its interests exclusively and to which it wants to apply a few cosmetic band-aids... There is another Haiti that has come together and continues to come together, one that wants to heal and cure its ills in order to move irreversibly towards well-being.

And to put in place a Transitional Government whose roadmap limits its powers, constrained by the August 30 Agreement and the 1987 Constitution, which will lay the foundations for the

transformations necessary for the regeneration of our country and which cannot in any way be based on the violation of our laws and our Constitution.

This abyss of political instability is directly linked to the disaster of our economy. There is very little investment, with almost exclusively insufficient local capital, essentially oriented towards import-export, with all that this entails in terms of smuggling, under-invoicing at customs, loss of income for the State and few jobs created.

The Haitian economy cannot continue to be so different from the regional economy. For a Haitian population of about 11 million people, foreign investment is only 1 billion dollars, while in Jamaica for a population of 2.5 million people, foreign investment is 20 billion and in the Dominican Republic 40 billion. This is mainly due to the lack of confidence in the country's inability due to its weak judicial system, to respect and protect investments, to achieve political stability to prevent the repeated paralysis of economic activities. Elections in which the population, mobilized and confident in the process and in its leaders, participate massively, remain the indispensable condition for achieving this stability.

We like to call upon the powers that call themselves our friends, the UN of which my old Republic is a founding member, and the United States in particular, given their influence and control over our political life, to exercise humility regarding themselves and to recognize their share of responsibility in the failure of my country. To them, we appeal for their solidarity with the choices of Haitian society.

From this exalting work, to you, dear friends of the South, in this exalting work, we call for your fraternal commitment, to defeat irreversibly, these repeated attacks against our peoples. We will not stop along the way, determined to make this world a better place for us, for our region and for the rest of humanity. Join us. Thank you for your attention

Mr. Jacques Ted St Dic, Member and Spokesperson of the Commission for Haitian Solution to the Crisis - delivered in French

Mr. Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank those who have taken the initiative to call for this meeting and by so doing, propose that we go beyond the inconvenient truths about the under development of Haiti, seeking pan-African solutions, pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation".

I also thank them for the opportunity offered to me as a member of the Commission for the Search for a Haitian Solution to the Crisis (CRSHC), to participate in this meeting and to be able to share with you a quick reading, given the time available to me, of a major trends in the socio-political reality of my country: the State in Haiti.

Of the Haitian state.

The question of the Haitian State, as a place of negotiation and management of social conflicts, as an entity of redistribution of wealth and as a space for the development of social equity, is at the center of the concerns of the Haitian population and of its demands: "We must change the State".

From the point of view of its administrative and coercive capacities, it is catalogued in the list of failed states.

Let's revisit history.

After the war of independence in 1804, the contradictions of interests, drawing from the Maroon slaves' struggle, rapidly polluted the ideological spaces of strategic agreements of the Revolution to transform it to a war of liberation. Basically, it was a war for the conquest and affirmation of the human identity of the Negro, his Mounity, in the face of Western inhumanity.

Freedom was not a conquest of a people in the process of building a nation, of a nation in the process of acquiring a state. On the contrary, the nation was built without a nation-state but with an imported state, modelled on the former colonial masters. Thus the nation is threaded from its genesis with a dominating, excluding, monopolizing State. The totalitarian State, is itself the nation, the society, the people, the individual, the citizen all in one.

In 1806, the "new" country gave birth to its first legitimate and natural protests. A long period of protests by the "contesting national people" began, but also of truces and assimilation through people fleeing within the new territory. Since then, it has been in opposition to this new structuring of the country's command hierarchy. Very early on, this model of the state found itself in difficulty, challenged already within it by those who felt indebted to the nation under construction. And especially those whose fathers were in Africa. It was essential to address the issue of building the "national capital of the people", its redistribution and the attribution of its high net worth to fulfill the satisfaction of collective needs and the construction of the national wealth of the people. The question of political instability is at its genesis.

To counter the protests and revolts of the former slaves, the coalition of the old and new free, the new leaders quickly rallied to external forces to consolidate and institute a model of state without reference to the nation nor its people. In order to conform to a state ideology, it was also necessary to project the institutional structures of their model metropolis in an adapted format. The three powers are installed. The laws were crafted. The political regime passed from empire to royalty, and above all, through dictatorship to perpetuate itself and modernize itself into a Republic. The Assembly of the State is inseparable from the constant presence of foreign powers.

Make no mistake, this state is not at the end of its tether. It is modern in its dynamics of individual cooptation as a result of social representativeness and the maintenance of the status quo in its society. Its nature does not change, despite the enlargement of its base either through elections or by responding to the calls of all those who say they are excluded.

Its modernity is contemporary with its network of dependencies and the formality of its relations with the commercial and financial world of the Global Village. It is a formal world where you have to introduce yourself by declaring your identity. I am the State of Haiti. Black Democratic Republic. Net importer. Undefined natural reserve. Minimal forest reserve. Human reserve for sale. Specificity: State without nation, two societies, one nation without state.

For two centuries now, the nation has been unable to build its State. It has made great investments to build up its society and its elites, but it has not yet won its great war of statehood.

The current political stalemate is the result of this long struggle of the Haitian National People against the oppression of this state that calls itself Haitian. In a peaceful manner and over time, this people have led the state into a deadlock due to its inability to renew itself in a traditional manner, despite the institutional violence and the violence of the armed groups that are its supporters.

Inspired by the fundamental demand of the Haitian National People to: change the State, the Commission for the Search of a Haitian Solution to the Crisis, the actors of the Civil Society and the Political Parties of various tendencies joined together through dialogue to form and a broad-based consensus to that led to the agreement of August 30, 2021.

As a gesture of gratitude and to conclude my remarks, I will read to you article 9 of the agreement and you will realise what our expectation regarding your approach was today :

"Article 9 - Within thirty (30) days after its installation, the Transitional Government shall create and install independent bodies, attached to the Presidency of the Transition, responsible for dealing with these major priority issues of the transition, in particular:

- The Bureau of the Sovereign National Conference. The constitutional issue and the political party system will be given priority in the agenda of the Sovereign National Conference;
- A committee to deal with the issue of identification of citizens and the electoral system;
- A Justice and Truth Commission.

Within sixty (60) days of the establishment of the Sovereign National Conference, the issue of constitutional amendments or the establishment of a constituent assembly shall be addressed.

The Government shall undertake an evaluation of the electoral system and initiate the relevant reforms with a view to the proper exercise of the right to vote by citizens."

In order to achieve these objectives, it would be highly appreciated if your initiative would allow us to benefit from the experience of the countries participating in this meeting, in the following areas:

- Conduct of the National Dialogue.
- Follow-up to the work of the Justice and Truth Commission
- How to deconstruct the links between political power and armed groups
- The issue of social inclusion.

Thank you.

Ms. Kalinda Magloire, CEO and Founder of SWITCH - in French

Your Excellency, the Ambassador of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Ambassador of Kenya, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for the invitation to this Arria Security Council meeting on the issue of Haiti. The news of the week: Haiti is currently the country with the highest number of kidnappings per capita in the world. Another catastrophic record to our credit.

We are in the middle of a social, economic, constitutional and security crisis. The silence and progressive resignation of citizens of integrity and competence have given way to mediocrity, improvisation and populism. The traditional interlocutors and institutions have lost their credibility and are unable to foster the dialogue necessary to move forward. It is sad and paradoxical that this observation is identical before and after the assassination of President Moïse in July of this year. The local and central administrations are hostage to nepotism and the barons of the formal and criminal economy.

On the socio-economic level, the living conditions of the majority are constantly deteriorating, aggravated by arbitrary monetary decisions such as the overvaluation of the national currency to 50% of its value. Businesses, industries and SMEs are being decapitalised, their activities are being reduced and they are being forced to make massive redundancies, exacerbating the already high unemployment. As conditions deteriorate, distress increases and frustrations intensify.

In a broader perspective, all indicators of sustainable development continue to deteriorate irreversibly for some. Our inadequate education system continues to produce poorly trained young people who are unable to be productive, to help themselves or society. We are also plagued by uncontrolled urbanization, vulnerability to climate change. Haiti has been dancing on a volcano for a long time, but to remain impassive in the face of this explosive cocktail is becoming suicidal because all the elements mentioned are permanently handicapping our future and tainting our pride in being Haitian.

There is still a lot to be said about our political crisis, which is still ongoing, and about our transition, which has no end in sight. However, others more involved in this struggle and present at this forum can talk more to it and consider possible solutions.

As an entrepreneur and development professional, I will focus on these other aspects that need to feed into this democratic governance framework that we dream of.

After the gloomy picture I have painted, one might think that there is no hope. However, in Haiti today, there are people, organizations and businesses that are fighting back.

Among these alternative interlocutors, this non-corrupt private sector, this non-subordinated civil society, there are entrepreneurs in the field of handicrafts who persist despite all the hazards in exporting to ensure decent living conditions for our craftsmen, industrialists who produce essential products such as drinking water. entrepreneurs who bridge the gap between farmers traditionally excluded from marketing channels to strengthen value chains and increase rural incomes. To entrepreneurs in "mobile money", electronic money, who place technology at the service of a more financially inclusive society. Enabling, entrepreneurs, like me, in the field of clean cooking, so that in the 21st century, Haitian women do not have to ruin their health by cooking with coal. It is this community that I represent before this forum. This community can be found in the following principles:

- That collaboration and solidarity between companies can generate success stories that drive development.
- That technology and innovation can help us catch up.

- That we must create wealth and not share misery.
- That the creation of massive employment with a particular focus on women is essential for the improvement of household living conditions.
- That we must produce to export products, not people.
- That we must abandon the beaten track and focus on high value-added value chains.
- That investment and expertise from abroad will enable us to multiply our impact
- And finally that we can only convince others by example.

In order to disseminate these principles, to multiply and scale up this type of initiative, we appeal to our sister countries, brothers in geography, brothers in history, brothers in culture. Several of your countries have demonstrated that there is no insurmountable curse. There is an expression in Haitian Creole that embodies collaboration, exchange towards a common goal: POTE KOLE.

Ethiopia has become, in a few years, the fourth largest flower producer in the world. To do so, the government has multiplied initiatives to attract a large number of investors, particularly foreign investors, by allocating thousands of hectares. Haiti does not have the same surface area nor the same climate, however, many lands in altitude are suitable for this high value-added crop. Technical assistance and economic incentives would be welcome. POTE KOLE.

In recent years, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Jamaica have made considerable progress in establishing an attractive value chain for orange-fleshed sweet potatoes and are increasing their exports of this product each year. Despite this rapid growth, these exports represent only a small fraction of the growing demand. Haiti is the second largest producer of sweet potatoes in the Caribbean after Cuba. Haitian production is greater than the combined production of the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Barbados. And yet... Haiti does not export. There is a need in terms of establishing economic incentives, expertise for production and packaging to international standards. POTE KOLE

Senegal has 700 kilometres of coastline. Fishing generates nearly 600,000 jobs and a production of over 380,000 tons. Exports of fishery products are over 100,000 tons. Haiti has more than 1800 kilometers of coastline, we produce about 15,000 tons of products per year, less than 50% of the local demand, forcing us to import more than 16,000 tons of fish per year, with a derisory export of about 800 tons. Haiti could greatly benefit from exchanges with Senegal in terms of: management and monitoring of fisheries resources; development of activities in the sector and integrated management of coastal areas. POTE KOLE

Haiti's gold resources are not being used to improve the living conditions of the population, and mining is frightening to many because the governance framework necessary for sound management is lacking. Botswana has been able to benefit from its mineral resources without succumbing to the Dutch disease. How can we follow its example? POTE KOLE

Haiti has a lot to learn. St. Lucia has developed a sustainable tourism model that works, Kenya is an example in terms of financial inclusion through mobile money. Haiti also has a lot to give, with the right incentives, and innovative partnerships, our country can produce food for many of our Caricom neighbors. POTE KOLE. I could spend the day going over the ways in which African and Caribbean countries can collaborate and help each other and Haiti.

We need our sister countries, we need them to have a prominent place at the table when the international community discusses Haiti, let's increase the exchange of knowledge, the meetings, the field visits. Let's build together. Ann POTE KOLE

H.E. Dr. Carla Natalie Barnett, Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Good Afternoon Co-Chairs,

I am honoured by the request to make a presentation at this informal meeting on the situation in Haiti. A Member State of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Haiti finds itself at present in the midst of a perfect storm of crises - institutional, political, security, economic and humanitarian. We can only imagine the sentiments and the fears of the people of Haiti at this moment, stalked by hardship, insecurity and creeping anarchy as the authority of the state dissipates, leading to an increasing outflow of persons.

The Caribbean Community has been deeply concerned by the increasing deterioration of the internal situation. The overall crisis has been deepened and accelerated by the assassination of President Moïse and the humanitarian needs of the southern peninsula following the recent earthquake. The Community has offered its good offices to the Haitian Government on several occasions over the past two years as it believed, and continues to believe, that bringing the Haitian contending parties together could offer a way out of the impasse into which it has plunged.

Co-Chairs, the Haitians are a very proud people. They believe that they are capable of finding a Haitian solution to their Haitian problems. This belief is highlighted at present by the number of competing agreements that have evolved. Their gestation periods are dissimilar with one for example having evolved patiently after a number of months of discussions, and others more rapidly. Some are more refined and detailed in their frameworks and have a wider social and political base than others. But they all are seeking the same objective - to put in place a framework whose mechanisms will facilitate the required transition to elections in order to restore the debilitated institutional capacity and authority of the state.

It is inescapable that in the present situation of institutional collapse that any Government put in place will lack legitimacy as the dispositions of the constitution cannot apply. The only way for some form of political legitimacy and consensual acceptance to be attained will be through the constitution of a transitional Government with the broadest possible social and political base. Without such a broad base no Government will have the means to address the profound political and security obstacles that impede progress and lead the country to free and fair elections. The need is urgent. The continuing erosion of the authority of the state invites anarchy.

Co-Chairs, the building blocks for the creation of such a Government exist presently. In the same way that the individual agreements were constituted, through the give and take of dialogue, negotiations and compromise, should it not be possible for the most important and widely-based of these Haitian agreements to come together in a similar manner for a Haitian-led outcome to the prevailing crisis?

Co-Chairs, once the political hurdle has been overcome, Haiti will require economic and financial assistance to rebuild, not only the southern peninsula but the entire country. One of the best forms of security is development - the creation of jobs, human capacity building, the reinforcement of the institutions of the state in order to build peace. The Caribbean Community has expressed its willingness to assist Haiti in this regard. Thought should also be given to creating a long-term Haiti Development Fund. The emphasis on security should not take away from that critical dimension of development when the Security Council next assesses the situation in Haiti as the renewal of the UN presence in the country looms.

Co-Chairs, as indicated earlier, CARICOM's offer of good offices to Haiti still stands, if required. It is also willing to work with traditional and non-traditional Haiti partners such as the African Union whose cultural and historic affinities with Haiti and CARICOM could be of assistance. All Haitians and all of the international community need to put Haiti first. I thank you for the opportunity.

H.E. Roberto Álvarez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic

Ambassador Martin Kimani, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations, Ambassador Inga Rhonda King, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations, Members of the Security Council, Distinguished Representatives,

I want to thank the organizers for this extremely timely and crucial meeting as well as the briefers for their valuable information, while the situation in Haiti does not make the current global headlines, its political and security situation after the tragic assassination of President Moïse and the devastating impacts of recent natural disasters are alarmingly dire.

In fact for decades the Haitian population has been subject to profound and recurring shocks internal as well as external, making it a practically impossible challenge for any country's daily normal life much less for any sustainable development efforts. Constant threats and setbacks coupled by long term protracted inequalities have been internalised and "normalized" by Haitians. This state of affairs is scandalous and unacceptable.

The Security Council and its permanent members in particular must learn from past mistakes, so that they are not repeated in future missions. Haiti is a perfect case study, when the Security Council took the decision of reducing the UN presence in that country, primarily due to financial considerations. The Dominican Republic expressed its strong concern of an early departure and its probable negative consequences, today unfortunately we are witnessing the dramatic consequences of this hasty decision.

However, we are here today to speak about a very specific, fundamental aspect in our efforts to support Haiti to find its way back to a minimum sense of stability and normality. In any country, progress and the wellbeing of its people are grounded in the collective, decisive and inclusive will of its citizens, channeled through functioning democratic solutions led by a competent leadership into effective policies. The unison of government forces, civil society, the private sector and the people themselves is the only credible and sustainable path to Haiti's future.

Gender equality, opportunities for youth and the full respect of all human rights must play a central role in this process. The much needed reconciliation in Haiti's longer term political divide is a necessary first step towards this end. Based on agreed upon common principles and objectives, Haiti's political leadership must lead the way in making this a point of no return. Haitians themselves and no one else must open the door and lead the way to the necessary reforms that the country so desperately needs and that ordinary Haitians are urgently crying for.

Acknowledging the complexity and gravity of the situation, during his recent appearance before the General Assembly, President Luis Abinader said "it is urgent to express in the strongest and most emphatic manner possible, that the International community must not abandon Haiti, the Haitian people and must support them at this time of global crisis and extraordinary calamities which affect the life of this brotherly country so much."

Distinguished Colleagues, given the state of lawlessness in Haiti today, nothing can be accomplished until the security situation is tackled first. Gang and paramilitary violence, kidnappings, abuses of all types and intimidation are a day to day threat for the Haitian people. There will never be stability in Haiti while the current levels of insecurity persist. This compounded with acute food insecurity, and a challenging environment for humanitarian assistance make it an unbearable situation for ordinary Haitians.

The police penetrated by the gangs needs support, not only financial, but full time advisers to help it control the gangs. Holding elections while gangs control large swaths of territory will only deepen Haiti's problems and make them more intractable.

The Dominican Republic is ready to support a credible, inclusive and sustained political dialogue in Haiti, one supported closely by the UN and other key international actors such as, CARICOM and the African Union; one that tackles historical debts, and considers the challenges and concrete solutions to address them. Latin America has a long and rich history of political dialogues that have played pivotal roles in the process of democratization and stability in the Americas. We must draw upon that rich tradition to help Haiti, this is within our grasp. Let us together, extend one more time, a helping, empowering hand to Haiti. Thank you.

H. E. Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary- General of La Francophonie - in French

Your Excellency Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Your Excellency Mr Macharia Kamau, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya, Your Excellency Dr. Carla Natalie Barnett, Secretary General of CARICOM, Distinguished Permanent Representatives to the United Nations, Your Excellency Ariel Henry, Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti, Brothers and Sisters of Haiti, Ladies and Gentlemen, in your respective capacities,

I would like to begin by congratulating the four initiators of this meeting in Arria format on the situation of a country - Haiti - which, along with Tunisia and Niger, has been a member of the Francophonie since its creation 51 years ago. I salute the efforts and the Presidency of Kenya in

favour of Haiti.

I would particularly like to commend Ambassador Rhonda King for her work in the Council and for the bridge she has built between Africa and the Caribbean throughout her tenure.

The objective you have set to "seek pan-African solutions and support national dialogue and reconciliation" in Haiti bears witness to the commitment of the A3+1 member countries [Kenya, Tunisia, Niger, St. Vincent and the Grenadines] and the other co-sponsoring countries of this initiative [Ireland, Mexico, Norway, United Kingdom, United States of America, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic, and Ghana

This attachment is based on a shared experience and history - of colonization and emancipation - that is common to many of the 88 member states and governments of La Francophonie.

The Great man of culture and politician from Martinique, Aimé Césaire, reminds us that Haiti is the country where "negritude stood up for the first time and said that it believed in its humanity".

Haiti inspired the liberation movement of African nations and cultural and political ties developed between Haiti and African countries. Driven by the principle of solidarity that binds its members, the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie has naturally been involved in all national and international initiatives aimed at finding lasting solutions to the challenges and crises that Haiti has experienced since the 2004 transition. And our interventions in that country have very often been based on Haiti's African roots.

Francophone solidarity has resulted in exchanges of experience with Africa in electoral, constitutional and transitional matters, and in various cooperation activities for the benefit of young people and development, conducted in particular from Port-au-Prince, with our Representation and the regional office of the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie.

I personally decided, as soon as I took office, to make Haiti a priority beneficiary country of French-speaking cooperation. In the search for solutions, the situation on the ground has not yet allowed our Organization to play a visible role. That is why La Francophonie is pleased to contribute to this exchange today. Let us find ways out, together!

I had sent two fact-finding and contact missions to Haiti in June 2019 and March 2021. Our organization was preparing to deploy further actions on the ground when President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated on July 7. We stand ready and we are still ready, for example, to provide our good offices to facilitate a dialogue and a political agreement between all Haitian political actors and civil society.

This dialogue, conducted impartially, with a concern to give everyone their rightful place and to listen to each and every voice, remains essential to bring Haiti out of the deep and multifaceted crisis into which it continues to sink and of which the people are the first victims. Yet it is urgent that we explore new avenues together, with the greatest sense of responsibility and with the sole interest of the Haitian people in mind. We cannot remain passive in the face of this slow collapse. The Haitian people have suffered too much.

This is why I would like to propose the establishment of a platform for exchange and dialogue that would bring together representative actors from the Haitian political class and civil society as well as the main multilateral partners mobilized for Haiti. In particular, the United Nations, the

Organization of American States, CARICOM and, of course, the International Organization of La Francophonie. We are ready to provide our support and experience to set up and run such a dialogue forum.

Let's create together - with Haitians who want to get out of the political and economic stagnation, who are ready to make sacrifices, to soften their positions - a solid springboard in Haiti, on which men and women of goodwill can step and jump towards a new Haiti! But nothing will be possible in Haiti without a rapid and solid resumption of control over the security situation, which is currently dominated by the abuses of criminal gangs.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are convinced that a lasting solution to the Haitian crisis also requires building or strengthening bridges between Haiti and Africa. With the Ceremony of Cayman Wood in 1791, which was the founding act of the revolution and the war of independence, Haiti set the example of the first pan-African congress. We believe that Haiti can revive this spirit of concerted action for a common cause with the help of international - and particularly African - actors who have managed multifaceted crises based on endogenous practices.

The CARICOM Restorative Justice Model to address the "legacy of underdevelopment" can be enriched by experiences of transitional justice developed in the French-speaking world, particularly in Africa.

Our mobilization must focus on the youth and women of Haiti, who have been strongly impacted by the consequences of the political, economic, social and climatic crises, by supporting in particular their emancipation and economic empowerment.

In all these areas, La Francophonie is ready to play its role as a weaver of links and experience-sharing, drawing on the political capital it has with Haitian actors.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to close my remarks by saying that my participation in this exchange confirms that La Francophonie is fully aligned with your initiative. The principles of dialogue, consensus-building and sharing of experiences are at the heart of our action. And we are ready to contribute to broader international support for Haiti. Thank you again for involving me in this initiative. Thank you for your attention.

H. E. Professor Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Governor of Kisumu County, Republic of Kenya

Mr. Chairman, honorable members of the Security Council, ladies and gentlemen:

We are gathered here today, with humility and commitment to make the world safe and peaceful for humanity, and to live in a sustainable global environment in the spirit and mission of the United Nations Organization to which we are all members. In Africa, the African Union joins the UN family in the pursuit of these noble objectives.

We cannot, therefore, in all consciousness ladies and gentlemen, sit by as the oldest republic among developing nations sink into the abyss of social conflict, perpetual political instability, loss of life and debilitating underdevelopment. In the spirit of the two organizations to which we all belong, it behooves us to get involved in seeking a permanent solution to the Haitian problem at the invitation of the Haitian people and CARICOM.

There is no magic wand to preventing or eliminating sources of conflict unless the global community commits itself to eradicating poverty, ignorance and disease in all member states of the UN. And whenever conflicts emerge anywhere in the world, our responsibility is to support and encourage initiatives that lead to their solutions rather than pursue narrow self interest that may lead to actions that essentially add insult to injury.

In his letter of resignation as US representative for Haiti Daniel Foote said the following “I will not be associated with the United States inhumane, counterproductive decision to deport thousands of Haitian refugees and illegal immigrants to Haiti, a country where American officials are confined to secure compounds because of the danger posed by armed gangs in control of daily life.” This statement ladies and gentlemen, no doubt reminds of what happened in Rwanda in 1994 when UN Peacekeeping forces and Belgian and French troops were kept in secure compounds and then evacuated from Kigali, leaving the Interahamwe, a chauvinistic Hutu militia to butcher one million Rwandans in three months as the UN family kept mum.

Ever since the advent of the UNO, many nations have gone through similar problems being experienced in Haiti today. Difficult as such problems are to resolve, the first step to finding lasting solutions has always invariably been the ability and willingness of conflicting parties with the sincere support of the international community to sit down and talk to each other in other words: to dialogue, as has been recommended by the previous speakers today Mr. Chairman. I am glad my President, H.E. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta is chairing this session. Using the Kenyan experience I am sure the issue of dialogue under such situations will readily receive his guidance and support.

But dialogue has never been carried out in a vacuum: it needs an enabling environment of minimal peace and security, safety of movement of people, access to means of livelihood and respect for the ground rules of dialogue.

Dialogue among all the parties and social forces in Haiti, based on principles agreed to by the AU and CARICOM, is a sine qua non for peace, security and development in this nation with such a rich history and such a great potential for development.

We need to appeal for economic and humanitarian aid to Haiti today as poverty and social despair are fertile grounds for germinating conflict. We need to have a good democratic, governance with legitimate and constitutional order, for the basic needs of the people to be met even in the midst of social tensions, brewed in the toxic pot of poverty. The situation is bad enough in Haiti today, let us not, among nations in the Caribbean region and afar, add insult to injury by the policies and political behavior we adopt towards Haiti, that may make the situation worse.

We cannot afford to give up on Haiti, in that regard let us recall what Karl Marx once said “most of us have described the world in various ways, the point however, is to change.” Most of us have

described the world in various ways, the point however, it to change, it our collective responsibility Mr. Chairman, to change Haiti for the better. Thank you.

Dr. Sarjoh Bah, Chief Advisor on Peace, Security and Development, African Union Permanent Observer Mission

Thank you very much Martin, I would like on behalf of Ambassador Fatima, to extend our gratitude to the A3+1 for convening this timely Arria Formula meeting on Haiti, and for your steadfast championing of African matters on the agenda of the UN Security Council. We also acknowledge and thank the co-sponsors of today's event.

I wish to extend our condolence to the Government and people of Haiti over the assassination of the country's President and the victims of the recent earthquake.

The African Union stands in solidarity with the people of Haiti with the unbreakable fraternal linkage with the African continent. The people of Haiti paved the way for the liberation movements in Africa and inspired civil rights movements in different parts of the world. We reaffirm our commitment and support to Haiti's sovereignty and its efforts at self-actualization. Haiti, like most nation states, has since independence been confronted with the challenges of nation building. The country has faced multilayered challenges including the earthquake in 2010, the hurricane in 2021 as well as the assassination of the country's President in July 2021. These three recent events have exacerbated the country's march towards development and prosperity.

Mr. President, Excellencies,

Lessons from Africa have taught us that nation-building and development are complex processes that require both effective partnership and long-term commitment by national actors and the broader international community. I would like to share with you three lessons and best practices from Africa, which we are convinced could be useful to Haiti .

First, is that national ownership and leadership are critical and indispensable to nation building. Building inclusive and responsive state institutions is a pivotal factor in national ownership of nation building efforts. In order to lend more credence to the principle of national ownership, there is a strong imperative for national authorities to provide targeted support to local actors to enhance their interventions at the micro-level. However, support for the enhancement of local capacities should be done in tandem with strengthening national capacities given the mutually reinforcing nature of the two levels of governance. The primary candidates for empowerment at the micro-level should be women and youth organizations who act as critical locomotives in nation building processes.

Second, is that effective and accountable governance are critical factors in promoting nation building and sustaining development. The important role of governance to peace and development is well acknowledged in both the African Union Agenda 2063 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals. At its core, effective governance rests on building and strengthening national institutions, including security and justice institutions. Moreover, accountable, inclusive and responsive institutions contribute to building national cohesion and resilience. Nation building is best sustained when the general public feel a sense of inclusion that is characterized by peaceful and secure co-existence; access to social and public goods and the creation of opportunities for investment and wealth generation on an equitable basis. Making these

a reality is dependent on the availability and effective functioning of governance institutions that provides for an effective social contract.

Thirdly, accountability is an indispensable part of any nation building process with emphasis on restorative and retributive justice. Establishing strong judicial institutions and other accountability mechanisms such as Truth and Reconciliation Commissions are important first steps. This is critical in re-building social trust which also allows victims of violence and unjust practices to witness legal reckoning for those that committed atrocities. If properly implemented, transitional justice frees all from being held prisoners of a dark past. The complicated nature of transitional justice processes means that the design of relevant mechanisms has to be country-specific, as one approach does not fit all national contexts. At the same time, transitional justice processes should be consistent and compliant with regional and international human rights standards.

Mr. President, the AU is of the view that national stakeholders as well as partners of Haiti should be guided by the principles of accountability, transparency, inclusivity and a transformative approach. We are convinced that Haiti's developmental trajectory would be significantly enhanced if it is guided by amongst other things, the aforementioned lessons and best practices.

Mr. President, to conclude, I would like to reaffirm the AU's commitment and readiness to support the Government and people of Haiti in their quest for development and prosperity. We are ready to support and share some valuable lessons that we have garnered over several decades of nation building and development efforts in Africa. The AU calls on the international community to partner with Haitians, in good faith, as they write the wrongs of the past. Together, we can accompany Haiti in its journey towards peace and prosperity. Thank you for your kind attention.

Ms. Myrtha Désulmé, Member of the Commission for a Haitian Solution to the Crisis

Her Excellency, Madam Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Rhonda King, thank you for the invitation to this Arria formula meeting of the Security Council on my country, Haiti. His Excellency Martin Kimani, Chair and Permanent Representative of Kenya, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, greetings All. Thank you to the A3+1 for convening this meeting, a very special thank you to Prime Minister Dr the Honourable Ralph Gonsalves, whose indefatigable dedication to the cause of the Haitian People has been the driving force behind this noble initiative.

I have chosen to respond to the question posed in your concept note asking for ideas on how to support and strengthen the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti known as BINUH, to be more effective, more adaptable to the circumstances in the country, and able to achieve solutions for Haiti. There is so much to say, but time does not permit to not focus on only one subject.

Haiti is a founding member of the UN, who actually facilitated the independence of many African countries. The relationship of the UN with this member State should be urgently re-crafted into a respectful partnership which truly lives up to its mandate of supporting the long-term development objectives of Haiti under the leadership of national authorities. The UN mission purports to strengthen political stability, good governance, and the rule of law. But what we have seen in the last 17 years of UN control is that Haiti has become a failed state, laboring under institutional collapse; a dictatorship ruled by gang leaders who have become warlords, once praised by UN officials; internally displaced populations, fleeing massacres and mayhem; the first assassination

of a Head of State in the hemisphere in the last 50 years, and a relentless surge of refugees who daily undertake the suicidal trek in a desperate bid to find any kind of life for their children, anywhere, only to be treated with the utmost brutality by the very hegemonic powers who have rendered their country unlivable. We incidentally ask for international solidarity with these refugees, and a stop to the massive inhumane deportations.

The fundamental problem of Haiti is that the Vienna Convention does not seem to apply to her. Foreign interference in Haiti's affairs, including the forcing and rigging of elections, support for corrupt governments, and turning a blind eye to authoritarianism, have become par for the course. BINUH could be most effective by supporting the efforts of Civil Society for an inclusive national inter-Haitian dialogue, which empowers the Haitian people to regain their sovereignty. As your concept note rightly states, Haitians have shown that they are capable of taking ownership of their challenges. The Commission for a Haitian Solution to the Crisis, through dint of hard work and diligent, far-flung national consultations, has gathered the greatest number of civil society and political actors in its march towards the establishment of a 2-year provisional government, which will stabilize the sociopolitical climate, rebuild Haiti's institutions, organize a national conference, and create the conditions conducive to holding genuinely free, fair, transparent, credible, and democratic elections, reflecting the true will of the Haitian people. Competent, patriotic, leaders of integrity, who will not provoke more protests and instability, will be elected to work for the advancement of the Haitian people. The Commission stands for what the UN used to stand for in its halcyon days, when it was founded to protect and promote human rights, peace, and stability. We urge the UN to return to this path of righteousness, which will not only exalt the Haitian people, but help to restore the UN to its hallowed status as the foremost defender of human dignity.

It is most fitting that this meeting seeks pan-African solutions and pathways, because this struggle is not just about Haiti. In this UN Decade dedicated to People of African Descent, when 34 countries boycotted the commemoration of the Durban declaration, we have come to see that the pan-African struggle for the right to self-determination and human dignity is a global one, and Haiti is just the crucible. Haiti is at the heart of the nexus between Africa and the New World, and this epic battle for true emancipation can only be won through the reunification of Africa with her children. Though Haiti's case is most extreme, all African and Caribbean nations have the shared experience of colonial and neo-colonial violence, failed, bankrupt and destructive policy impositions, which have displaced their citizens, dispossessed them of their land, causing untold suffering, artificial famine, and countless natural and man-made disasters. We ask CARICOM, the African Union, and all well-thinking nations, to be our Allies in this life and death struggle for the survival of a martyred nation, whose only sin is to have bequeathed so much to the world by literally inventing the rights of man, pioneering the cycles of emancipation and decolonization, and spreading freedom and inspiration far beyond her borders. Thank you.

Tunisia

Thank you, Madam Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to thank firstly the honourable participants for their complete, exhaustive presentations regarding the situation in Haiti. That country which is going through a terrible governance crisis, where there is instability and insecurity and would aggravate the socio-economic situation and humanitarian situation, which was already critical, as has perfectly been described by the previous speakers. It is a multi-dimensional crisis, that is, by the convergence of

several issues that are one more serious than the other and affecting almost all the aspects of the lives of the Haitian people at all levels, the political level, the security level, the economic, the social level, the humanitarian level, it threatens to throw this entire country and its people in total chaos. This is why the Haitian issue is particularly difficult and urgent which means that the support of Haiti by the international community and regional organizations is more than ever indispensable. Helping Haiti today is a moral duty.

Madam Chair, there is no miracle solution to this multidimensional crisis in Haiti or a ready made solution or recipe yet there is no other path for the stabilization of the country, so that we have normal operation of institutions without an inclusive national dialogue. The political leaders in Haiti have no choice but to set the country from the chaos to pursue their efforts in the context of an inclusive and consensual approach in order to reach a political agreement and to create the minimal conditions to organize parliamentary, local and presidential elections.

Today, the political leaders and civil society in Haiti have a historical duty to make sure that the national interest prevails and to find together a common ground of agreement around a common project and I insist here on the centrality of a common project that will contribute to promote a peaceful climate within which decisive measures will be taken and essential reform will be implemented with the participation of women and youth. History teaches us that important solutions are only for the short term and chances of success are greater when the solutions come from the inside with the support of the international community. During its democratic transition, my country Tunisia, went through difficult times but it is through national dialogue that we found our salvation. A dialogue that allowed the Tunisian quartet to achieve the Nobel peace prize in 2015.

Before I conclude, Madam Chair, I would like to mention very briefly another aspect of the Haitian crisis: the reestablishment of security is an absolute priority. The national police in Haiti, of course must improve its efficiency especially fighting against organized crime by strengthening its forces in difficult areas but it would not be able to get sustainable and long term results if its capacities are strengthened, if the poor areas and neighbourhoods are not anymore fertile ground for organized and armed groups. So it is necessary to reform the police therefore with support of UN and bilateral partners and to set up, also a more global approach to fight against violence of organized groups by addressing the fundamental issue and root cause of the issue through inclusion, social justice and equitable distribution.

Since I don't have more time I am going to stop here, but I would like to reiterate our full solidarity with the Haitian people, brotherly nation and our willingness to work within the Security Council to bring to Haiti all the support it needs at this time. Thank you very much.

The United States of America

Thank you very much, Rhonda. And let me start by also thanking all of the A3+1 for organizing today's event, as well as today's briefers for sharing your invaluable perspectives. And I think it goes without saying that we must commend and thank the Prime Minister of SVG and the Prime Minister of Haiti for participating in today's discussion.

A heinous assassination, gang violence, a terrible earthquake, food insecurity, mass migrations – It is clear that we need to help Haiti break the cycle of crises. We need sustainable, long-term approaches to tackle the many challenges Haiti faces. There is no silver bullet solution – which is why we hope that this is the start of a conversation, rather than a standalone event. We all need to stand with Haiti and with Haitians in their time of need.

For our part, the United States remains committed to supporting the people of Haiti. As the two oldest democracies in the Western Hemisphere, the United States and Haiti have a strong and everlasting bond. This past January, the Biden Administration announced \$75.5 million in bilateral development and health assistance to Haiti. We are also providing an additional \$44 million to support earthquake response efforts.

To strengthen democratic processes and increase access to basic services, we are providing another \$15.5 million. And we are providing an additional \$15 million to specifically bolster the Haitian National Police and the judiciary to improve oversight, expand community policing efforts, and reduce the epidemic of unlawful, inhumane, and prolonged pretrial detention, among other efforts.

In service of being the world’s arsenal of vaccines, the United States has committed to providing over one million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to Haiti. We paired that with more than \$40 million to support the immediate COVID-19 health needs of Haitians.

In short, we have put our money where our mouth is because the Haitian people are in dire need. Which is why this is exactly the wrong time to scale back the mandate of BINUH. The UN Country Team and the Haitian National Police rely on BINUH support. BINUH has an important role to play at this critical moment in supporting the Government of Haiti’s efforts to promote human rights, stabilize the situation on the ground and create the conditions for national elections to be held. Now is not the time for the Security Council to walk away.

The United States is committed to standing by the people of Haiti and committed to BINUH. We urge all Security Council members to remain steadfast in its commitment to the Haitian people. Thank you, Rhonda.

Mexico

Madam Chair, excellencies,

Mexico is grateful to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for convening the meeting in Arria formula format on behalf of the A3+1 to encourage frank discussions on how Haiti can achieve stability and a future of economic and social development. We are honored to co-sponsor today’s meeting.

The meeting is particularly timely as the Council is about to renew the mandate of BINUH. We underline the importance of continuing the commitment of the international community with Haiti with a strong and predictable mandate. BINUH should be an example of the transition process and its current work should have the opportunity to show results.

Furthermore, this meeting is a great opportunity for two regions that are united by historical ties to exchange experiences and work together to achieve peace and promote sustainable development. Mexico also understands itself as a Caribbean country. With our friends in the region and in Africa, we have common values and a vision for a better future.

Mexico believes that we should enhance our exchange of experiences and best practices. For example, the Latin American and Caribbean region, including Haiti, can learn from the Silencing the Guns initiative by the African Union.

Mexico attaches the utmost importance to assisting Haiti overcome its structural challenges, through a long-lasting and multidimensional approach. In that regard, we stress the need for continued coordination among all the UN entities and with BINUH. We stress the need for Haiti to be working on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, like all countries in the world.

Mexico calls on the international community to continue aiding the Haitian people, particularly those in vulnerable situations, to meet the needs caused by the emergency as well as the pre-existing vulnerabilities, such as food insecurity. Mexico has provided almost 4,000 tons of humanitarian assistance, including food items and other emergency supplies, such as hygiene kits, medicines, clothing, and tents.

Madam Chair,

The Haitian people has suffered from a long period of political instability with terrible consequences for its people. It is time to concentrate efforts to achieve wide-ranging political dialogue that we have listed many times this afternoon, through a process that incorporates all political actors, civil society, the diaspora, and that is enhanced by the active participation of women. A necessary step would be to achieve a new constitutional text that receives the support of the widest spectrum among Haitian society and paves the way towards free, fair, inclusive and peaceful presidential and legislative elections. Haiti needs to have a government with a clear democratic mandate from its people.

Finally, we reaffirm our commitment to support Haiti as it continues to address the root causes of its current challenges, to that end, adopting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as its main roadmap for its future is one of the most consequential decisions taken in recent times. We stand ready to support this effort. I Thank you, Madam Chair.

The United Kingdom

Thank, Madam Chair,

We welcome this innovative and inclusive discussion with such distinguished participants and briefers. The United Kingdom remains deeply concerned by the political, social and humanitarian challenges Haiti continues to face. We are acutely aware of the impact this is having on the Haitian population. I would like to make a few short points around this.

Firstly, constructive inclusive efforts by all actors to secure a peaceful, democratic solution is undoubtedly the best way to deliver suitable solutions to Haiti's immediate and long term issues. The UK supports the SRSG and BINUH in their ongoing engagement with and provisions of technical support to the Haitian authorities. BINUH's vital work is geared towards allowing the Haitian people to choose their next government in free, fair and safe elections.

Secondly, experience has taught us that sustainable peace needs to be built from the ground up, the violence and corruption that has long plagued Haiti, including the deeply worrying impact this insecurity has on Haitian women and girls can only truly be overcome in the long term by empowering local actors. Effective peace-building relies on the engagement of these actors who bring concrete Haitian-led solutions to the table. The UK welcomes BINUH's efforts to cement the skills and structures that enable those actors including women to fully participate, their participation is part and parcel of a truly holistic approach to Haiti's development needs.

Thirdly, climate action should be made an International priority in a country that is disproportionately affected by natural disasters, and whose compounded crisis hinder development. Discussion is needed to consider how to safeguard Haiti from further harm and provide relief to those most vulnerable to the impact of climate change.

In conclusion, Madam Chair, Haiti has asked for our meaningful engagement and support, with a strong international network of steadfast support, an engaged civil society and a dedicated UN staff, Haiti's future is where it belongs in the hands of the Haitian people. Thank you.

Ireland

Thank you very much indeed Madam Chair,

And I wanted to thank the A3+1 sincerely for organizing today's meeting, in support of the Haitian people. And thanks also very much to the distinguished Prime Minister of Haiti for joining us and to your own Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Madam Chair. I was also impressed by the really diverse briefers that we heard earlier on. In the interest of time, I am going to be very quick, just to make three key points.

First, Ireland firmly believes in the power of dialogue and lesson sharing in overcoming what are interwoven and really deep-rooted challenges. We've seen that successful societal transformation and reconciliation is always based on genuine dialogue with the widest possible base of engagement. And we want to today and with all our engagement with Haiti to encourage all parties to work together to provide the Haitian people themselves with the stable and functioning democratic institutions, they not just deserve, but so badly need.

My second point is that the full equal and meaningful participation of women in the inclusive dialogue and political processes, we need to see in Haiti will help consolidate the status of Haitian women as what they should be: equal partners in creating the change needed and equal recipients, of course, of the dividends that those efforts will generate. The youth of Haiti, also I believe rightly deserve a seat at the decision making table and what is decided today of course will shape their

lives for decades to come. So we absolutely have to take steps to ensure the safety and security of all women and youth involved in the system and involved in the political system to foster trust in the engagement that's needed to get national dialogue going.

And then my final point, really is to say that recent events have brought us to a really stark reminder of the risk posed to Haitians themselves and indeed many of us around climate disasters. The Haitian people have faced so many challenges on top of which earthquakes and storms have wreaked havoc and compounding the dangerous challenges, the dangerous security environment faced in Haiti on top of a dire humanitarian situation. So we believe that concerted efforts, and adaptation and resilience really should help Haiti to combat the further instability that the climate crisis has brought. So I think we all know many many challenges but much goodwill to help the people of Haiti through these difficult times. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Norway

Colleagues,

We would like to thank the co-hosts, especially the A3+1, for their initiative to hold this meeting. We welcome this chance to listen and learn about different ways to support Haiti. And, as we have heard, there are indeed lessons to be learned from other crises.

We must however reflect on Haiti's context in history as an inspiration of freedom and hope, for many countries. Yet it is clear that the current crisis- with its unique complexities and challenges- must be used as a turning point for the country and its people.

There is an urgent need for nationally owned governance reform to overcome the structural obstacles to stability and development. All actors in Haiti must enter into dialogue with open minds, and work to restore confidence in the political, and judiciary system, based on the rule of law.

Norway firmly believes that an inclusive political process, with respect for human rights- including women's rights- is a prerequisite for overcoming the current crisis, and paving the way for a more just and stable society.

Colleagues,

The co-host's concept note also lists several important initiatives to consider. We would like to highlight specifically number six on climate change adaptation efforts. We have consistently called for more attention to be paid to Haiti's resilience to natural disasters. Especially as the growing effects of climate change will only compound this issue.

We look forward to more discussion on this aspect today. Thank you.

Estonia

Thank you, Mr. President, we would like to thank all the briefers for their informative and valuable interventions today.

Mr. President,

We are deeply concerned about the deterioration of the humanitarian, political and security situation in Haiti. The serious challenges that the country faces need to be addressed. The primary responsibility to work on the long-term causes of instability and inequality lies with the Government of Haiti.

We welcome the political agreement achieved by the Prime Minister Ariel Henry on 11 September to ensure credible elections in 2022. This is the first and an important step towards overcoming this long-lasting crisis. All political actors and stakeholders need to set aside their differences and pursue a positive outcome. Inclusive dialogue is needed to move the political process forward and reach a national consensus - this is a key to restoring political and institutional stability.

Also, it is important to recognize the importance of full, equal and meaningful participation of women in decision-making as well as the inclusion of youth. There are still notable barriers to a fully inclusive political process at all levels. It is also essential to consult and engage civil society, including women's organisations.

The security situation remains worrisome as the gangs' control of the country has worsened the situation steadily. This has allowed an upsurge in kidnappings for ransom in Port-au-Prince and in the provinces. We condemn all human rights violations and acts of violence, especially the increase of kidnappings, trafficking of children, killings and rapes. Gang-related criminal activities must stop. The police forces need to be strengthened so that they could respond to criminal activity more effectively and offer greater protection to the Haitian people.

In light of the forthcoming climate conference COP26, I would like to emphasize Haiti's extreme vulnerability to climate change. A wide range of initiatives and partnerships are required to strengthen the country's resilience in a changing climate. As climate-related security risks affect women and children particularly, measures need to be taken in order to protect the most vulnerable groups.

Mr. President,

Finally, I would like to reiterate Estonia's strong support to the activities of BINUH. It is important that the UN and the international community stay committed and continue to support Haiti and its people. We believe that joint efforts by all stakeholders can bring stability and sustainable development for the country. Thank you!

France

Thank you, Excellency,

I would like to also thank the participants and organizers of this meeting today. I salute the Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as well as the Haitian Prime Minister.

Haiti has gone through many situations and has always overcome, the new era for Haiti is perilous only dialogue can bring Haiti out of this situation, so we need to put in place an inclusive government with full participation of women. This government needs to be able to organize elections in a peaceful environment with the ultimate objective the reestablishment of state-owned

institutions. It is why France has more than doubled its urgent humanitarian help, though we continue to invest in supporting Haiti, support not only for security, education, and climate change. Our both countries, France and Haiti are bound through history and language and we salute the role that the Organisation internationale of Francophonie is playing.

Haiti is a friend of France and the European Union. France will continue providing its support. Thank you.

China

Madam President,

I thank all the briefers for sharing their thoughts on how to resolve the multifaceted crisis in Haiti. Shattered by the earthquake, tropical storms and the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, the situation in Haiti is deteriorating. We express our deep sympathy to the Haitian people for their tragic plight.

To support Haiti to transform itself from the current state to regain stability and back on track of social and economic development, the international community needs to seek solutions to address the root causes of existing problems. I would like to share some quick thoughts.

First, the Haitian Government and all the political parties should take their responsibility and work together to find a Haitian solution to Haiti's problems. Haitian political figures must stop internal power struggle and act in the interest of the Haitian people to develop strategies on institutional building and social-economic development.

Second, the international community should rethink and redesign its strategy. Aid efforts from development partners since 2010 which total around \$14.7billion to date have yet to deliver the expected results. As indicated in Secretary General Guterres's report, a novel approach is required to address the systemic and operational impediments which hinder Haiti's sustainable development. The presence and the role of UN agencies in Haiti also needs to be improved so as to support Haiti in a more effective and efficient way. It is necessary to conduct a comprehensive assessment of BINUH's mandate and explore how to address the ongoing challenges faced by Haiti with a more focused mandate.

Third, the Haitian Government has to redouble its efforts in combating gang violence and address longstanding issues such as poverty and insecurity. In many peacebuilding cases in Africa, development gains lay the solid foundation for lasting peace and we hope Haiti could draw from such good experiences to its benefit. Thank you, Rhonda.

Viet Nam

Thank you, Madam Chair.

Madam Chair, we would like to thank the cosponsors for this important meeting. We highly appreciate the presence of the Prime Ministers of Haiti and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and

other distinguished participants.

Madam Chair, Haiti continues to face multi-faceted difficulties and instability in recent years, the recent natural disasters only further compounded the continued violence and socio-economic hardship. We share the grave concern expressed by previous speakers about such mounting challenges. Therefore it is really timely as the cohosts of this meeting proposed, to start the dialogue with all stakeholders to discuss the ways and means forward to help Haiti this difficult time.

In our view, the first step to this end is for all Haitians to engage in national dialogue with a view to ensuring political stability, inclusiveness and in representation. We welcome the political agreement between the Prime Minister and political parties and civil society organizations to hold legislative elections in 2022. Successful holding of the elections will lay a foundation for a brighter future for the people.

Second, such a future must also rely upon practical and comprehensive measures to address the current myriad of challenges. To ensure better security and conditions for elections, there should be focused efforts on solving immediate problems like gang related violence, gender issues, attacks targeting local communities or parts of Haiti. This should go hand in hand with addressing deep-rooted issues affecting Haiti including inequality, economic opportunities especially for the youth and protection of vulnerable groups. In the long and arduous way, support from the international community, regional and international partners is critical. In this regard we highly commend the initiative by the main cohost and CARICOM to highlight the need to galvanize support from the international community especially from the African continent with a wealth of experience in resolving difficulties within resource constraints.

In this connection, we would like to express our full support for the extension of the mandate of the UN Mission in Haiti (BINUH), we sincerely hope that today's meeting will be an important starting point in our collective efforts in solidarity with the Haitian people in their pursuit of peace, security and sustainable development. I thank you, Madam President.

Russia

We are grateful to the delegations of Haiti, Kenya, Tunisia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as Dominican Republic, Mexico and the United States for this opportunity to address the complex situation in Haiti and ways the international community can assist Haitians to overcome numerous existing challenges.

It is objective reality that due to its geographic location the country is vulnerable to natural disasters. In addition to that, for many years Haiti remains in a protracted deep political, socio-economic and humanitarian crisis with risks of further aggravation.

It has already become an unhappy rule that the executive branch of power in Haiti has been functioning through agreements among various stakeholders, rather than on the basis of electoral process and the free will of Haitians. Such a state of affairs is not normal and we all understand this. So do the Haitians themselves. To make the situation even worse, there are constant attempts

to influence the actions of the Haitian Government from abroad, imposing external solutions.. We are deeply concerned by the evidence of foreign involvement into the assassination of President Moïse and urge to use every opportunity to assist Haitians in investigating this abhorrent crime and bringing perpetrators to justice.

There were previously periods of "external governance" in Haiti and they have brought no good to the country's citizens. We have no doubts that such techniques of political engineering can not be helpful this time either. The role of the international community and the UN Mission in particular is to support Haitian efforts to restore constitutional order, political stability and maintain peace.

To conclude I would like to remind that every crisis is unique and there are no universal solutions, however, the truth is that responsible national ownership, based on an inclusive national dialogue has proven to be the only efficient way to bring lasting political solutions to countries in crisis. And we remain ready to assist the Haitians to move steadily in this direction. I thank you.

India

Thank you, Ambassador,

Let me begin by thanking the co-chairs, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Kenya as well as other distinguished colleagues in the A3+1 for convening this meeting today. We welcome the comprehensive briefings by distinguished participants from the Caribbean and Africa.

Excellencies,

Haiti is a nation with a remarkable and unique history, Haiti was once among the wealthiest countries in the Americas, Haiti became a beacon of freedom and hope for many colonial countries fighting for independence during the 19th and 20th centuries. However, in recent decades Haiti and its people are facing multiple challenges. As Mahatma Gandhi once said "there is no path to peace, peace is the way." In this context, the interim administration in Haiti has a huge task ahead, to restore peace and functional democratic institutions, security and rule of law. Haiti's regional partners, the International community and the UN, need to continue supporting the Haitian authorities in this hour of need.

Prime Minister Ariel Henry, while referring to these efforts in his address to the 76th UNGA, has reaffirmed his commitment to hold credible, transparent and inclusive elections at the earliest. In this regard, three issues are important:

1. Improvement in the security situation is necessary to restore institutional order and create the enabling conditions for holding elections;
2. A new constitution that reflects the aspirations, needs and requirements of the Haitian people should pave the way for strong institutions that can sustain and endure; and
3. An inclusive approach to find durable solutions to the political, socio-economic and security challenges, in this regard, Haitian women and youth have an important role to play.

We urge all parties to engage in this process without preconditions.

Excellencies,

Haitians have shown that they are capable of taking ownership of their future. We as their friends and partners need to assist them based on their requests. It will help create an enabling environment and strengthen national structures that meet people's needs particularly, with respect to peace building, community mobilization, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, etc.

To conclude, what Haitian people need is solidarity and support in these challenging times, on our part, India stands ready to do the same. I thank you.

Antigua and Barbuda

Thank you Ambassador King, Ambassador Kimani, members of the A3+1,

I'd like to begin by thanking you for bringing us together, to address this really important matter and for making this meeting possible. Madam Chair, I have the honor to speak on behalf of the fourteen member states of the Caribbean Community which includes Haiti. Today's session is especially welcomed by CARICOM because it is a demonstration that the Council and the international community more broadly speaking are beginning to learn the key lesson from the last 25 years or more of involvement in Haiti. That lesson, Madam Chair, might be described as follows: that no matter the goodwill behind foreign intervention or involvement in Haiti, the only sustainable solution to Haiti's problems is a Haitian solution. A solution that emerged from a hard-won struggle, an all encompassing struggle based on national consultation and national consensus with the people of Haiti by the Haitian themselves, as I said.

This is not to say, Madam Chairs, that the Council and international community including regional and sub-regional organizations do not have a role to play. On the contrary, as today's discussion is showing groups like CARICOM and the African Union, indeed have great roles and vital contributions to make to the solution. This contribution might be drawn perhaps on different development models rather than ones that have been applied in the past. This might focus on empowering and strengthening Haitian institutions among other things, such as over time the Haitian people may learn to trust and build confidence in these institutions. It should also focus on supporting Haiti's deepened integration into the Caribbean region and its communities in general, because the Caribbean people hold a deep pride for the role that Haiti has played in the development. We continue to respect the role that Haiti plays as the first independent nation of the Americas.

As I conclude, Madam Chair, I want to reiterate that it is our strong desire for the Caribbean Community to play its part within the framework of a sustainable and effective international effort in helping to assist Haiti to address the multiple challenges confronting it. Any such effort, should prioritize the most rudimentary concerns first such as security and the apparent food insecurity that face the Haitian people. We must address these and then focus on the issues around the political challenges and restoring political stability as necessary.

We thank again the A3+1 and the Council for bringing this group together for us all to address a most vital concern to the people of the Caribbean and of course the Haitian people as a whole. I

thank you.

H. E. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Honourable Dr. Ariel Henry, Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti; Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Excellencies; Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is a great honor for me to address this Arria-Formula meeting of the Security Council on Haiti, in my capacity as President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

At the outset, I express my profound appreciation to the Co Chairs of this very timely meeting, H.E. Rhonda King, PR of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in your Capacity as a Member of the A3+1 Group; and H.E Martin Kimani, PR of Kenya, in your capacity as President of the Council for the month of October.

As you would be aware, Haiti has been on the agendas of both the Security Council and ECOSOC for several years. It is in this regard that I welcome this Arria Formula Meeting as an opportunity to rekindle our collaboration in working together to ensure that the combined interventions of the two UN Charter-based Principal Organs have multiplier impacts on the development agenda of Haiti.

As you may be aware, the item on Haiti was incorporated in ECOSOC's agenda in response to a Security Council request to provide recommendations on the long-term development of the country. In this connection, the creation of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, was an innovation at the time and shows the creativity of ECOSOC to contribute in finding a permanent solution to the situation the country faces.

Co-Chairs,

I, therefore, welcome the theme for this Meeting, titled: "*Beyond the inconvenient truths about underdevelopment in Haiti: seeking pan-African solutions/pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation*". As others have noted, Haiti is not only facing a political and security crisis but also significant socio-economic, humanitarian, environmental as well as human rights and rule of law challenges. As the country also grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, it also faces a number of structural impediments to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

I am sure you are all too well familiar with some of those very stark figures that highlight what is at stake for Haiti in the short- and longer-term. For instance:

- 7 out of 11 million people in Haiti live below the poverty line.
- One-third of children between 6 and 11 years of age in rural areas are not in school, while less than 1 percent pursues higher education.
- Of those who graduate from university, a staggering 86 per cent leave the country to

pursue better prospects abroad.

- Humanitarian needs have more than tripled since 2018, from 1.3 million to over 4.4 million people requiring life-saving assistance.

The list of challenges goes on, with Haiti further bearing the most devastating impacts of climate change. More than 96 per cent of the population is exposed to natural disasters that include floods, hurricanes and earthquakes.

Co-Chairs,

The multidimensional crises facing Haiti -- and their interconnected nature -- demands harmonized solutions on different fronts. Efforts to promote political stability and enhance security must go hand-in-hand with measures to address the root causes and drivers of existing problems.

I, therefore, wish to reiterate that, helping the country to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would greatly contribute to finding lasting solutions to violence and instability. And we do have great knowledge at our disposal. We also have the tools: through the repositioned United Nations Development System; a new generation of country teams under the leadership of strengthened resident coordinators, are increasingly providing a whole-of-system support to the country's efforts to achieve sustainable development.

I am of the view that we must not miss the opportunity to ensure that the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) and the United Nations country team continue to increasingly work together across humanitarian development-peace pillars to help achieve a successful transition.

But this is not enough, as Haiti needs better and greater engagement from the broader international community. It needs adequate, predictable and flexible funding towards transition, risk reduction, recovery and poverty reduction as well as resilient peacebuilding programmes. South-South and Triangular Cooperation are tools that could also be used to provide technical advice and assistance on how to modernize in particular the agricultural sector -- on which 60 percent of Haitians depend directly or indirectly on for their living.

Haiti can also draw lessons from other countries -- including from the African region and the other Caribbean countries -- how to improve its education system and better develop its tourism sector as key drivers for economic growth and sustainable development.

Chair,

Let me in conclusion note that Haiti's successful fight to end slavery was an inspiration to many in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and to other enslaved communities seeking liberty and racial equality for all. We therefore owe it to the Haitian people to help the country achieve its aspirations to regain its past glory.

I would like to reiterate that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) will continue to play its advisory role -- again as it did in 1999 -- as provided for in Article 65 of the UN Charter, on how best to support just, peaceful and strong institutions in Haiti as it seeks to achieve sustainable development. I would be very interested in engaging with the partners and Friends of Haiti to follow up on some of the concrete proposals from this meeting, working with the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti. I thank you.

H. E. Osama Abdelkhalek, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

Excellencies,

I thank you for inviting me, in my capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, to participate in this Arria Formula meeting titled “Beyond the inconvenient truths about underdevelopment in Haiti: seeking pan-African solutions/pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation”.

Allow me, at the outset, to inform you that the PBC does not have any ongoing engagement with Haiti. However, I wish to share some observations that build upon the role the Commission has played in supporting conflict-affected countries in their efforts to reach lasting peace and sustainable development which may be relevant for this discussion and deliberations.

The Commission has a mandate to support countries build and sustain peace. In this connection, I wish to recall the definition of sustaining peace adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council: “sustaining peace should be broadly understood as a goal and a process to build a common vision of a society, ensuring that the needs of all segments of the population are taken into account, which encompasses activities aimed at preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict, addressing root causes, assisting parties to conflict to end hostilities, ensuring national reconciliation, and moving towards recovery, reconstruction and development, and emphasizing that sustaining peace is a shared task and responsibility that needs to be fulfilled by the government and all other national stakeholders, and should flow through all three pillars of the United Nations’ engagement at all stages of conflict, and in all its dimensions, and needs sustained international attention and assistance”. The two bodies have also reaffirmed the primary responsibility of national Governments and authorities in identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and in this regard, emphasizing that inclusivity is key to advancing national peacebuilding processes and objectives.

Since the 2015 review of the peacebuilding architecture, when Member States agreed on this definition, the PBC has made a tangible difference on a number of country and regional contexts and pushing the envelope on wider policy issues.

As the Secretary-General mentioned in his report on Our Common Agenda, the Commission has fostered a more inclusive and effective approach to multilateralism by promoting and supporting multidisciplinary, multi-stakeholder and multi-dimensional solutions and has helped reshape UN responses to new challenges to peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

The Commission is best placed to ensure effective support when its engagement is guided by a clear national strategy.

In all the different national and regional contexts where the Commission has engaged [22 since its inception in 2006], it has provided space for countries to lead by example by defining their own peacebuilding needs. In addition, the Commission has particularly endeavored to deliver on its promise of inclusiveness by creating space for an array of stakeholders in support of national peacebuilding priorities.

The Commission has been able to produce better results where its granular attention to individual countries was combined with support for relevant cross-border and regional dimensions of peacebuilding – as was the case in its engagement in support of Burkina Faso and the Sahel region; as well as Papua New Guinea.

Excellencies,

I wish to reaffirm the PBC's readiness to support building and sustaining peace in Haiti, if requested by the Government of Haiti. In this regard, and building on the bridging role of the PBC, it might be opportune to convene, at an appropriate time, an informal interactive dialogue with the Security Council, the ECOSOC Ad-hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, the PBC and the Government of Haiti to further discuss lasting peace and sustainable development in Haiti. And I invite Ambassador Bob Rae to comment on that, if he wishes. Thank you Ambassador Rhonda for your patience.

H. E. Bob Rae, Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

Thank you so much Rhonda. All protocols observed,

I have been listening very carefully to what has been said and I think I has been a very useful discussion and conversation, I am also listening to the meeting of Security Council itself on the resolution and I am pleased to see that some agreement has been reached felt that it was not the time to bring this BINUH process to an end, in fact we have to continue to be engaged. And I hope we can reach consensus on that renewal process, because I think that it is important that we consolidate the gains of having more coordination on the ground and having better dialogue with the agencies, international financial institutions and with others.

My friend, Ambassador Osama, has challenged me to comment on his proposal, I happen to think its a very good proposal, I think it's a good idea for us to work together, I think there has been one other very important dimension to this conversation today, and I congratulate you Rhonda and to Martin as well, for bringing in the Caribbean and African perspectives, I think that's critically important, I believe very strongly that we have to bring all of our experiences to bear and we have to listen to each other about what is being said.

(In French) I am going to say that we are ready to share the document that we have, I am going to give a summary of the document that we have. The coordination of affairs and the efforts are essential and that we need to ensure that we work together and to fight impunity and corruption.

We need to ensure that we can face the obstacles, the issues of insecurity that exist in the country and it is really important to understand that there should be a sense of personal security which is eternally essential to democracy and for the future. We are convinced that working together is important as stated by the Ambassador of Egypt, we need to support all of the efforts and continue supporting the national dialogue with the objective of following through with the elections which should be the will of the people.

I had the good fortune to visit Haiti on a number of occasions, very sadly my last visit was to pay my respects to President Moïse and have some meetings with people dealing with the extent of the crisis after the assassination. We have work to do, to work together and I think it's really important for us to take advantage of all of the points of view that have been expressed today. We are not all agreed on everything, we come from different perspectives and in some cases different philosophies. But I hope we can agree on some basic things, the importance of inclusion, the importance of security, because the existence of these gangs, is really destroying people's sense of dignity in their own lives, dealing with corruption, and above all a real economy that is able to sustain the wellbeing of all the people. This is a big challenge, Haiti has undergone some tremendous problems from outside, many of them have been described. I just think it is important for us to understand that Haiti is a critical partner of Canada, a critical partner of Caribbean nations, it reflects such a deep and important history in the region and we have to do everything that we can to help the people of Haiti come to the conclusion.

And that's my last point, I know there are many comments that have been made about externally driven things, neocolonial efforts and so on, but the reality is it's the Haitian people that have to be able to decide their own future and have to be able to create the institutions that are going to work for them. I think all of us in the international community have to be capable partners, we also have to be respectful partners and recognise that it's going to be the people of Haiti who are going to have the last word and they are going to decide on the nature of their future. And we will be doing everything that we can to support them in their hour of need, this is not the time for us to disengage, this is the time for us to strengthen our engagement and to strengthen our involvement and to strengthen our support. And that is the position that we take in the Adhoc Committee, it's the position that the Canadian government takes and I am very delighted at the opportunity to listen to the extremely important and very interesting observations that have been made by a number of people within Haiti, the outside community and my fellow representatives here at the UN.

Representative for the CARICOM Expert Group on Haiti, Ms. Donna Forde, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Barbados' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Thank you Madam Co-chair and distinguished co-chairs representatives of Kenya and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Excellencies,

This Statement is made on behalf of the CARICOM Expert Group on Haiti – a technical, fact finding Group that was established in accordance with a 25th of February 2021 decision of the CARICOM Heads of Government and given the mandate to carry out an investigation into the situation in Haiti and to report its findings to the Heads of Government – a mission that has been completed.

In carrying out that mandate, the Group engaged in a multiplicity of virtual discussions with a variety of Haitian interlocutors representing many sectors of Haitian society, as well as with members of the political class.

And it is against the background of those discussions that the Group would like to make the following four points:-

1. It is absolutely essential that the people of Haiti be afforded the opportunity to elect a Government that is truly of their own free and unfettered choice. The Haitian people wish to avoid – at all cost – a deficient election that is open to charges of fraud or manipulation, or one that is so lacking in inclusiveness that it produces a President or a Government that is elected to power by a miniscule portion of the electorate. Those scenarios inflict a lack of legitimacy upon the elected President or Government and lead to intense political instability.
2. Haiti now needs to undergo a “process”- a “transition process”- that will lead to inclusive and free and fair elections. However, that “transition process”, and the “Transition governing Administration” that will have to lead that process, must be inclusive, and – most importantly – must include the genuine and acknowledged leaders of Haitian civil society.
3. In light of Haiti’s tremendous “developmental deficit” and the fact that there is a direct link between Haiti’s poverty and underdevelopment and the political instability and lack of security that is so rife in Haiti, there is a clear and pressing need for a long term Marshall-type International Development Plan for Haiti, involving all of the relevant United Nations institutions, and funded by the International Community.
4. In light of Haiti’s history, its geographical location in the Caribbean and its membership of CARICOM, the ethnic origins of the Haitian people, and Haiti’s seminal contribution to the historic Black Liberation struggle, it seems clear that both CARICOM and the African Union (AU), and their member states, possess a special fraternal relationship with Haiti and the Haitian people. And, as a result, it is both necessary and appropriate that CARICOM and the AU should be involved in all components of any such internationally funded Haitian Development Plan that they possess the capacity to contribute to.

I thank you very much Madam Chair.

European Union

Thank you, Madam Chair,

We thank the A3+1 for convening this timely and important meeting. Haiti is a country affected by chronic and multi-dimensional crises. All efforts aimed at promoting stability and socio-economic development are more than welcome. Thank you also for giving the European Union the floor.

The situation in Haiti remains extremely troubling. In the past months, chronic institutional and socio-economic fragility has been further compounded– first by the heinous assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, and then by the devastating earthquake which struck on 14 August.

When it comes to the earthquake, we welcome the efforts by the authorities to learn the lessons of 2010 and better coordinate the response. The immediate mobilization of the EU emergency toolbox reaffirms our unwavering support to the Haitian people in these challenging times. Commissioner Lenarčič visited Haiti on 17 and 18 September. Three EU Humanitarian Air Bridges have carried together 177 tons of relief (food, nutrition, shelter and health care equipment). We encourage all international partners to step up their support in line with the Flash Appeal.

The EU also remains highly concerned about rising insecurity and about the degradation of human rights, democracy and rule of law in the country.

On a more positive note, the political agreement of 11 September is an important step forward. It is the first to enjoy such broad political support, both from opposition and civil society. Further work is needed from all the parties –government, opposition and civil society – to broaden and consolidate this support. But if these ongoing efforts are successful, they would finally open up the prospect for free and credible elections, and to de-escalate Haiti’s complex multi-layered crisis.

In this context, the international community should continue capacity-building and provide technical assistance to key institutions in Haiti. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise and express appreciation for the valuable work conducted by BINUH – United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti.

The EU is currently programming its development cooperation for the upcoming period (2021-2027). Our cooperation aims at providing support to restoring governance and the basic functioning of the Haitian State. The challenge for the EU and other donors is ensuring that development assistance is spent as effectively and efficiently as possible. In this regard, the government also needs to prove its commitment and to deliver on governance reforms – across the economic, fiscal, public administration, electoral and constitutional areas; and on rule of law including security, justice and anti-corruption.

The EU remains committed to Haiti and will continue to work with the UN and other international partners to support the political dialogue process, the humanitarian response to the earthquake and sustainable development efforts.

Thank you for your attention.

Ghana

Thank you very much Ambassador Rhonda King,

And I know it has been a very long day but it has been worth the time being here and Ghana is pleased to have had the opportunity to co-sponsor with the A3 this Arria-formula on Haiti. And happy to also observe the enduring commitment to find new, additional and sustainable pathways that can help the nation of Haiti overcome its present challenges in the political, security, economic, social and humanitarian dimensions. We are grateful that the two Prime Ministers were able to join us and also appreciative of the briefers who provided insightful perspectives.

As the first black country birthed out of the struggles of oppressive regimes of Asia, Europe and the Americas, the contemporary story of Haiti must be redeemed from the path of instability that has regrettably been associated with this great nation for some decades now. It is in this respect as well as on account of it being part of the African diaspora that Haiti will continue to engage the attention of Ghana and other members of the African Union as we work with partners to find ways of assisting the government and people of Haiti to address their most pressing political and security challenges. And fashion out an economic and social development model that can create an inclusive solution for all Haitians.

The challenges that confront the Haitian people are quite well-known and have been discussed during this meeting. The reality of the Haitian situation today requires a political force that is cohesive on the national objectives, a security system that delivers on the safety for the many, an economy that is not strangled by the dominance of a handful of wealthy operators and which does not widen the gaps on inequality and jobless growth, a financial system that serves the public interest and a social system that provides safeguards for the most vulnerable.

With over 15 years of United Nations engagement in Haiti, currently manifested through BINUH, the Special Political Mission, the engagement of the international community must drive results for the Haitian people. As individually expressed by different countries, there is a Pan-African interest in enhancing engagement with Haiti, and here I am pleased to recall that the President of Kenya only a few days ago, in an interaction with the International Peace Institute offered 2000 places for capacity development opportunities in Kenya for Haitian officials. A fact that was reiterated by the Permanent Secretary when he spoke on behalf of the President.

I believe that I speak on behalf of most African countries when I say that our region is ready to accompany a democratic government in Haiti to bring to its people the long dreamt aspirations for peace, security and inclusive growth. However, the political forces of Haiti have their role to play, as the Haitian people prepare for their envisaged constitutional referendum and rounds of parliamentary and presidential elections, we would like to encourage the political class to put the overall interest of Haiti above all else. Haitians demand this and Haiti needs this. As we know Haiti can only be built by the people of Haiti, the international community may have a genuine desire to help but at best, it would only be just that, help. The real commitment must come from within the Haitian society, those remaining and Haitians abroad.

Madam Co-Chair,

Before concluding the following are some of the points that Ghana would like to highlight, we like many other people who have spoken support the renewal of the mandate of BINUH even if we would have wished for an enhanced mandate in this respect. As the Council prepares to renew the mandate of BINHU, also we urge that the focus should rightly be placed on how BINUH can best support the electoral process and the formation of a new government. The Haitian people need encouragement in ensuring an inclusive process to address the existing political difference in order to achieve sustained peace. A whole of society approach is required to bridge deep and sectoral differences by mobilising all relevant stakeholders in the Haitian society.

The experience of the African Union in addressing issues of governance, a fact which the Representative of the Permanent Observer mentioned, is also available. Particularly, in areas of governance, peacebuilding and we would encourage that that part be explored. As we may be aware, the African Union experience on prevention and peacebuilding is anchored in national and local ownership which is a necessary ingredient for sustaining peace.

In conclusion, I would once again want to thank the A3+1 as well as all the other co-sponsors for this Arria-formula meeting and to indicate that Ghana remains committed to ensuring that the Haitian tree of liberty is restored to life.

I thank you, Madam Co-chair, for your kind attention.

Slovakia

Thank you, Madam Chair,

I would like at the outset to thank your country, Kenya, Niger and Tunisia for convening this very insightful meeting which I believe can bring new perspectives on how Haiti can overcome the current crisis and boost socio-economic development.

Indeed also, the African experience might provide useful input on how to generate useful solutions to the dire challenges in the context of resource scarcity and political insecurity. And we are certainly more than ready to support the country in the challenging period and in addressing the root causes of trouble. The recent bleak report of the SRSG for Haiti, Ms. Helen La-Lima, but also the discussions that we have been having today during this meeting clearly show the combined humanitarian, economic, environmental, health, political and social crises in the country, that we must all strive to find solutions to. It is something that really deserves our continued attention. In that context, your initiative is not only extremely timely but very much appreciated and it should certainly be focusing on the needs of the people of Haiti.

Solutions rooted in solidarity, inclusion and transformative potential, international response must go hand in hand with fostering national ownership and with engaging with the most vulnerable groups including women and youth. Slovakia has been following with great attention, also with great concern the deteriorating situation around security but also around human rights, and we have heard repeatedly the situation about gang violence and other worrisome factors. And for that reason we have also co-sponsored the GA resolution on solidarity with Haiti in the aftermath of the August earthquake, calling the international community to scale up its humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation. In fact, I also wanted to highlight and emphasize the issue of Security Sector

Governance, as a key component in response to complex challenges in fragile countries like Haiti and in successful post crisis rebuilding and stabilization. We have actually been engaged in our role as co-chair of the Groups of Friends of Security Sector Reform a lot, also previously on the issue of police reform in Haiti and I think we certainly need to revisit that in the governance context and in the Groups of Friends context we certainly stand ready to engage with Haiti and its regional and global partners.

Let me conclude by saying that we are equally strong proponents of good governance in general within the UN, with a view of making it more adaptable to the current and future circumstances and of course it goes hand in hand within the priority which is revitalization of the UN. I therefore, welcome this timely meeting aspiring how to strengthen BINUH, and better coordinate its work also, with the important role that the PBC plays. The PBC has the potential to play a key role in supporting Haiti to build strong and trustworthy institutions which are indispensable for its sustainable recovery.

I thank you.

Ecuador

Thank you, Madam Chair,

Thank you to the organizers of this meeting, the concept note distributed for this meeting, the briefings and the previous statements properly and exhaustively put into context the complex political, economic, social and humanitarian situation in Haiti. Ecuador has expressed solidarity with Haiti by enhancing the cooperation to mitigate the suffering of Haitian people, as evidenced by the humanitarian response to situations of natural disasters affecting the country, such as the case of the recent earthquake of August 14.

In many of the Wrap-up presidency sessions of the Security Council, I have expressed the need for the Security Council to support Haiti and its people in a comprehensive manner. We cannot turn a blind eye to thousands of Haitians seeking for better conditions of living throughout the western hemisphere. In Latin America and the Caribbean, we have seen how dramatic the migration phenomena can be and even how foreseen flows of migrants can challenge the national and regional capacities.

Furthermore, as the flows of migrants grow in the region, not only as it relates to the situation of Haiti, we can see an increase in the presence of armed forces in border areas aiming to control these flows. This situation may even trigger actions with unpredictable consequences in matters of peace and security, raising the stakes to levels of tension not common in the western hemisphere. The scenario should be confronted with concrete recommendations, considering in a holistic approach benchmarks stated by the Secretary General in his report of the Security Council contained in the document S/2021/828 in relation with the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti. A humanitarian crisis as described in the Secretary General's report identifies the uncontrolled migration phenomena which includes the need to redouble the fight against human trafficking. The situation portrays a case of how the migration process should also be considered as a fundamental, security issue of a complex and multidimensional crisis. This is

undoubtedly a scenario that deserves the proper attention of the international community, especially in the western hemisphere.

I thank you for allowing me to give this brief speech.

Switzerland

Madam Chair,

Switzerland thanks Kenya, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Niger and Tunisia for organizing this meeting and the speakers for their contributions.

We welcome the UN's commitment to the root causes of the crisis and we welcome the fact that the Security Council was able to send a united signal by renewing the mandate of the UN Integrated Office in Haiti. Let me highlight the following aspects:

Following the August 14 earthquake, Switzerland provided emergency aid to more than 20,000 people. In a nexus approach, this additional aid benefited from the activities of Swiss cooperation and its partners on the ground. In the long term, Switzerland contributes to the institutionalization of policies to assist the most vulnerable, from social protection and food security to disaster risk reduction.

We would also like to highlight the commitment of the Peacebuilding Fund in Haiti to fill critical peacebuilding gaps. We are convinced of the need for rapid, flexible and catalytic funding of local initiatives, to which we will continue to contribute.

To make this commitment more sustainable, a national dialogue and reconciliation process are needed, especially to lead to fair and free elections. In our experience, the inclusion of all stakeholders, especially local actors, including women, civil society and the private sector, is paramount. Attacks on human rights defenders and other members of civil society are an obstacle to their participation and must be stopped. We also encourage the UN to focus on local governance, impunity, corruption and economic modernisation.

Finally, allow me to congratulate Ms. Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary-General of the International Organization of La Francophonie, for the efforts made to stabilise the situation. We invite the OIF to share its expertise in order to contribute to a political agreement.

Switzerland, with its long-standing commitment to the country and as a candidate for the Security Council, will remain a reliable partner for Haiti and the UN on the ground. I thank you.

Guatemala

Guatemala thanks the main sponsors for convening this United Nations Security Council Virtual Arria- Formula Meeting on the situation in Haiti. We recognize the participation of His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya, The Honorable Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and His Excellency Mr. Ariel Henry, Prime Minister

of the Republic of Haiti. At the same time, we also thank the presentations of the distinguished panelists.

Guatemala believes that the participation of the Government of the Republic of Haiti in this Formula Arria meeting is crucial to promote the principle of national ownership and leadership. National Governments have the primary responsibility in identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for sustaining peace. Therefore we call on the United Nations to continue taking local actors into account to be part of the peace process in Haiti. Taking into consideration that only a combination of bottom-up and top-down efforts can build peace.

Madam President,

Guatemala welcomes any initiative that aims to have a genuine dialogue on how Haiti can transform itself from the current state to regain stability and focus on its own development. The peace in Haiti should be something more than the end of a conflict but an integral status that allows the creation of state-building institutions that provide jobs, education, local security and the necessary incentives to facilitate the development of the human-being. The interconnected nature of Haiti problems demands durable parallel solutions, addressing the root causes and drivers of existing problems.

Guatemala takes note with concern that since early June, the resurgence of inter-gang turf wars and shifting alliances have caused the displacement of 19,000 people in the communes of Carrefour, Cité Soleil, Croix-des-Bouquets, Delmas and the Port-au-Prince neighbourhood of Martissant.

Guatemala recognized the different actions implemented by the Superior Council of the National Police, committed to strengthening the operational capacity of the police, including through the provision of additional equipment.

Madam President,

Let me conclude that Guatemala notes with concern that the transition processes implemented by the United Nations Security Council through different peacekeeping missions should be done in a staggered way, prioritizing the situation in the field. While we support the work that BINUH is currently implementing, we believe also that there is room for improvement. The Security Council must take lessons from its possible failures and analyze them in a better way when it is necessary to change the mandates from Peacekeeping to Peacebuilding. Based on the three fundamental principles of the UN peace operations, we owe these actions to the people of Haiti as an International Community.

We hope that through a frank exchange of opinions between all relevant stakeholders, including the main financial International donors, it will be possible to bring again peace and security but also to work in a parallel way to achieve sustainable peace in the Caribbean country and improve the present and future of our Haitian sisters and brothers. I thank you.

Brazil

Thank you very much Madam President,

Let me first commend the Permanent Missions of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Niger, Kenya and Tunisia for convening this Arria-formula meeting, let me also thank the briefers for their valuable insights. Brazil is convinced that today's gathering has invited a free exchange of ideas, about how the international community might lend its hand to help Haiti escape the trap the country finds itself in.

Where does one even begin? Is probably the most often asked question when the subject matter is Haiti, and all the more so after the devastating sequence of events the country has gone through in the past few months, which deprived the country of its Head of State and left hundreds of thousands of Haitians dislodged, displaced and in an acute humanitarian predicament. I do not purport to provide a definitive answer to the recurring question but one conviction supersedes all others when we think about the question at hand. There is only one single path towards peace, democracy and institutional normalcy in Haiti, which is forging a Haitian-led, national consensus around the restoration of governance leading to the promotion of free, fair and credible elections in a timeframe that is widely accepted and perceived as legitimate. A point made by Ms. Donna Forde, earlier this evening, for better or the worst there are no shortcuts or an easy way out.

Solutions crafted overseas as well meant as they may be, oftentimes will always run the risk of being seen in the eyes of Haitians as one more instance of foreign intervention and Haiti has had far too many of those. Tending to prompt a new cycle of violence and political instability, it's about time this cycle is broken. The International community's role is to support and encourage that arrangement, financially, with human resources or otherwise to the best of its ability.

With that in mind, I commend the members of the Security Council, on their decision taken some minutes ago to renew BINUH's mandate for an additional nine months. We are confident that the Special Political Mission, deployed in Haiti will live up to the high expectations invested in its term, of its ability to help broker practical and feasible solutions to Haiti's still largely unstable political situation.

Madam President,

As an incoming Council member, Brazil remains staunchly committed to Haiti's political stability and socio-economic prosperity, during the time MINUSTAH was in place we deployed tens of thousands of blue helmets, as well as every single force commander to peacekeeping operations over thirteen consecutive years.

In the aftermath of yet another earthquake on August 14, the Brazilian government dispatched an air-force cargo plane carrying a multidisciplinary mission including a support team as well as provisions of food, water purifiers and critical medical supplies to the affected areas. I reassure our friends in Haiti that they may count on Brazil's continued support and solidarity. I thank you, Madam President.

Greece

Thank you, Madam President,

The situation in Haiti has been far from rosy for quite some time, it's obvious that Haiti is in an urgent need of solidarity and support from the international community, in order to deal with all these challenges that the country faces. But what is more important is the long term perspective through a sustainable path to prosperity.

This is why the UN-Haiti cooperation is crucial for long term development and institution building, priority areas include support for economic growth and poverty reduction, improved healthcare and food security, promoting respect for human rights, building stronger democratic institutions and strengthening the national police so that Haiti can provide its own security and be a stronger partner against international crime. The key element is the security situation in the country for which the role of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti is essential. And the BINUH would be more adaptable to the circumstances of the country and more effective to achieve solutions for Haiti.

We believe that building stronger democratic institutions in Haiti is very important, in particular the holding of regular, free and fair elections can help guarantee Haiti's democratic traditions and ensure a voice to the Haitian people with the full participation of women and youth in the state-building process. The stability that comes with this institution is essential for Haiti to achieve sustained economic growth and attract much needed foreign investment.

It is a fact that Haiti holds a special place in our history, being the first country to recognise Greece's independence in 1821. As we are celebrating the bicentennial of our independence, there have been many events honouring Haiti even though not as many as we would like due to the COVID circumstances. It is now our turn to stand in solidarity with suffering Haitian people and the Minister of Foreign Affairs has announced his contribution to an international organisation already operating in Haiti, this aid is a contribution in addressing the humanitarian needs following the recent earthquake that hit the country as well as the hurricane that ensued.

Concluding, please allow me to congratulate very warmly Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, together with other cosponsors for organizing this timely and inspiring initiative.

Thank you very much Rhonda.

Malta

Madam President,

I begin by thanking the A3+1 and all other co-sponsors for convening this very timely meeting, and all the briefers. It was indeed very inspiring and it really gave us a good idea of what's happening on the ground, it really put us into perspective of the current situation in Haiti.

Ofcourse, 2021 has been a difficult year for the country and we welcome this opportunity to address all these political, security, socio-economic, humanitarian challenges, in a manner that

focuses on the root causes and facilitates Haiti's advancement and we also need to focus, to find solutions which should be rooted in solidarity. We believe that joint efforts by all stakeholders including the United Nations, CARICOM, hemisphere partners and other regional organizations and members of the International community can advance security, respond to humanitarian needs, enhance human rights protections, facilitate socio-economic advancement and bring sustainable development to the country.

Achieving political stability through an inclusive Haitian-led process is a key milestone that needs to be achieved to overcome these difficulties. We call on political leaders to organize free, fair and transparent presidential and legislative elections as soon as conditions permit, in an environment that will ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women as well as the active involvement of youth. In this context we are keen to emphasize the importance of gender equality and empowerment of women especially considering the crucial role they play in Haitian society and their contribution to the country's economy.

Malta remains particularly concerned with reports of ongoing violations and abuses of human rights, including high rates of sexual and gender based violence, and calls on all stakeholders to continue collaborating with Haitian authorities on human rights issues.

In conclusion, we commend the efforts of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti as well as the United Nations country team in assisting Haiti in addressing its immediate challenges and realizing its long term development objectives. We also welcome the unanimous adoption of UN Security Council resolution 2600, which was adopted a few minutes ago. Thank you very much.

Japan

Thank you, Madame Chair and distinguished cosponsors for convening this meeting.

Following the assassination of President Moïse and the devastating earthquake and tropical storm, Japan joins others in expressing solidarity with Haiti.

Allow me to highlight four points.

First, while there has been progress in national dialogues in Haiti, still some challenges remain. We encourage stakeholders towards free, fair, transparent and credible elections to achieve political stability.

Second, rule of law must prevail. The security and justice sectors must be strengthened. They must be able to carry out their duties, free from any threats. Impunity must end, and the perpetrators of the assassination brought to justice. Effective, accountable, inclusive and responsive institutions, including in the judicial sector, are critical to fostering trust among people and between the people and the State.

Third, partnership is key. We hope BINUH continues to support Haiti together with other partners to address Haiti's multifaceted challenges. CARICOM plays an indispensable role. Japan renewed its commitment to enhancing cooperation with CARICOM at the Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Conference in July this year.

Lastly, the socio-economic situation needs to be improved. Japan has provided humanitarian assistance of 3.25 million US dollars on the recent earthquake. In the face of COVID-19 crisis, Japan also provided support for strengthening Haiti's health system, including through the building of cold chains and the provision of medical equipment, capacity-building and the improvement of water and sanitation.

We are determined to continue to work together with Haiti and CARICOM.

I thank you.

Holy See

Madam Chair,

The Holy See is grateful for your invitation to address this Arria Formula Meeting to encourage a national dialogue and reconciliation process in Haiti, whose people are so dear to the heart of Pope Francis, as seen in his appeals and gestures of solidarity.

As the briefers have already mentioned in detail, the problems are multifaceted and interconnected. As the Caribbean nation is battered by natural disasters and its inhabitants seek to rise once more from yet another earthquake, there is widespread civil unrest, kidnappings have become commonplace, and gang violence is so pervasive that humanitarian actors are impeded from carrying out their vital work. Frequently these have included missionaries and personnel of faith-based organizations, generously committed to working with and for the promotion of the population. The violent assassination of President Moïse proves that no one is invulnerable. Lack of security has become unbearable, with seemingly no change in sight.

The deep and historic fractures in Haitian society have led to the sad reality that even armed gangs consider themselves victims (*Nou se victim*), scrambling for food, cash and other ways to alleviate their own dire condition: victims of underdevelopment and lack of opportunity, of manipulation by those who benefit from inter-Haitian chaos, and who, in turn, victimize and perpetuate violence as if it were the norm. Such acts of armed violence can never be justified, and other forms of criminal activity must be equally condemned. Impunity and the illegal circulation of arms and ammunition must cease, while the commitment to tackle corruption at all levels of society must be scaled up.

As Haitians seek to rebuild their country, it is imperative that the international community play its role, fulfilling its duty to protect and provide humanitarian assistance, with the support of the region and the wider international community. In this regard the UN Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (BINUH), should be equipped with the resources to fulfill its purpose.

The Catholic Church remains committed to its mission, including care for the most vulnerable and those on the peripheries. Through healthcare, social support and especially through education, it continues to play an essential part in preparing future generations and fostering dialogue at all levels, trying to sow seeds of much-needed reconciliation.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

