

**ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti calls on the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)**

**New York, 13 October 2021**

Following its meeting of 8 October 2021 to consider the situation in the country, the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti calls on the members of the Security Council to renew the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) due to expire on October 15. Now is not the time to reduce or eliminate any of BINUH's core functions.

A disbanding of BINUH would send an untimely and grave signal to the people of Haiti - that the UN and its member agencies are no longer interested in a coordinated role at this difficult, yet critical, time.

It is crucial that the international community continue to support the Haitian people in the country's transition to long-term stability and sustainable development.

The Advisory Group firmly believes that the special political mission has been, and will continue to be, instrumental in supporting the efforts of the Government of Haiti to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights and strengthen governance and the rule of law. The Group commends BINUH for working closely with the United Nations country team, as a key partner, to ensure implementation of the "delivering as one" approach by the UN system in Haiti.

The Group also strongly supports BINUH and the UN country team's efforts to work with the World Bank, the IMF and other development partners to help Haiti to address its acute socio-economic challenges, including food security for its people. The challenges facing the Haitian people have only grown since the devastating earthquake in the southwest of the country.

The Advisory Group supports the call for a thorough independent investigation of the assassination of President Moïse in order to hold those responsible accountable. In order to improve the critical security situation and strengthen Haiti's national institutions, it is essential that gang violence, corruption and the cycle of impunity be addressed by, among other measures, reinforcing the capacities of the National Police of Haiti. The Group calls on all development partners to continue to support the people of Haiti at this critical juncture.

The Advisory Group encourages the national authorities to engage in a genuine dialogue with stakeholders from across the political spectrum and civil society to re-establish institutional stability and the legitimacy of Haiti's political institutions, including through the holding of free and fair elections that is so critical to achieving stability, economic growth and sustainable development.

This is a time to enhance our engagement with Haiti, and not to walk away.

\*\*\*

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti is composed of Argentina, the Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Canada (Chair), Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Haiti, Mexico, Peru, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America and Uruguay to the United Nations. The President of ECOSOC is an ex officio member of the Group. It was initially formed in 1999 and its mandate is to follow closely and provide advice on the long-term development strategy of the country.