



Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations



**Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)
Presidency Pro-Tempore
Statement:**

**Fifth Committee
Financing of United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti
(MINUJUSTH)
72nd Session of the General Assembly**

FIFTH COMMITTEE, NEW YORK, DECEMBER 18, 2017.

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Mr. Chair,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, CELAC, on agenda item 165: "Financing of United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH)" for the period from 16 October 2017 to 30 June 2018.

We would like to thank the Controller, Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas for introducing the report of the Secretary-General and the Chairman of the ACABQ Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu for introducing the relevant report of the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Chair,

CELAC reaffirms its solidarity with the people and Government of Haiti and acknowledges the crucial role of international efforts in supporting Haiti's national priorities in addressing its critical needs.

We note the decision taken by the Security Council, in its resolution 2350 (2017), that established MINUJUSTH as a follow-on mission to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for an initial period of six months from 16 October 2017 until 15 April 2018. CELAC would like to reiterate, as we did during the 71st second resumed session that MINUJUSTH will receive the same consistent and relevant support from our community that MINUSTAH historically received.

Mr. Chair,

In order for MINUJUSTH to fulfill its mandate it requires adequate resources. Regarding this we note that the General Assembly did not approve resources for MINUJUSTH



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for the 2017/18 period in its resolution 71/302 on the financing of MINUSTAH, with the expectation that the Secretary-General would submit a budget for the Mission for the period from 16 October 2017 to 30 June 2018 during the main part of its seventy-second session.

However, to address the immediate resource needs for MINUJUSTH, the Controller, in a letter dated 6 September 2017, sought the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to meet the estimated preliminary resource requirements to finance start up activities of MINUJUSTH for the period from 16 October to 31 December 2017 for an estimated amount of \$29,280,700.

The Committee subsequently authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments of up to \$25,000,000 for that period. The report of the Secretary-General before us indicates that the budget proposal for MINUJUSTH for that period takes into consideration the amount authorized by the Committee.

Mr. Chair,

CELAC would like to highlight the importance of including, where required, an adequate level of resources in support of programmatic activities to strengthen the peacebuilding agenda. In this sense, we are committed to help facilitate Haiti on its path of stabilization, sustainable peace and development through the Mission's current mandate to assist the Government to strengthen rule of law in Haiti; further support and develop the national police; and engage in human rights monitoring, reporting and analysis.

Our community is very proud of the work done by MINUSTAH, in particular its military component, and of the support traditionally and currently provided to Haiti via bilateral channels, regional organizations and the United Nations system through technical cooperation, humanitarian assistance, medical teams and other forms of support.

Therefore, we believe it necessary to preserve the gains of MINUSTAH, especially in the area of security, by appropriately funding its successor.

Mr. Chair,

Today, Haiti remains vulnerable to humanitarian crises, health issues, and other social problems. We as CELAC believe this highlights the importance of the continued UN presence and of the involvement of the international community, as well as the need to solidify the decision that the United Nations will continue supporting Haiti.

CELAC disagrees with any arbitrary reductions without technical justification in the resources allocated to the Mission. We underline that MINUJUSTH's budget, like those of other peacekeeping and special political missions, should be based on the situation



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on the ground and the mandate approved by the Security Council, and not by artificial budgetary ceilings.

Mr. Chair,

CELAC members reiterate their commitment to continue working constructively in this negotiating process in order to ensure that MINUJUSTH has sufficient resources to implement its mandate with a view to providing all necessary assistance to Haiti.

We urge the other Members of the United Nations to continue working for the reconstruction, stabilization and development of Haiti.

I thank you Mr. Chair.