14. The question concerning Haiti

During the period under review, the Council held four meetings and adopted two resolutions, one of them under Chapter VII of the Charter, on the question concerning Haiti. Two of the meetings took the form of debates and two were convened for the adoption of a decision. With the adoption of resolution 2466 (2019), the Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) for 273

For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.
a final period of six months until 15 October 2019. By resolution 2476 (2019), the Council requested the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) beginning on 16 October 2019. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2019, the Council heard briefings at each of the two debates by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations and, at the debate on 12 April, by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Executive Director of Zanmi Lasante, a Haitian non-governmental health-care organization. In addition, for the first time since 2009, the President of the Economic and Social Council was invited to a meeting under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, attending on 15 October 2019. In their deliberations, Council members expressed concern regarding the situation in Haiti, noting in particular the political and constitutional crisis in the country, the widespread violence and worsening socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions, as well as corruption and impunity for human rights abuses. They called for inclusive and peaceful dialogue among all stakeholders to address the root causes of the situation. With the end of the United Nations peacekeeping presence in Haiti, Council members noted the importance of the Government of Haiti’s national ownership in ensuring peace and stability and promoting economic development in the country. In that context, Council members underscored the need for a seamless transition between MINUJUSTH and BINUH, welcomed the submission of benchmarks and indicators for BINUH and underlined the need for them to be nationally owned.

On 3 April 2019, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations highlighted the tumultuous and uncertain political situation in Haiti following 10 days of unrest in February, which had resulted in 41 deaths and 100 injuries and the collapse of the Government on 18 March. While noting the establishment by the President of a facilitation committee for an intra-Haitian dialogue, the Under-Secretary-General underscored that stronger efforts were required from all key actors to ensure the success of the committee’s work and the crafting of a national vision for economic reform, social protection, improving the rule of law, fighting corruption and organizing timely legislative elections in accordance with international standards. On the expected drawdown of MINUJUSTH, he drew attention to the progress made by Haiti in strengthening its institutions, in particular the Haitian National Police, and noted the recommendations made by the Secretary-General, to support the priorities of the Haitian leadership in the final six months of deployment and for the United Nations to continue supporting the country through a small strategic presence with good offices, human rights and advisory capacities. At the same meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on outstanding human rights challenges in Haiti, namely difficult socioeconomic conditions, corruption, poverty and criminal activity, impunity for serious human rights violations, a weak judicial system and prolonged pre-trial detention. She commended the appointment of the Minister for Human Rights and the Fight against Extreme Poverty of Haiti, the efforts by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights to develop a national action plan, the continued functioning of the Office of the National Human Rights Ombudsperson and the engagement of civil society organizations. The High Commissioner encouraged the Council to support Haiti in strengthening its institutions, fighting impunity and promoting and protecting human rights. In her remarks, the Executive Director of Zanmi Lasante drew the attention of Council members to the situation of women and girls in Haiti, underscoring the need to address inequality and sexual and gender-based violence and to ensure the political participation of women. She called on MINUJUSTH and the Council to support, among other things, the building of local capacities for gender-sensitive services for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

On 12 April 2019, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted resolution 2466 (2019), with 13 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. By the resolution, the Council extended the mandate of MINUJUSTH for a final period of six months until 15 October 2019 and requested the Secretary-General to initiate the necessary planning for an appropriate integrated United Nations system presence in Haiti, including a special political mission. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council within 30 days of the adoption of the...
resolution regarding the operational details of the proposed mission, for the Council’s consideration and subsequent authorization. After the vote, in explanation of his delegation’s decision to abstain, the representative of the Russian Federation criticized the adoption of the text under Chapter VII, noting that the human rights situation in Haiti did not constitute a threat to international peace and security and that the comprehensive and integrated policy framework had been applied to MINUSTAH without being first finalized and then discussed by Member States. Despite having voted in favour, the representative of China noted that MINUSTAH should be focused on helping Haiti to deal with peace and security issues and should not be too involved in the country’s domestic human rights issues. Having also abstained in the vote, the representative of the Dominican Republic noted that MINUSTAH would complete its mandate at the same time that elections were expected to be held in Haiti, which should be taken into account when making way for any work by the United Nations in the post-MINUJUSTH period.

On 25 June 2019, the Council adopted resolution 2476 (2019), with 13 votes in favour and 2 abstentions, in which it requested the Secretary-General to establish BINUH, beginning on 16 October 2019 and for an initial period of 12 months, headed by a special representative of the Secretary-General, with the mandate to, inter alia, advise and assist the Government in promoting and strengthening political stability and good governance, including with regard to the rule of law, planning elections and addressing human rights abuses and violations. The Council also underscored the need for the activities of BINUH and the United Nations country team in Haiti to be fully integrated. After the vote, the representative of China, in explaining its decision to abstain, underscored that the mandate of BINUH had to be clear and concise if it were to assist Haiti in responding to peace and security issues and noted that the text had failed to fully reflect his delegation’s concerns. The representative of the Dominican Republic expressed the view that the mandate of the successor mission to MINUSTAH had to be broad-based and include support for strengthening the political and electoral systems and the rule of law and helping to tackle social inequality, governance and the adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters. The representatives of France and Germany expressed disappointment that the resolution did not address the impact of climate change on the security situation in Haiti. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Haiti underscored that his country would have liked to see a special political mission commensurate with the challenges, requiring, inter alia, the mobilization of adequate financial resources. He remained hopeful, however, that the mission would have adequate financial means to be able to provide concrete assistance to the Haitian authorities in overcoming the multidimensional crisis.

In a letter dated 11 October 2019, the Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint a special representative for Haiti and Head of BINUH.

During the second debate under the item, on 15 October 2019, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations drew attention to the fourth failed attempt at the confirmation of a Government in Parliament, which had resulted in a possible institutional vacuum and a stalled national dialogue process, leading, in turn, to demonstrations by opposition leaders, at least 30 deaths, and worsening humanitarian conditions. Despite the context, he highlighted the achievements of MINUSTAH and MINUJUSTH in supporting improvements in the country in the areas of rule of law, good offices and human rights institutions. The Under-Secretary-General reminded the Council that BINUH would focus on promoting political solutions, while the United Nations country team would take over programme and technical support activities. He added that the United Nations would continue to work on eliminating cholera in Haiti and the outstanding sexual exploitation and paternity cases. Speaking after Council members, the President of the Economic and Social Council highlighted the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, which had been established in 1999 pursuant to a request by the Security Council under Article 65 of the Charter, to provide recommendations on the country’s long-term development. She stated that the Organization should redouble its efforts to support the people of Haiti and to put in place conditions for long-term sustainable development and stability and noted the need for continued collaboration between the two Councils.

282 See S/PV.8510.
284 Ibid., para. 5.
285 S/PV.8559.
286 S/2019/812.
287 S/PV.8641.
## Meetings: the question concerning Haiti

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<td>Report of the Secretary-General on MINUJUSTH (S/2019/805)</td>
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⁹ Haiti was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Turkey.

b China, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Peru, Russian Federation and United States.

d For: Belgium, China, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States; against: none; abstaining: Dominican Republic, Russian Federation.

e China, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Peru, Russian Federation and United States.

f For: Belgium, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States; against: none; abstaining: China, Dominican Republic.

Peru was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

h The Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine.

### 15. Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/53)

During the period under review, the Council held five meetings, including one high-level meeting, and adopted one resolution under the agenda item entitled, “Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/53)”.

Four of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was...