QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN HAITI

July - September 2025

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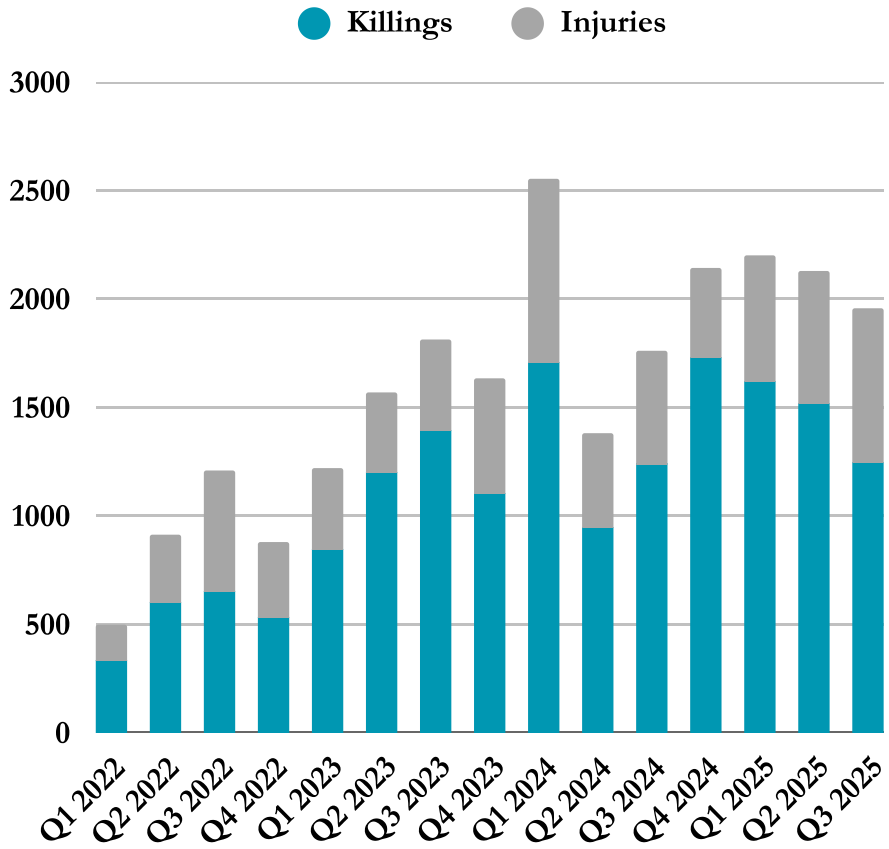
Main Takeaways

- 1,247 people were killed and 710 injured by gangs (30%), self-defense groups and members of the population (9%), and during security force operations against gangs (61%).
- The gangs were not able to gain further ground within the capital and were even pushed back from certain neighborhoods such as Delmas 19 and Route de l'Aéroport (Delmas), as well as downtown Port-au-Prince and Turgeau (Port-au-Prince).
- The expansion of gang violence toward the peripheral and rural areas of the capital and toward the Artibonite and Centre departments continued.
- Sexual violence and child trafficking (including recruitment and exploitation) continue to be used by gangs to subjugate residents living in areas under their control.
- 39 members of the population were killed or injured by explosive drone strikes.
- 79 summary or arbitrary extrajudicial executions are believed to have been committed by police officers (78) and by the Government Commissioner of Miragoâne (1).
- 8 security force personnel were killed and 17 others injured during security operations.
- At least 1,400,000 people were displaced in Haiti as of 30 September.
- Ten Public Prosecutors were recruited for the specialized judicial units to combat mass crimes, including sexual violence, as well as financial crimes.

Recommendations

- **To the Haitian government:** Ensure the operationalization of specialized judicial units to combat mass crimes, including sexual violence, as well as financial crimes.
- **To the Haitian government:** With the support of the international community, accelerate the effective implementation of the police vetting process and conduct judicial investigations of officers accused of involvement in serious human rights violations.
- **To the Haitian government:** With the support of the international community, strengthen and accelerate the establishment of a prevention, disengagement and rehabilitation program for minors involved in gangs, and reestablish a national entity leading and coordinating disarmament, dismantlement, reintegration and community violence reduction efforts.
- **To the Haitian government:** Strengthen the coherence and effectiveness of the national security forces in their fight against armed gangs.
- **To the Haitian government:** With the support of the international community, including humanitarian actors, strengthen the protection of populations at risk.
- **To the international community:** Keep Haiti on the international agenda and provide adequate financial and human support to guarantee the full deployment of the Gang Suppression Force (GSF) as authorised by Security Council Resolution 2793 on 30 September 2025, in line with human-rights norms and standards.
- **To the states of the region:** Strengthen and increase cargo inspections destined for Haiti within their territory, including in seaports and airports, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 2653 (2022), 2699 (2023), 2752 (2024) and 2794 (2025), which impose an arms embargo.

Killings and Injuries by Quarter 2022-2025



I. Violence and Human Rights Violations

According to the Human Rights Service (HRS) of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), between 1 July and 30 September 2025, at least 1,247 people were killed and 710 injured as a result of violence perpetrated by gangs, self-defense groups and unorganized members of the population, as well as during security force operations[1]. Men account for 83 per cent of the victims, women 14 per cent, and children 3 per cent[2].

As in the previous two quarters, the people killed and injured are attributable to the following dynamics:

During attacks carried out by gangs	30%
During security operations conducted against gangs, including summary executions involving police personnel, drone strikes supported by a private military company, and the Government Commissioner of Miragoâne	61%
During violence carried out by self-defence groups and mobs, in the context of the so-called "popular justice" movement known as "Bwa Kalé"	9%

The vast majority of these incidents were documented in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (76 per cent), followed by the Artibonite department (17 per cent) and the Centre department (5 per cent).

Sexual violence committed by armed gangs has continued, with at least 400 survivors (340 women, 59 girls and one man) recorded in the capital and in the Artibonite and Centre departments. At the same time, during this same period, at least 145 people[3] were kidnapped for ransom by gangs, 46 per cent of whom in the Artibonite department, 45 per cent in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, and 8 per cent in the Centre department.

1.1. Dynamics of Gang-Related Violence and Their Impact on Human Rights

Continuing the trend seen in the second quarter, gangs were unable to make further gains in the capital and were even pushed back from a number of neighbourhoods – including Delmas 19 and Route de l'Aéroport (Delmas) and downtown Port-au-Prince and Turgeau (Port-au-Prince) following operations by the security forces and self-defense groups. However, the authorities have yet to fully regain control of these areas, where gangs continue to launch quick, sporadic attacks.

In the rest of the capital, gangs maintained their influence by using violence against residents suspected of collaborating with the police or with self-defense groups or accused of having committed criminal acts. They also continued their extortion activities targeting commercial businesses as well as public and private transport services, while restricting access to essential services – notably healthcare and education – and destroying or ransacking property.

Their expansion into the peripheral and rural areas of the capital – notably Kenscoff and Cabaret – as well as into the Artibonite and Centre departments, has intensified.

[1] During the first quarter of 2025 (January–March), 1,621 people were killed and a 580 injured. In the second quarter of 2025 (April–June), 1,520 people were killed and 609 others injured.

[2] 1,247 people killed (1,081 men, 132 women, 23 boys and 11 girls) and 710 injured (547 men, 136 women, 21 boys and six girls)

[3] 102 men, 31 women, seven boys and five girls

Major Gang Attacks		
Location	**Number of People Killed and Injured**	**Duration of the Attacks**
Léogâne	2 people killed and 13 injured	8 July
Obléon (Kenscoff)	14 people killed and 9 injured	11 July
Bercy (Cabaret) andLabodrie (Arcahaie)	42 people killed and 36 injured	7 and 11 September

West Department: Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area

Communes of Carrefour and Gressier

In Carrefour and Gressier, two communes located at the southern entrance to the metropolitan area, the *Ti Bois* gang and the *103 Zombies* (the local cell of the *Grand Ravine* gang) strengthened their territorial control through targeted abuses against individuals who opposed their rules.

During the third quarter, at least 51 people were killed (46 residents and six gang members) in these circumstances, and 27 others were injured (26 residents and one gang member)[4].

These incidents were documented in several localities, including Bizoton, Côte Plage, Jérusalem, Lamentin, Mon Repos, Morne à Chandelle, Thor and Rivière Froide (Carrefour), as well as Boilassal, La Colline, La Saline, Macôme, Mariani, Merger, Nan Mathieu and Pandjanmen (Gressier).

Most of the victims were killed or injured as a form of "punishment" for alleged theft, for refusing to pay extortion imposed on transport drivers or local businesses, or due to suspicions of collaborating with the security forces.

Others were intercepted by gang members in the streets or in their homes, then detained in buildings used by the gangs as places of captivity. They were often subsequently severely beaten and forced to pay "fines" to secure their release, with amounts ranging from 5,000 to 50,000 gourdes (approximately 40 to 400 US dollars). Some were "tried" and executed, their bodies incinerated in isolated areas of the Jérusalem neighbourhood (Carrefour).

These incidents take place in a context where State institutions, including the security forces, were forced to withdraw following the takeover of these areas by gangs at the beginning of 2024.

Commune of Léogâne

The *Ti Bois* and *103 Zombies* gangs continued their attacks in an effort to extend their control over the commune of Léogâne. Located next to Carrefour and Gressier, this commune has not yet fallen under gang influence, largely due to the operations carried out by the Laferonay self-defense group.

During the quarter, the localities of Jasmin and Laferonay, which border Gressier, were targeted in at least three attacks, during which at least nine people were killed (eight men and one woman) and eight others injured (six men and two women)[5].

In addition, on 8 July, the *103 Zombies* gang attacked a boat off the coast of Léogâne that was carrying *Madam Sara* – women traders transporting

[4] 51 people killed (37 men, 13 women and one boy) and 27 others injured (12 men, 12 women and three boys)

[5] Nine people killed (eight men and one woman) and eight others injured (six men and two women)

agricultural products. The attackers opened fire on the passengers, killing two people and injuring 13 others[6].

Commune of Cité Soleil

As in other areas of the capital under gang control, attacks carried out by gangs in Cité Soleil have remained relatively limited.

Between July and September 2025, at least six people were killed and nine others injured[7] in this commune. These abuses were intended to "punish" members of the population, including children, following disputes with gang members or for challenging their authority. In two incidents documented on 11 and 15 September, three children – as young as 10 – were beaten and another killed by members of the *Simon Pelé* and *Terre Noire* gangs, after altercations that occurred during football matches in which they were taking part.

Likewise, on 19 July, two drivers were shot and injured by members of the *Pierre VI* gang after resisting the hijacking of their trucks transporting foodstuff at Carrefour Duvivier. A five-year-old girl who was present with her mother was also injured, struck in the hand by a stray bullet.

Communes of Delmas and Port-au-Prince

In Delmas and Port-au-Prince – particularly in the lower Delmas neighbourhoods (Delmas 1 to 16), Carrefour Feuilles, Fontamara, La Saline and Martissant – the gangs, especially *Delmas 6*, *Grand Ravine*, *La Saline*, *Les Argentins*, *Ti Bois* and *Village de Dieu*, continued to maintain their control by targeting residents who challenged their criminal governance or were accused of collaborating with the police or with self-defense groups.

In these neighbourhoods, they also killed people whom they accused of "mystical" practices that, in their view, had harmed their relatives[8]. For example, on 13 September in Carrefour-Feuilles (Port-au-Prince), a woman was accused by a member of the *Grand Ravine* gang of having used witchcraft to kill his partner. She was beaten to death. One of the victim's daughters was also beaten and had her feet burned before being released. The perpetrator then demanded that the family of the woman killed pay 300,000 gourdes (approximately 2,200 US dollars) in order to recover her body.

Gang members have also been killed for committing crimes against residents or for violating internal gang rules. For instance, on 23 September, a cell leader of the *Village de Dieu* gang was informed that a 14-year-old boy, also a member of the same gang, had been accused by the local population of raping a nine-year-old girl in Martissant A2 (Port-au-Prince). The boy was detained in a building, where he was violently beaten with a baseball bat and subsequently "sentenced" to death. He was shot dead the same day in front of the population.

According to some sources, these "punishments", which resulted in at least 81 people being killed or injured (31 residents and 50 gang members)[9] during the quarter, form part of a gang strategy aimed at consolidating support among the population and preventing residents from fleeing, while providing them with a form of "protection" in a context of intensified security forces operations.

In the areas of Delmas and Port-au-Prince from which they were recently pushed out by the security forces – notably Delmas 19 and Route de l'Aéroport (Delmas), downtown Port-au-Prince and Turgeau (Port-au-

[6] Two people killed (one man and one woman) and 13 others injured (three men and ten women)

[7] Six people killed (four men, one man and one boy) and nine others injured (three men, five boys and one girl)

[8] One of the most serious recent cases occurred between 6 and 11 December 2024, when at least 207 people were killed on the orders of the leader of the *Wharf Jérémie* gang, who accused the victims of using witchcraft to kill his son. For further details, see BINUH (December 2024), "207 people executed by the *Wharf Jérémie* gang (Port-au-Prince)", available at https://binuh.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/flash_report_20241223_wharf_jeremie_en.pdf

[9] 50 people killed (47 men, two women and one boy) and 31 others injured (18 men, ten women, two boys and one girl)

Prince) – gang members carried out several swift, hit-and-run attacks, as well as kidnappings[10].

For example, on 29 July, the *Simon Pelé* gang attacked a business located on Route de l'Aéroport (Delmas). During the attack, they fired indiscriminately, killing five people. Nine employees of the company were also abducted.

Commune of Croix-des-Bouquets

In Croix-des-Bouquets, the number of people killed or injured as a result of gang attacks has also remained relatively limited. Between July and September, 12 people were killed (nine residents and three gang members) and 11 others – all residents – were injured[11].

Most of the victims were attacked by the *400 Mawozo*, *Canaan* and *Chen Mechan* gangs in the context of personal disputes with their members or with members of the population, or for refusing to comply with extortion imposed by these groups. These incidents were documented in the localities of Bouzy, Canaan, Dargout, Marin and La Tremblay. For example, in Bouzy, on 22 August, a local male resident "filed a complaint" with the *400 Mawozo* gang against another resident who had damaged her radio. That same day, gang members apprehended the man, tied him up with a cable – his hands and feet bound behind his back – and beat him severely before releasing him.

According to local sources, the relatively low number of gang attacks in Croix-des-Bouquets may be explained, on the one hand, by their increasingly strong hold over the population and, on the other hand, by the redeployment, since March 2025, of a significant number of their members to the Artibonite and Centre departments, where they have established several cells in the communes of La Chapelle, Mirebalais and Saut d'Eau (*see sections on the Artibonite and Centre departments*).

Communes of Pétion Ville and Tabarre

Unlike in previous quarters, the communes of Pétion-Ville and Tabarre recorded fewer attacks by the *Kraze Baryè* and *Village de Dieu* gangs.

Since mid-2024, following police operations, members of the *Kraze Baryè* gang were forced to leave the Tabarre area and withdraw to neighbourhoods bordering the commune of Croix-des-Bouquets, which are controlled by their allies, the *400 Mawozo* gang.

Nonetheless, on 9 September, the *Kraze Baryè* gang killed three members of the same family (two men and one woman) while they were travelling in their vehicle in Tabarre 48. The two men were officers of the Tabarre police station's Intervention Brigade.

The gang also carried out at least five attacks in the commune of Pétion-Ville, particularly in the localities of Cargo, Greffier, Pernier and the Route des Frères area. During these attacks, at least 22 people were killed (15 men, four women and three boys) and nine others injured (four men and five women) as a result of indiscriminate gunfire.

Although they are based in the commune of Port-au-Prince, the *Grand Ravine* and *Village de Dieu* gangs carried out two attacks, on 2 July and 18 September, in the Thomassin neighbourhood (Pétion-Ville), during which three men were killed and another injured. The victims were shot while attempting to flee or while inside their homes. During the incident on 18 September, before leaving the area, the attackers abducted six men and forced around one hundred residents to temporarily abandon the neighbourhood to escape the violence.

Commune of Kenscoff

In Kenscoff, the situation remained tense due to repeated attacks by the *Grand Ravine* and *Village de Dieu* gangs. Despite reinforced operations by

[10] During the quarter, at least 15 people – all men – were abducted in the areas of Delmas 33 and Route de l'Aéroport (Delmas), as well as downtown Port-au-Prince and Turgeau (Port-au-Prince), by the *Grand Ravine*, *Krache Dife*, *Les Argentins*, *Simon Pelé* and *Village de Dieu* gangs.

[11] 12 people killed (nine men, two women and one girl) and 11 injured (ten men and one woman)

the security forces to dislodge them, these two gangs succeeded in establishing cells in several areas.

During the quarter, at least eight attacks were documented in the Viard and Obléon areas, located south of Kenscoff, during which 18 members of the population were killed (14 men, three women and one boy) and 10 men were injured.

In early August, the gangs also occupied for several days the area known as "Téléco", where strategic telecommunications infrastructure serving the capital is located. The attackers sabotaged equipment belonging to the telecommunications company Digicel, as well as several antennas of the National Civil Aviation Office (OFNAC). A significant mobilisation of the security forces enabled the area to be brought back under control quickly.

Other Communes in the West Department: Arcahaie and Cabaret

In the rural areas on the outskirts of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, gang violence continued to spread, particularly in the communes of Arcahaie and Cabaret, located along the Côte des Arcadins.

In the locality of Bercy (Arcahaie), on 7 September, a violent attack was carried out by the *Canaan* and *Village de Dieu* gangs. The rapid intervention of the security forces resulted in the killings of 15 gang members and forced them to withdraw. However, before leaving the area, the gangs opened fire indiscriminately on the population, injuring 11 residents[12].

A few days later, on 11 September, in retaliation for allegedly helping the police to thwart this attack, the same gangs launched a new assault on the neighbouring locality of Labodrie (commune of Arcahaie), killing at least 42 people and injuring 25 others among the population[13]. In addition, at least 70 houses were set on fire[14].

The increased presence of the *Canaan* and *Village de Dieu* gangs in Cabaret, and the risk of their progression towards Arcahaie, heighten the likelihood of further progression as far as Saint-Marc, the second-largest city in the Artibonite department and the main port in the area. In addition, this locality hosts a large number of internally displaced people who have fled gang violence in other communes of the Artibonite Department.

Artibonite Department

In the Artibonite department, the situation remained extremely volatile. Repeated attacks were carried out by the *Délugé*, *Gran Grif* and *Kokorat San Ras* gangs in the communes of Dessalines, Gros-Morne, La Chapelle, L'Estère, Liancourt, Montrouis, Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite, Saint-Marc and Verrettes.

These attacks, often supported by gangs based in the capital – particularly *400 Mawozo*, *Canaan* and *Village de Dieu* – in turn triggered a response from local self-defence groups, contributing to a highly lethal cycle of violence.

Thus, from July to September 2025, gang attacks in Artibonite resulted in at least 64 people being killed and 67 injured among the population[15]. Victims were killed during indiscriminate shootings targeting homes, as well as in the streets and on footpaths while attempting to flee the attacks. In other cases, victims were killed as they tried to resist abduction.

[12] Seven women and four men

[13] 42 people killed (23 men, 13 women, four boys and two girls) and 25 injured (17 women and eight men)

[14] The massacre took place in the context of the expansion of the *Canaan* gang in the northern part of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area. Since 2021, this gang has consolidated its control over Croix-des-Bouquets and launched attacks against Cabaret. In 2024, members of *Canaan* and *Village de Dieu* took full control of the town of Cabaret and installed a cell leader there, supported by around one hundred members, in order to "administer" the town. In the months that followed, in order to continue their territorial expansion, these gangs multiplied their attacks against the neighbouring commune of Arcahaie. However, these were pushed back by officers from the local police station, supported by UDMO units and members of the local community.

[15] 64 people killed (51 men, 12 women and one boy) and 67 injured (51 men, 14 women and two boys)

Gang members also shot and killed residents on the grounds of alleged collaboration with the police or with local self-defence groups. For example, on 16 August, members of *Kokorat San Ras* attacked people attending a funeral ceremony in the commune of L'Estère, killing four individuals and injuring five others[16]. They had been accused of belonging to the Capenyen self-defence brigade.

Centre Department: Communes of Mirebalais, Saut d'Eau and Lascahobas

Despite operations carried out by the security forces to regain control of the communes of Mirebalais and Saut d'Eau, as well as the western part of Lascahobas, the *400 Mawozo* and *Canaan* gangs maintained their grip on these localities.

In early July, these gangs focused their operations towards Lascahobas, where they carried out a coordinated attack on the localities of Devarieux and Sarazin, prompting a response from the security forces during which one police officer was killed and another injured. Although no casualties among the population were reported, the advance of the gangs nonetheless triggered a massive displacement of the local population. Approximately 16,250 people were forced to flee their homes, seeking refuge mainly in other communes of the Centre department, such as Belladère, Hinche and Savanette[17].

Overall, during the quarter, the number of people killed and injured in the communes of Mirebalais, Saut d'Eau and Lascahobas remained relatively limited (four residents killed and seven others injured)[18], mainly because the majority of their inhabitants had already left these communes since March 2025, following the intensification of gang violence.

1.2. Dynamics of Violence Linked to Self-Defense Groups and Mobs in the Context of the "Bwa Kalé" Movement

During the third quarter of 2025, at least 150 people were killed and 15 others injured[19] by self-defence groups or members of the population, either in efforts to protect their neighbourhoods or localities, or in the context of the "popular justice" movement known as *Bwa Kalé*.

The majority of cases were recorded in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (48 per cent), followed by the Artibonite department (41 per cent) and the Centre department (five per cent).

In some areas, self-defence groups have become the only remaining security structures, providing a degree of protection against gang attacks. For example, in the Artibonite department, following repeated gang attacks and the limited presence of the security forces, the self-defence groups of Désarmes and Kapenyen intervened to push back members of the *Canaan* and *Kokorat San Ras* gangs.

In Gressier and Léogâne, south of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, the Laferonay self-defence group remained active. On several occasions, residents turned to this group to alert them to the presence of members of the *103 Zombies* gang in the area.

However, during their interventions, self-defence groups continued to commit serious abuses, including the killing of individuals suspected of belonging to gangs or collaborating with them. These victims were often shot or attacked with stones and machetes while unarmed and not involved in any acts of violence. For example, on 15 August, a man and a woman who had travelled from Saut d'Eau to purchase food at the Désarmes market were killed by members of the Désarmes self-defence group, who accused them of being informants for the *Canaan* gang.

[16] Two men and two women killed, and two men and three women injured

[17] International Organization for Migration (IOM) (July 2025), "Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) Dashboard #66 - Data Collection: 3 – 4 July 2025", available at https://dtm.iom.int/dtm_download_track/80651?file=1&type=node&id=53951

[18] Four people killed (three men and one woman) and seven men injured

[19] 150 people killed (136 men and 14 women) and 15 injured (14 men and one girl)

At the same time, in some areas, self-defence groups have begun adopting criminal behaviours similar to those of gangs. For example, in the commune of Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite, the Jean Denis self-defense group set up checkpoints on certain roads in order to extort local residents to acquire weapons and ammunition. Vehicles that refused to pay were shot.

In other departments of the country, sporadic cases linked to *Bwa Kalé* have been documented. During the quarter, in the North (Cap-Haïtien) and in the South (Grand'Anse, Belle-Anse and Les Cayes-Jacmel), at least five people suspected of belonging to gangs or of having committed crimes such as sexual assaults and theft were lynched by the population.

1.3. Dynamics of Violence Linked to Security Force Operations and Excessive Use of Force

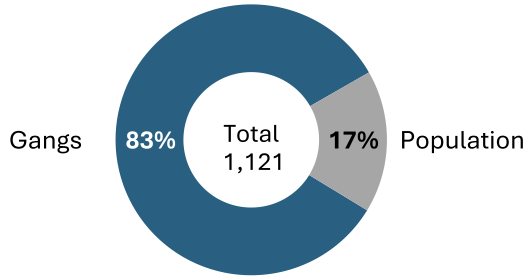
During the third quarter, security force operations against the gangs continued, particularly in the areas of Furcy, Obléon and Viard (Kenscoff), Route de l'Aéroport (between Cité Soleil and Delmas), Pacot, Turgeau, Martissant and Simon Pelé, within the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.

During these operations, at least 700 people were killed and 421 others injured[20]. This figure represents an 11 per cent decrease compared with the previous quarter [21].

Most of the cases, 84 per cent, were documented in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, while the Artibonite and Centre departments recorded 9 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.

According to HRS data, 17 per cent of those killed and injured were members of the population with no links to gangs, struck by stray bullets while in their homes or in the street.

Victims (killings and injuries) during security forces operations against gangs



During the operations, eight members of the Haitian National Police (HNP) were killed, and 17 other security force personnel were injured [22].

In line with the trend observed in the previous quarter, two types of interventions were carried out: on the one hand, ground operations led in particular by specialised units of the Haitian National Police, and on the other hand, operations using explosive drones supported by members of a private military company.

Ground Operations

Sixty-six per cent of those killed and injured[23] were documented during ground operations carried out by the security forces. While the majority of the victims were gang members[24], killed or injured in exchanges of

[20] 700 people killed (636 men, 45 women, 11 boys and eight girls) and 421 others injured (357 men, 52 women, nine boys and three girls)
[21] 1,263 people had been killed or injured: 814 people killed (764 men, 47 women and three children) and 449 injured (410 men, 34 women and five children)
[22] 14 members of the HNP and three members of the MSS
[23] 620 men, 72 women and ten children

[24] Limited access on the ground and to the relevant services, due to security constraints, has in many cases hindered HRS's ability to determine the ages of gang members killed in clashes with the police. This limitation makes it difficult, in particular, to distinguish between older adolescents and young adults, which affects the accuracy of the data.

gunfire with the police, 153 others[25] were members of the population struck by stray bullets.

Any use of force by law enforcement officers should always be in accordance with human rights law, and abide by the principles of legality, necessity, proportionality, non-discrimination, precaution, and accountability.

The areas where the highest number of victims among the population were documented are Route de l'Aéroport (Delmas) and the commune of Cité Soleil (Carrefour Drouillard, Carrefour Vincent and Sarthe).

Explosive Drone Operations

Operations using explosive drones against the gangs continued to be supported by a foreign private military company, Vectus Global. Their strikes focused mainly on the neighbourhoods of Carrefour-Feuilles, Martissant and Pacot, and in Kenscoff as in the previous quarter, targeting the *Grand Ravine*, *Ti Bois* and *Village de Dieu* gangs.

According to HRS data, among those killed and injured by these drones, 39 were members of the population: 18 killed (seven women, six boys and five girls) and 21 injured (12 women, seven boys and two girls). Most of the minors[26] were affected on 20 September, during drone strikes targeting a musical event organised by the *Simon Pelé* gang, which was attended by many local residents.

In addition, on 19 August, two Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) officers were accidentally killed and six others injured in Kenscoff while handling a drone that had failed to detonate.

Summary Executions

In parallel with the operations carried out by the security forces, some police personnel – mainly from specialised units – continued to be involved in human rights violations, including summary executions or attempted summary executions.

During the reporting period, at least 64 people were allegedly summarily executed by the police and 14 others injured[27]. Fifty per cent of the cases were recorded in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (mainly in the communes of Delmas, Léogâne and Port-au-Prince), 23 per cent in the Artibonite Department (mainly in the communes of Gonaïves and Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite) and 7 per cent in the Centre department (Lascahobas, Mirebalais and Thomonde). The victims were neither armed nor involved in acts of violence at the time of their execution. They were generally arrested during patrols or at police checkpoints, questioned in the street, and then executed on the spot.

1.4. Public Prosecutor of Miragoâne

During the quarter, one case involving the Public Prosecutor of Miragoâne, Jean Ernest Muscadin, was documented. The incident occurred on 23 July in the commune of Miragoâne (Nippes Department), when an armed man was shot dead by him. In the previous quarter, this Prosecutor executed 27 people, with complete impunity[28].

1.5. Kidnappings

Between 1 July and 30 September 2025, at least 145 people[29] were kidnapped for ransom by gangs. Forty-six per cent of these incidents were

[25] 95 people killed (58 men, 29 women, five boys and three girls) and 58 others injured (30 men, 25 women, two boys and one girl)

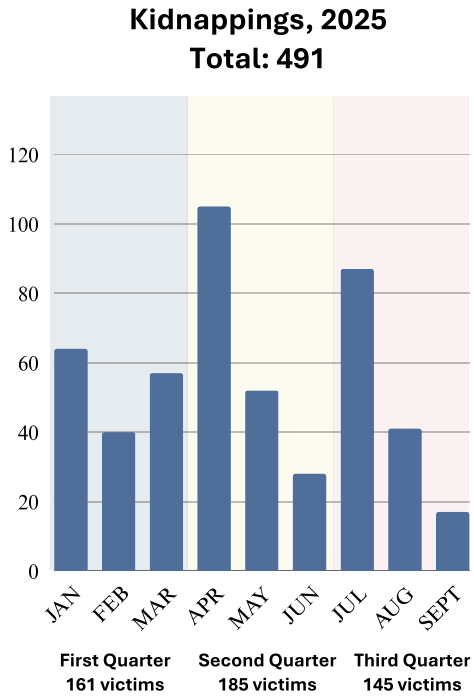
[26] Four children killed (one boy and three girls) and nine injured (seven boys and two girls)

[27] 64 people were killed (57 men and seven women) and 14 others injured, all men

[28] On 8 October 2024, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers sent a communication to the Government of Haiti concerning the involvement of Mr. Muscadin in extrajudicial and summary executions, requesting that all necessary measures be taken to put an immediate end to these practices. Communication AL HTI 2/2024, available at https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=29378

[29] 102 men, 31 women, seven boys and five girls

documented in the Artibonite department, 45 per cent in the West department and 8 per cent in the Centre department.



These figures are likely higher, as in many cases the relatives of those abducted do not report the kidnappings to the police or service providers and choose instead to negotiate directly with gang leaders to secure their release.

Among the kidnappings documented in the West Department, particular relevance should be given to those that took place at the Sainte-Hélène *Petit Frères et Sœurs* orphanage, located in the locality of Trenchant (Kenscoff). In August, members of the *Village de Dieu* gang attacked this orphanage on two occasions. They abducted nine people – including staff members and a child – in the first incident, and then three others, two adults and one boy, a few weeks later. United Nations personnel were also targeted, with six victims documented in the commune of Port-au-Prince in July.

In Artibonite, the majority of kidnappings were carried out by the *Gran Grif* gang, while some cases were attributed to the *Kokorat San Ras* and *Canaan* gangs. Victims were abducted while travelling in public or private transport vehicles, but also from inside their homes.

1.6. Sexual Violence

Between July and September, the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangement (MARA) documented 341 incidents of sexual violence involving 400 survivors (340 women, 59 girls and one man) and four casualty victims.

However, due to the persistence of barriers to reporting – including fear of reprisals, social stigma and low levels of trust in the police and judicial institutions – only a limited number of victims report such incidents.

Sexual violence documented in areas under gang control has mainly taken the form of gang rape, often committed during home invasions or while victims were moving about in the street. For example, in September, a 17-year-old girl was subjected to gang rape at gunpoint by four gang members who broke into her home in Simon Pelé (Cité Soleil). In the Artibonite department, cases of child sexual exploitation were reported, involving the *Kokorat San Ras* gang and concerning 27 minors aged 13 to 17.

Sexual violence is often used for purposes of exploitation or punishment. For example, on 1 July, a 22-year-old woman was forced by gang members to get off a bus in Mariani (Gressier), and was then taken to Pandjanmen (Gressier), where she was held for two days. During her captivity, she was violently beaten and raped by several individuals. On 3 July, her body was found, bearing multiple gunshot wounds, on a pile of rubbish.

According to several sources, she had been targeted because she had had an earlier altercation with one of the members of that gang.

The psychological, economic and social consequences for victims are devastating. Some have also reported cases of unwanted pregnancies and HIV transmission.

1.7. Impact of Violence and Exploitation of Children by Gangs

The trafficking of children[30] by gangs for purposes of exploitation and participation in criminal activities is one of the most serious human rights concerns in Haiti. The latest available official data[31] record at least 302 children recruited by gangs in 2024. The real figures are undoubtedly much higher. Testimonies collected by the HRS from the authorities, local service providers and international humanitarian agencies confirm the alarming rise of this phenomenon and its devastating effects on children and their families.

The recruitment and exploitation of children by gangs are fuelled by poverty, social exclusion and the criminal governance exercised in neighbourhoods under their control. In these areas, threats, violence and promises of "protection" or income encourage children – often from low-income or single-parent households and already out of school – to become involved in gang activities.

After undergoing violent "initiation" rituals, boys are used for various tasks ranging from running errands, monitoring security forces, and collecting extortion payments to committing serious crimes such as targeted killings, kidnappings, sexual violence, and property destruction, as well as participating in clashes with law enforcement. Girls are frequently subjected to rape, sexual exploitation, and sexual slavery, forced to perform domestic work, and sometimes coerced into criminal activities.

Haiti faces severe challenges in combating child trafficking by gangs due to weak social protection systems, limited access to education, widespread poverty, and a lack of safe spaces for children. Government programmes remain underfunded, donor-dependent and ill-adapted to urban gang-controlled areas, leaving vulnerable families without support. Schools and community centres struggle to operate amid insecurity, while the justice system's dysfunction results in children being detained alongside adults instead of receiving rehabilitation. Law enforcement operations often fail to protect children's rights, and accountability for trafficking crimes remains minimal, hindered by limited investigative capacity and weak judicial mechanisms.

1.8. Impact of Gang Violence on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Throughout the third quarter, gang attacks continued to affect the enjoyment of the population's economic, social and cultural rights.

At least 300 homes and other buildings – including four police stations (one in Kenscoff and three in Artibonite) and a health centre (in Wharf Jérémie) – were ransacked, burned or destroyed by gangs. For example, in July, members of the *Grand Ravine* and *Village de Dieu* gangs set fire to the Oloffson Hotel in Port-au-Prince, a 19th-century building and an emblematic part of Haiti's cultural heritage.

According to the United Nations, more than 1,600 schools remain closed in the West, Centre and Artibonite departments. Some schools have been destroyed or converted into shelters for displaced families, while others have been closed due to gang attacks. This situation deprives more than 1.5 million children of regular access to education in Haiti[32].

[30] Under the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, trafficking is defined as the recruitment, transport, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons through coercive or deceptive means for the purpose of exploitation, including sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery, servitude or organ removal. In the case of children under 18, the use of coercion or deception need not be proven; any involvement for exploitative purposes constitutes trafficking.

[31] Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (17 June 2025), A/79/878–S/2025/247, available at https://docs.un.org/en/S/2025/247

[32] https://press.un.org/en/2025/sc16158.doc.htm

The population, particularly those living in the neighbourhoods most affected by violence, continues to face numerous obstacles in accessing healthcare and other essential services. Fewer than one third of health facilities with inpatient capacity remain fully operational[33]. Violence and attacks on infrastructure, combined with the lack of safe transport, high medical costs and the limited capacity of the health system, represent major barriers preventing people from accessing basic services.

Gang attacks have also continued to cause significant population displacement. At the end of September, more than 1,400,000 people were internally displaced in the country – more than 100,000 more than in June[34]. The Artibonite (+32 per cent compared with June) and the Centre (+35 per cent) departments recorded the largest increases.

II. JUDICIAL SYSTEM

During the third quarter, persistent constraints in resources, capacity and institutional functioning continued to hinder the fight against corruption and accountability efforts. Investigations into emblematic cases of serious human rights violations showed no significant progress.

By contrast, the operationalisation of the two specialized judicial units made some progress, despite certain logistical difficulties. In addition, initiatives were undertaken to reform the judicial system and to ensure prompt, independent and transparent judicial proceedings for minors in conflict with the law held in Port-au-Prince.

2.1. Functioning of the Judiciary

Despite persistent administrative challenges, the Government, with the support of international partners including the HRS, continued its efforts to establish the specialised judicial units to combat mass crimes and financial crimes. In September 2025, following a competitive process, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) recruited 10 Public Prosecutors to be assigned to these units. However, these prosecutors are still awaiting their appointment, primarily due to delays in acquiring the building intended to host them. By contrast, as of 30 September, no judges had yet been designated by the Superior Council of the Judiciary.

With a view to strengthening the functioning of the judicial system, in July and August 2025, the MJSP also carried out reshuffles within several public prosecutor's offices (Cap-Haïtien, Les Cayes, Les Côteaux, Mirebalais and Port-au-Prince). In Port-au-Prince, on 19 August 2025, the Public Prosecutor, Frantz Monclair, was dismissed for serious administrative failings in handling the case of former Senator Nenel Cassy and was temporarily replaced by one of his deputies.

In July and September, criminal hearing sessions, both with and without jury assistance, were held within the jurisdiction of the Port-au-Prince First Instance Court. With the support of the HRS, this session dealt with 27 cases involving 32 defendants.

During the quarter, the HRS also supported judicial actors in the handling and prioritisation of hearings relating to criminal cases involving minors in conflict with the law, detained at the Centre for the Reintegration of Minors in Conflict with the Law (CERMICOL). This support enabled the reconstruction of case files, the drafting of indictments, and their submission to the competent judicial authorities. As of 30 September, 25 minors' cases (20 boys and five girls) had been processed, but no criminal or correctional sessions had yet been held to try them. In addition, 28 further cases (20 boys and eight girls) had been identified as of 11 September for file reconstruction, but no action had been taken by the deputies of the Public Prosecutor as of 30 October.

[33] United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) (September 2025), "Today's Top News: Occupied Palestinian Territory, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti", available at https://www.unocha.org/news/todays-top-news-occupied-palestinian-territory-democratic-republic-congo-haiti-0

[34] International Organization for Migration (IOM) (September 2025), "Haiti – Report on the Internal Displacement Situation in Haiti – Round 11", available at https://dtm.iom.int/node/57231

2.2. Judicial Proceedings Concerning Massacres and Other Serious Human Rights Violations

No progress was made in cases relating to the massacres at Grand Ravine (2017), La Saline (2018) and Bel Air (2019), as well as the murder of Monferrier Dorval (2020), the former head of the Port-au-Prince Bar Association.

In July, the Port-au-Prince Court of Appeal concluded its deliberations on the appeal in the case of the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse. The Court requested the annulment of the referral order issued by Investigating Judge Voltaire on 19 February 2024, which had indicted 51 individuals before the Court of First Instance. Meanwhile, the Government Commissioner at the Court of Appeal requested the appointment of a new investigating magistrate to restart the judicial process. This means the investigation will have to begin anew.

The investigation into the Wharf Jérémie massacre (2024, Port-au-Prince) continued, with 66 witnesses and relatives of the victims being heard by the investigating judge in charge of the case. However, no arrests have been made to date. Similarly, regarding the Pont-Sondé massacre of October 2024, although complaints have been filed, the First Instance Court of Saint-Marc, to which the case was referred, has taken no concrete action against the alleged perpetrators, despite arrest warrants having already been issued for several individuals. Furthermore, no support has been provided to the survivors.

August also marked the fifth anniversary of the assassination of former Bar Association head Monferrier Dorval. However, as of 30 September, no investigating judge was in charge of the case, after the four previous judges had recused themselves.

2.3. Fight Against Corruption

The Anti-Corruption Unit (ULCC) continued its investigations to combat corruption. In this regard, several public institutions were targeted, including the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Civic Action, the Office for Work, Sickness and Maternity Insurance (OFATMA), the Office for the Protection of Citizens (OPC), the National Federation of Haitian Mayors (FENAMH), the General Directorate of Customs, and the Social Assistance Fund (CAS).

In September, based on an ULCC investigation, several senior officials were arrested for alleged embezzlement of public funds and irregularities related to municipal projects in Ouanaminthe. These included an official from the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications (MTPTC) in the North-East, a former mayor, and two former managers of the local market.

In July, the Director of the Social Assistance Fund (CAS), a former Director-General of the Metropolitan Solid Waste Collection Service (SMCRS), and Victor Prophane were questioned by investigating judges[35]. In August, the Central Directorate of the Judicial Police (DCPJ) also finalised a report highlighting the connections between this former Director-General of the SMCRS and several individuals supporting gangs operating in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince.

2.4 Fight Against Arms Trafficking

In July, the Port-au-Prince Court of Appeal held hearings in the appeal concerning the 2022 arms trafficking case involving the Episcopal Church of Haiti. This procedural step followed a ruling issued in June 2025 by the same court, which had annulled the decision that previously dismissed all criminal responsibility of the Church and several of its leaders, and had ordered the resumption of proceedings along with the appointment of a new investigating judge. Following the reopening of the public prosecution, new measures involving deprivation of liberty were

[35] Victor Prophane is subject to international sanctions imposed by the United Nations, Canada, the United Kingdom, the European Union, and the United States due to his alleged involvement in supporting gangs in Haiti.

carried out in August, targeting, in particular, two employees and the former Director of the Archives Service at the Ministry of Worship, as well as a director of the Customs Franchise Service in Port-au-Prince. As of 30 September, seven individuals remained in pre-trial detention while the investigation by the Port-au-Prince Court of Appeal was ongoing.

In the case of the *Miss Lily* vessel, opened in 2022 and related to arms and ammunition trafficking in Port-de-Paix (Northwest department), no progress has been made. The case file has been before the Public Prosecutor's Office at the Port-au-Prince Court of First Instance since June, after being transferred by the Court of Appeal of that jurisdiction. It should have been sent to the Port-de-Paix Court of First Instance (TPI) so that the trial could proceed, but this has not yet been done to date.

The Central Directorate of the Judicial Police (DCPJ) continues to collaborate with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as part of an investigation into a cross-border network involved in the trafficking of firearms and ammunition in the Central Plateau. This cooperation aims to gather evidence related to weapons and ammunition originating from Miami, which transited through the border area of Elias Piña in the Dominican Republic before entering Haiti, notably through Belladère. The investigation follows a series of arrests carried out in Haiti in March 2025, during which six individuals involved in the network were apprehended. Transferred to the DCPJ on 18 April 2025, they have since remained in detention as the investigation continues.

2.5. Fight Against Sexual Violence

During the quarter, the HRS continued to strengthen the capacity of the Haitian National Police (HNP) in combating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In July and August, 56 investigators (25 men and 31 women) were trained in investigative techniques for sexual violence cases, while follow-up visits on the handling of victim complaints continued at several police stations in Port-au-Prince. In September, with support from the HRS, the HNP launched a national awareness campaign aimed at encouraging reporting, building public trust in the police, and challenging gender stereotypes.

According to the commission of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security responsible for prioritizing the handling of cases of sexual violence in the country's courts, 110 cases were recorded for the month of July, involving 12 out of 18 jurisdictions. Among these cases, 95 are still being processed, including 55 within the investigative offices and nine awaiting trial. Fourteen others have been definitively resolved, while one case was closed without further action. At the time of publication, information for the months of August and September was not yet available.

2.6. Detention Conditions in Haitian Prisons

As of 30 September 2025, 7,274 individuals were held in Haitian prisons (7,163 in June 2025). Eighty-one per cent of detainees were in pre-trial detention (82 per cent in the second quarter of 2025). Detention conditions in Haiti remain inhuman and degrading. In the third quarter of 2025, 52 prisoners died, most as a result of lack of medical care, unsanitary cells, insufficient food, and limited access to drinking water.

To address the issue of prison overcrowding, in July, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Dean's Office of the Cap-Haïtien Court of First Instance, along with the Bar Council of the Cap-Haïtien Bar Association, signed a joint resolution aimed at reconstructing lost case files in order to speed up case processing and relieve congestion in the prison. It also provided for the establishment of a joint technical unit including the Deputy Government Commissioner, the Bar President, and the *Office de Défense des Droits Humains* (ODDH) to coordinate efforts, prepare periodic reports, and encourage the holding of special criminal and correctional hearings to accelerate the judicial process.

In the same month, the HRS visited the Court of First Instance in Les Cayes and held separate meetings with the presiding judge, the Public Prosecutor, and the head of the Bar Association of Les Cayes, in connection with the high rate of pre-trial detention and the inhumane conditions prevailing in the Les Cayes prison. The meetings resulted in the establishment of a list of 27 cases for criminal trials with jury assistance in July, while also highlighting the staffing shortages in the

judicial system. All 27 cases were processed: eight convictions and 25 releases, including a young girl following a habeas corpus ruling.

2.7. International Sanctions and Legal Proceedings Abroad

As of 30 September 2025, 35 individuals had been sanctioned by Canada, 18 by the United States, 15 by the European Union (EU) and 10 by the United Kingdom for acts undermining peace, security, and stability in Haiti, as well as for serious human rights violations. In addition, to date, nine individuals and two criminal gangs (*Gran Grif* and *Viv Ansanm*) remain subject to United Nations Security Council sanctions[36].

In September, the United States Department of State designated Arnel Belizaire and Antonio Cheramy, former Haitian parliamentarians, for their involvement in acts of corruption[37].

During the quarter, U.S. authorities also arrested two influential Haitian businessmen, accused of contributing to the destabilisation of Haiti by supporting armed gangs. In connection with these arrests, the MJSP adopted a protocol for handling cases of Haitian nationals deported or extradited for financial crimes or complicity in criminal group activities. Under this protocol, these individuals will be transferred, upon arrival, to the Central Directorate of the Judicial Police (DCPJ) so that their cases can be processed by the Government Commissioner with the support of financial oversight institutions. In the third quarter, two suspects involved in arms trafficking and collusion with gangs were transferred to the custody of the Central Directorate of Judicial Police (DCPJ) in accordance with this protocol.

2.8. Investigations Into Human Rights Violations Committed by Police Officers

During the third quarter, the General Inspectorate of the Haitian National Police (IGPNH) opened an investigation into an incident involving a possible summary execution by the police. This case was one of 53 referred by the HRS during the quarter.

III. Support to National Institutions and Civil Society

During the period under review, the HRS continued its technical support to Haitian public institutions and civil society, aiming to strengthen their role in the protection of human rights, uphold the rule of law, and foster transparency and accountability.

3.1. Support to Public Authorities and Civil Society Organisations Working in the Field of Protection

Civic Engagement

With the support of the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), the HRS provided technical and financial assistance to 38 youth organisations to implement human rights-related activities in eight municipalities across the country. These activities included the rehabilitation and cleaning of public spaces, organising dialogue sessions between young people and police to foster constructive engagement, promoting values of peace through tolerance messages displayed on murals, and training young

[36] Canada: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/fra/reglements/DORS-2022-226/TexteComplet.html; United States : https://sanctionssearch.ofac.treas.gov/; European Unnion: https://www.sanctionsmap.eu/#/main/details/54,16/?search=%7B%22value%22:%22%22,%22searchType%22:%7B%7D%7D ; United Kingdom: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/686f89c92557debd867cbf20/Haiti.pdf ; United Nations: https://scsanctions.un.org/fr/?keywords=Haiti&_gl=1*14bpo85*_ga*MzUyMTU0ODkzLjE2ODAxMTM4NDc.*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTcyOTA4MjkzMC45Ny4xLjE3MjkwODMwMzMuMC4wLjA

[37] U.S. Department of State (22 September 2025). "Designation of Two Former Haitian Public Officials for Involvement in Significant Corruption", available at https://www.state.gov/releases/office-of-the-spokesperson/2025/09/designation-of-two-former-haitian-public-officials-for-involvement-in-significant-corruption

women in community management and entrepreneurship. In total, more than 2,600 people benefited from these initiatives.

In August, the HRS supported the organisation of the sixth edition of the Summer University on Human Rights, organised by the Haitian Institute for Human Rights (IHDH). Under the theme "Reparation for Serious Human Rights Violations," this initiative aimed to encourage critical reflection, intergenerational dialogue, and the mobilisation of a new generation of committed actors.

Awareness-Raising on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

As part of efforts to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, the HRS organised training sessions in collaboration with the Haitian National Police (HNP) and local organisations *Combite pour la Paix et le Développement* (CPD) and *Action Pastorale pour le Développement Humain* (APADEH), aimed at promoting healthy, respectful, and responsible male behaviour. Within the framework of this project, monthly visits were conducted at displacement sites to strengthen reporting mechanisms, prevent sexual violence, and promote positive masculinity, while also fostering trust between displaced populations and the HNP.

In July, the HRS supported the Haitian Society of History, Geography and Geology (SHHGG) and Vodou priestesses in organising an awareness-raising workshop on sexual and gender-based violence. The workshop brought together 59 Vodou leaders from the West and Artibonite departments[38]. Subsequently, an exhibition was held in Port-au-Prince under the theme "Women – Vodou – Violence – Resistance," highlighting the central role of women in Haiti's history and collective identity, as well as the urgent and ongoing challenges faced by women and girls.

Land Conflicts

In July, with the support of the European Union, the HRS organised a workshop on land issues and local conflict resolution mechanisms in Camp Perrin (South department). The workshop brought together 34 representatives from the public administration, the judicial sector, and civil society. Its main objective was to catalogue local practices for managing land conflicts, deepen the analysis of recurring challenges in this area, and jointly identify potential solutions. Discussions also focused on ways to operationalise existing approaches for the prevention and resolution of land conflicts. This activity followed a consultation workshop organised by the HRS in April in Port-au-Prince, aimed at identifying endogenous mechanisms for conflict resolution in light of the limitations of the judicial system.

3.2. Support to National Security Forces and the MSS

The HRS continued to support the organisation of roundtables between the security forces and human rights organisations, providing a space to assess ongoing human rights challenges related to Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission operations. During this quarter, seven roundtables were held, bringing together 378 participants.

Between July and September, the HRS continued its support for integrating respect for human rights into the operations of the MSS mission by organising two pre-deployment sessions and eight in-mission training sessions, attended by 205 mission members, bringing the proportion of deployed personnel trained to 69 per cent. The training covered human rights, use of force, protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, care for children associated with gangs, and humanitarian principles, with the support of the United Nations institutional framework for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

As part of its monitoring and investigative mandate, the HRS also monitored 69 joint operations conducted by the security forces with the support of the MSS mission.

On 30 September, the United Nations Security Council authorized, through Resolution 2793, the deployment of a Gang Suppression Force (GSF), which must comply with human rights norms and standards in the

[38] 38 *Mambos* (Vodou priestesses) and 21 *Houngans* (Vodou priests)

course of its operations. This new force replaces the Multinational Security Support Mission.