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SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ARISTIDE OF HAITI, REITERATES
UN SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNORS ISLAND AGREEMENT

The following statement was made on Saturday, 5 March, by the Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali:

The Secretary-General met today for one-and-a-quarter hours alone with President Aristide of Haiti. This was followed by a meeting in which the Secretary-General's and the President's aides were present.

The Secretary-General reiterated the support of the United Nations for the implementation of the Governors Island Agreement. The Secretary-General had been informed by a representative group of Haitian Parliamentarians, by letter, of an initiative which they were taking to unblock the crisis within the framework of the Agreement. The Secretary-General had brought the initiative to the attention of the Security Council as a way of breaking the deadlock and leading to the implementation of the Governors Island Agreement -- not as a substitute for that Agreement. The initiative has since received the endorsement of the Haitian Chamber of Deputies.

The President expressed the view that the existing initiative of the Parliamentarians was not in conformity with the Governors Island Agreement, and that it was counter-productive.

The Secretary-General and the President will continue to explore ways to solve the continuing crisis.

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