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LETTER DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1969 ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF HAITI TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to inform you that certain economic difficulties have to date prevented the Haitian Government from discharging its contractual obligations towards the United Nations - despite its wish to do so.

The Haitian Government has always been anxious to pay the contribution to the United Nations which is due from it as a Member; it is therefore especially distressed by the adverse circumstances which have prevented it from doing so. As the General Assembly will wish to note, in addition to the violence of the natural elements which, almost every year, destroy the budgetary basis of the Haitian economy, the Haitian Government has also been faced for some time by periodic invasions of its national territory by national and foreign mercenaries, which have obliged it to incur exceptional military expenditures for which no provision was made in the national budget. Furthermore, during the past two years it has been engaged in a vigorous mobilization of its resources to undertake major infrastructure projects: the Péligre hydro-electric plant, road-building and port improvement projects designed to raise the standard of living of the Haitian people. As the United Nations representatives in Haiti can confirm, the country is now passing through a period known as the "dead season" due to the fact that, the coffee crop having been exported, it is faced with a considerable decline in export duties.

The Haitian Government requests the President of the General Assembly to take the facts mentioned above into serious consideration.

Mindful of its contractual responsibility towards the United Nations, the Haitian Government hastens to inform the President of the General Assembly that a cheque for \$25,050 has been deposited with the National City Bank as an instalment towards the minimum deposit of \$40,024 required to bring the arrears under the regular budget of the United Nations above the total of the contributions due from it on that account for the past two full financial years - 1967 and 1968. It undertakes to pay the balance - namely, \$15,024 within a period of not more than three months.

I would ask you to communicate the text of this letter to the Members of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Marcel Ch. ANTOINE  
Ambassador

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