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## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Letter dated 17 July 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of  
The Bahamas, Colombia and Haiti to the United Nations addressed  
to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to request you to convene a meeting of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, for the purpose of resuming consideration of agenda item 114, entitled "Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections", and considering technical assistance for the Haitian electoral process in the context of human rights.

In order to provide further information, we enclose herewith the letter of 23 June 1990 sent to you by Mrs. Ertha Pascal Trouillot, President of the Interim Government of Haiti.

(Signed) Mr. Lyonel PAQUIN  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative of  
Haiti to the United Nations

(Signed) Mr. James B. MOULTRIE  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative of  
The Bahamas to the United Nations

(Signed) Enrique PEÑALOSA  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative of  
Colombia to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 23 June 1990 from the Interim President of  
Haiti to the Secretary-General

I have pleasure in expressing my sincere gratitude to you for your clear willingness to request the Security Council to provide a specific mandate for the assistance requested by Haiti.

I also wish to thank you for the technical and professional co-operation already under way as a result of the financing provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in response to the appeals I made as President of the Interim Government. The co-operation in question, which began just 10 days after my investiture, was the first mission conducted by an agency providing funding for electoral purposes.

In view of such favourable measures, it was most regrettable that for health reasons I was unable to take up your invitation of 12 June 1990 and come in person to meet with you at United Nations Headquarters. I regret this particularly in view of the praiseworthy efforts made by the United Nations Resident Co-ordinator in Haiti, Mr. Reinhart Helmke, and in view of the visit to Port-au-Prince by your special envoy, Mr. Jean-Claude Aimé, to discuss the assistance requested in detail.

I am also extremely grateful to you for the initiative you took of sending in addition the mission headed by your personal representative, Ambassador Joao Augusto de Medicis.

I can assure you that all sectors responsible for holding free, fair and credible elections - the Council of State, a body specifically set up for the transition to democracy, the Interim Electoral Council, an independent body responsible for the electoral process, and the Haitian Armed Forces, which are responsible for security - join me in requesting assistance from you.

I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to draw to your attention the points set forth below, which concern, on the one hand, the observation and verification of the regularity of the electoral process and, on the other hand, public security, upon which participation by voters and consequently the credibility of the outcome depend:

Observation and verification of the elections, covering the entire electoral process, particularly registration of voters on the electoral rolls, registration of candidatures, freedom of expression and freedom of political parties to mobilize, respect for the equality of candidates in the electoral campaign, and independent verification of the outcome of the vote;

Finalization of the conditions under which such international observation can produce an independent, valid assessment of the prospects for building a stable democracy on the basis of the outcome of the elections;

/...

Ways of ensuring a visible and active fundamental international presence in order to dissipate voters' fears and to ensure representative participation by the population;

Assistance, by advisors with experience in security matters, for the Co-ordination Committee for Electoral Security of the Haitian Armed Forces in developing and implementing electoral security plans;

Observation by special United Nations staff of the implementation of such security plans throughout the country;

Co-ordination between CARICOM, which has made an offer of assistance, and UNDP with a view to ensuring security at polling stations and in the vicinity of polling stations.

In this connection, the Haitian Government wishes to stress the need to co-ordinate multilateral assistance so that it is as effective as possible.

These are the concerns that the Haitian Government wishes to voice with regard to the prerequisites for the smooth conduct of credible elections; the United Nations is warmly invited to contribute to the holding of such elections.

I wish once again to express my great appreciation for the support offered to the Haitian nation. It is with keen admiration that Haiti follows your courageous efforts to promote peace and progress in the great United Nations family.

(Signed) Ertha PASCAL TROUILLOT  
Interim President of  
the Republic of Haiti