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ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRINCIPLE OF PERIODIC
AND GENUINE ELECTIONS

Letter dated 20 August 1990 from the Permanent Representative of
Barbados to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Following consultations within the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States on the draft resolution contained in document A/44/965/Add.1 dated 18 July 1990, I have the honour, in the capacity as Chairman of the aforementioned Group, to forward the attached draft resolution for the consideration of the General Assembly (see annex I).

The draft resolution would seek to respond to the specific requests contained in the letter dated 9 August 1990 addressed to Your Excellency by Her Excellency Mrs. Ertha Pascal Trouillot, Provisional President of the Republic of Haiti (see annex II).

I also have the honour to enclose a copy of the President's letter and to request that it be circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) E. Besley MAYCOCK
Permanent Representative of
Barbados to the United Nations
and Chairman of the Group of
Latin American and Caribbean States

ANNEX I

Draft resolution

Assistance to Haiti

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the letters dated 23 June 1/ and 9 August 1990 2/ from the President of the Provisional Government of the Republic of Haiti to the Secretary-General, in which she requested the assistance of the United Nations in order to achieve the peaceful and adequate development of the forthcoming electoral process,

Reaffirming the sovereign right of the people of Haiti to choose and to participate freely in the determination of their own destiny without any external interference,

Considering that the forthcoming general elections will be an important step forward towards establishing representative democracy in Haiti,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with regional organizations and Member States, to provide the broadest possible support to the Haitian Government in meeting to the extent possible the following requests:

- (a) A nucleus of observers that would arrive in Haiti prior to voter registration and would leave only after the elections;
- (b) Additional observers at the time of the elections and voter registration;
- (c) Assistance to the Co-ordinating Committee for the security of the elections, to be provided by high-level advisers;
- (d) Observation of the implementation of the electoral security plans by specialized staff with solid experience in the public order field;

2. Urges the international community and relevant international organizations to increase their technical, economic and financial co-operation with Haiti in order to support Haiti's economic and social development efforts;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

1/ A/44/965, annex.

2/ A/44/973, annex II.

ANNEX II

Letter dated 9 August 1990 from the President of the Provisional
Government of Haiti to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter of 23 June 1990 (A/44/965, annex), I have the honour to provide the following details regarding the different components of the Haitian Government's request relating to the organization of the general elections in November.

The Provisional Electoral Council of Haiti is already receiving technical assistance financed by the United Nations Development Programme. The Haitian Government would like this assistance to continue.

The request of the provisional Government of Haiti comprises two inseparable components: observation and verification of the electoral process, on the one hand; and assistance in drawing up electoral security plans and observing their implementation, on the other.

In its civilian component, the operation would be analogous to the United Nations Observer Mission for the Verification of the Electoral Process in Nicaragua, and would comprise:

(a) A permanent nucleus of some 50 observers who would arrive in Haiti prior to voter registration and leave only after the elections;

(b) Reinforcements at the time of elections and, if possible, of voter registration, bringing the total to a few hundred observers. Co-ordination with the Organization of American States is envisaged.

In its security component, the operation would provide for:

(a) Assistance to the Co-ordinating Committee for security of the elections, provided by two or three advisers;

(b) Observation of the implementation of the electoral security plans by specialized staff, i.e. by observers, the number of whom remains to be determined, with solid experience in the public order field.

The Haitian Government does not wish for, and is not requesting, the dispatch of "Blue Helmets" or of any peace-keeping force to ensure the security of the country, a task for which the Haitian Armed Forces are basically responsible.

It would, however, like the United Nations to assign to Haiti observers whose presence would facilitate the accomplishment of the army's mission as well as the participation of the population in the election operations.

This presence would come to an end immediately after the elections.

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I reiterate the Haitian Government's gratitude for your unceasing efforts to ensure the success of Haiti's request.

(Signed) Mrs. Ertha PASCAL TROUILLOT
Provisional President of the Republic
