

Haiti (MIDH), Marc L. Bazin, declared on Monday that the elections announced for this year by the interim authorities are materially and technically possible but politically impossible.

Marc L. Bazin explained that the political ground has not been smoothly laid because, in fact, numerous key managerial staff members of Fanmi Lavalas continue to stagnate in prison and have not appeared before a judge.

He cited notably the cases of former Prime Minister Yvon Neptune and the militant Annette Auguste (So Ann).

"If you reproach them something, judge them, but if there is no charge held against them, release them," asserted Mr. Bazin who recalled that Yvon-Neptune had the choice between staying or leaving the country but he chose to stay.

He mentioned that it was Yvon Neptune who facilitated the transition adding that he was astonished that it was after that that they chose to incarcerate him.

The leader of MIDH otherwise denounced what he calls alliances against nature between the political leaders of the so-called left, and the bosses whose wealth comes from the exploitation of factory workers.

Mr. Bazin criticized the leaders of the left for having never raised a little finger against such abuses nor to call for an increase of the minimum salary and to lower taxes.

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**The president and secretary general of the CEP are being accused of soliciting 2.9 US dollars as allowances for risk and for civic education, without the backing of the other advisors**

**Port-au-Prince, February 14, 2005 - (AHP) - The president of the Temporary Electoral Council (CEP), Max Mathurin and the secretary general Rosemond Pradel are accused of having asked for 2.9 million US dollars in favor of the electoral institution without consulting beforehand with the other advisors.**

The advisor, Patrick Fequiere, declared that he wasn't aware of this request until the time of a meeting between the CEP and the interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue on February 5th.

This amount would be devoted to the organization of a campaign for civic education and to grant the election advisors "allowances for risk," stated Mr. Fequiere.

According to Patrick Fequiere, when Mr. Latortue raised the issue of the 2.9 million US dollars, the other advisors were completely taken aback, given that they were not aware of any allowances for risk being solicited on their behalf.

"It is at that time that the head of government found out that the election institution did not have anything to do in reality with this demand of 2.9 million US dollars," reported Mr. Fequiere.

Even the principal treasurer was not contacted on that matter, says Patrick Fequiere with indignation who says that he wrote the two other incriminated advisors so that they can give clarity on this matter.

He also accused these two advisers of hindering the CEP with a new scandal.

Mr. Fequiere otherwise criticized the government for receiving the letter of Rosemond Pradel and Max Mathurin despite legal flaws consisting therein, he said.

"If I were the prime minister, I would have reacted with rigor," he asserted.

The president of the Temporary Electoral Council (CEP), Max Mathurin threatened to apply the sanctions provided, he said, within the internal rules of the institution against the adviser Patrick Fequiere who he accuses of wanting to hinder the electoral process.