

AG/RES. 2424(XXXVIII-O/08)

SUPPORT FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF POLITICAL STABILITY  
AND FOR SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN HAITI

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 3, 2008)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING that some of the essential purposes stated in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) are to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of non-intervention; to promote, by cooperative action, the economic, social, and cultural development of the member states; and to eradicate extreme poverty, which constitutes an obstacle to the full democratic development of the peoples of the Hemisphere; and reaffirming its strong attachment to the sovereignty, independence, well-being, and prosperity of the people of Haiti;

UNDERSCORING that, according to the Inter-American Democratic Charter, “democracy and social and economic development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing”;

EMPHASIZING the need to support the Government and people of Haiti in accordance with the Declaration on Security in the Americas which recognizes that “representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace, and development of the states of the Hemisphere” and that “the security of states of the Hemisphere is affected, in different ways, by traditional threats and the following new threats, concerns, and other challenges of a diverse nature, such as extreme poverty and social exclusion of broad sectors of the population, which also affect stability and democracy. Extreme poverty erodes social cohesion and undermines the security of states”;

RECALLING its resolutions, in particular resolution AG/RES. 2306 (XXXVII-O/07), and the report presented by the Secretary General to the Permanent Council on developments in the situation in Haiti (CP/doc.4253/08);

UNDERSCORING the positive change in the level of political stability, as well as progress in security and in macroeconomic performance, based on the Haitian Government’s efforts at inclusion and dialogue, with support from the OAS, MINUSTAH, and other international organizations;

NOTING that these advances have not yet been reflected in the economic and social conditions of the majority of the population, and that, together with weaknesses in job creation and worldwide price increases, threatens to adversely affect the durability of still fragile democratic achievements;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the adoption of the National Strategy Paper for Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (DSNCRP) document, which provides a framework for government action for the design and implementation of development projects and for international cooperation;

CALLING UPON the international community, in particular international financial institutions and bilateral donors, to contribute as much as possible to finance implementation of that strategy;

UNDERSCORING the positive outcomes of the high level mission to Port-au-Prince on April 24, 25, 2008 to discuss the current food crisis with the Haitian Government to explore short term solutions as part of the international community's long term commitment to Haiti; and

MINDFUL of the need for donors to review their practices for channeling international assistance and to bring them into line with the priorities established by the government, as outlined in the National Strategy Document for Growth and Poverty Reduction, and encouraging the rescheduling of an international conference to discuss Haiti's short, medium and long-term development strategies,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its support for the efforts of the Government of Haiti to strengthen security in Haiti, to promote economic growth with equity and poverty reduction, to underscore the paramount importance of the policy of inclusion and dialogue practiced by the Government of Haiti, and to encourage the consolidation of a peaceful environment conducive to a steady process of sustainable development.

2. To commend the progress made in the area of political stability and institution building in Haiti, as well as the collaboration among the sectors of Haitian society, in order to preserve democratic achievements, further develop and consolidate democratic institutions of governance, and improve the socioeconomic conditions of the most vulnerable strata of the population.

3. To pay tribute to the adoption of the National Strategy Document Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (DSNCRP) document, as well as to the efforts to implement it as a framework for the social and economic policy of the Haitian Government and for international cooperation with Haiti. In that regard, to invite Haiti's partners, in particular the international financial institutions, to provide technical and financial support for implementation of the programs set out in that strategy.

4. To urge the international financial institutions and Haiti's partners to continue to coordinate with the Haitian Government, in support of the principles expressed in the Paris Declaration, on the channels and procedures for the delivery of aid, in order to optimize results.

5. To encourage the Haitian authorities to organize as soon as possible elections to renew one third of the Senate, as well as indirect elections leading to the establishment of the Permanent Electoral Council, in order to establish all of the institutions mandated by Haiti's Constitution.

6. To support the resolve of the Government of Haiti to reform and reinforce state institutions, in particular, the justice system, the Haitian National Police, and the penitentiary system, so that Haiti will be in a better position to fight drug trafficking, combat corruption, control gang activities, increase government revenues, control the border area, ensure law and order, and provide basic services to the population, such as education and health care.

7. To acknowledge the continuing significant contribution of MINUSTAH, in which several OAS member states are participating, to the ongoing improvement of security conditions,

as part of the efforts to strengthen the political and institutional environment and improve the socioeconomic situation in Haiti.

8. To continue to support the Government of Haiti in the promotion of the disarmament of armed groups, the prevention and reduction of violence, and programs to teach non-violence as an essential component of peace and lasting reconciliation in Haiti.

9. To pay tribute to the contributions of the Haiti Task Force as a tool for coordinating OAS programs in Haiti. To note with satisfaction the interest expressed by the OAS in Haiti through the visit, from February 14 to 17, 2008, of a delegation led jointly by the Chair of the Permanent Council and the Assistant Secretary General and the high-level mission that visited Port-au-Prince on April 24 and 25, 2008, in which the Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General participated.

10. To request the General Secretariat through the Haiti Task Force and other support mechanisms to:

- a. Pursue its efforts to support the Government of Haiti in the establishment of the Permanent Electoral Council;
- b. Continue supporting the Haitian authorities, in particular the National Identity Office, in the process of modernizing the civil registry;
- c. Strengthen its activities in the areas of tourism and trade promotion; to provide the Haitian Government with the necessary technical support for holding, on a date convenient for it, a forum on trade and investment, with a view to consolidating economic growth, stimulating job creation and wealth, and strengthening Haitian institutions involved in these sectors;
- d. Continue playing an increased role in resource mobilization for the benefit of Haiti and coordination of the international cooperation with Haiti, including through established donor coordination mechanisms and through applicable technology in order to ensure a better control of projects being implemented and enhance the capacity to produce required reports;
- e. Support the Haitian Government in the formulation of development policies, in coordination with the United Nations, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and other international institutions and agencies; and
- f. Continue providing its cooperation to the Drug Observatory in Haiti, in the form of technical and scientific training, with a view to obtaining accurate and reliable information on the real situation in the country in this area.

11. To request the General Secretariat to submit an annual report to the Permanent Council on developments in the economic and social situation in Haiti and on the General Assembly on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

12. To request the OAS Secretary General to forward this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.