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Washington, DC 20515-0535

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Your Excellency:

As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) of the United States Congress, I would like to convey my greetings and hopes that the upcoming 40th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in St. Lucia is a success.

I would like to share with you my concerns about the political crisis in Haiti, especially the reports, recently confirmed by the UN, of large-scale killings by forces linked to the Haitian government and the documentation of widespread theft of state resources in the PetroCaribe scandal. In March of this year, several CBC members joined a letter signed by 104 members of the U.S. House of Representatives to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, expressing our serious concerns about the crisis, and urging serious, impartial investigations into the corruption allegations and extrajudicial killings.

In April, I headed an emergency delegation to Haiti that included Mr. Danny Glover, which met massacre victims in Haiti's capitol. At a press conference following the visit, I promised to "use whatever leverage and power we have to help make the violence cease because this is not conscionable and not tolerable." In May, I worked with CBC Member Representative Barbara Lee, the Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs, to ensure that language addressing the human rights violations in Haiti was inserted into the State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill.

Now is a particularly important time to assist in the democratic process in Haiti, given the recent protests that shut the country down for days at a time following the implication of President Jovenel Moïse personally in the PetroCaribe scandal, and the calls from a broad spectrum of civic, religious, political and business groups for the President to step down.

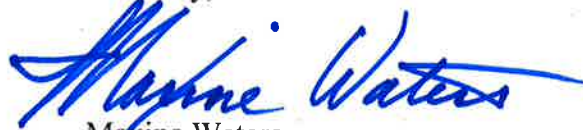
The CBC and CARICOM have a long history of promoting democracy, stability and human rights in Haiti, and I look forward to continued opportunities for collaboration in Haiti's hour of need. We all owe a great debt to Haiti. We recognize that the great 1804 Haitian revolution led the way for the ending of slavery throughout the Americas. If useful, I would also be ready to host a meeting with CARICOM members' ambassadors to the United States as well as representatives of the movement for democracy in Haiti to discuss the crisis and share concerns and ideas for ensuring democracy in Haiti.

For your convenience, I am enclosing the following documents that may be particularly useful as you consider responses to Haiti's crisis:

- A. *Rep. Waters Works with Colleagues to Stop Political Violence in Haiti; Includes Provisions in FY 2020 State, Foreign Operations Report*, Press Release, June 10, 2019.¹
- B. *Congresswoman Waters Leads Delegation to Haiti; Finds Both Inspiration and Evidence of Violence*, Press Release, May 13, 2019.²
- C. Letter to U.S. Secretary of State Pompeo regarding Haiti's political crisis, signed by 104 members of the House of Representatives including several CBC members, March 20, 2019.³
- D. *La Saline: Justice for the Victims*, United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), June 2019 (French).⁴
- E. *The Events in La Saline: From Power Struggle Between Armed Gangs to State-sanctioned Massacre*, National Network for the Defense of Human Rights (RNDDH), December 1, 2018.⁵
- F. *Haiti at a Crossroads*, Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH), May 2019.⁶
- G. *The Lasalin Massacre and the Human Rights Crisis in Haiti*, by Judith Mirkinson, National Lawyers Guild, and Seth Donnelly, Haiti Action Committee (HAC), June 26, 2019.

I look forward to continued collaboration between the Congressional Black Caucus and the Caribbean Community.

Sincerely,



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

¹ <https://waters.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/congresswoman-waters-works-colleagues-stop-political-violence-haiti>

² <https://waters.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/congresswoman-waters-leads-delegation-haiti-finds-both-inspiration-and>

³ <https://andylevin.house.gov/sites/andylevin.house.gov/files/LevinLee-Haiti%20ltr%2003-2019.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/LACRegion/Pages/HTReports.aspx>

⁵ <http://rnddh.org/en/the-events-in-la-saline-from-power-struggle-between-armed-gangs-to-state-sanctioned-massacre-eng/>

⁶ <http://www.ijdh.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/IJDH-Report-Haiti-at-a-Crossroads-May-2019.pdf>