



**PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY E. COURTENAY RATTRAY
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON BEHALF OF
THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)**



ON

**THE UNITED NATIONS STABILIZATION MISSION IN HAITI
(MINUSTAH)**

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

NEW YORK, 8TH OCTOBER, 2015

PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr President,

I address this Council on behalf of the 14 Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). CARICOM welcomes and appreciates the comprehensive report of Ambassador Sandra Honoré, Head of MINUSTAH and Special Representative of the Secretary General in Haiti. We note with interest her comments on developments in Haiti, especially as they relate to the first round of parliamentary elections in August.

We also thank the Secretary General for his report S/2015/667 on the mandate of MINUSTAH during the reporting period.

Mr President,

CARICOM is very much encouraged by the recent developments in Haiti during this transformative period, more so on the conduct of elections. This augurs well for the conduct of the second round of parliamentary elections, presidential and municipal elections later this year. In our view, the holding of elections which are free and fair and free from fear, is not only the bedrock for any democracy, but also a condition precedent for the sustainable development of the peoples of all States.

Accordingly CARICOM applauds the efforts of the Electoral Council of Haiti which is charged with the responsibility for the administration of elections in our sister Member State. The work of the Electoral Council is not without its challenges, one of the main ones being the availability of adequate financial resources to do its work.

In this regard CARICOM wishes to thank all those States which have made financial contributions to the Fund administered by UNDP to aid the electoral process in Haiti, including the contribution of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, of US one million to the project this morning.

Mr President,

MINUSTAH under the leadership of Ambassador Honoré must be commended for its continued stewardship in Haiti where it has assisted the Haitian authorities, not only with matters relating to the conduct of elections, but also the strengthening of the rule of law, promotion of justice and the training of the Haitian National Police, in order to ensure that this organization would be in a position to assume total control of policing activities in that State in the near future.

As we continue to applaud the Haitian Government and MINUSTAH for their efforts at stabilizing Haiti during this transformative period, we are also mindful of the need of the mandate of MINUSTAH to be renewed with the requisite resources to enable it to engage in less peace keeping and more developmental activities.

We request that Members of the Council to act with prudence in this matter so that the services of MINUSTAH are not curtailed abruptly, and there be a smooth transition period which would prevent any possible reversal of the gains that Haiti has made during the transformative period.