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MINUSTAH

Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation en Haïti

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Communication and Public Information Office

MINUSTAH in 2011

Facts and Figures

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CONTEXT

On January 12, 2010, Haiti was struck by an earthquake of unprecedented magnitude. The capital, Port-au-Prince is the epicenter. At least 225,000 people are killed, more than 300,000 injured and 2,3 million – almost one quarter of the population - displaced. The Government lost thousands of civil servants and most of its key infrastructures are in ruins. 102 United Nations staff also died in the collapse of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) Headquarters and other buildings. However, despite these tragic circumstances, the United Nations' response has been unparalleled, leaning on a mandate tailored to these extraordinary circumstances.

Since the earthquake, MINUSTAH has provided security for the distribution of humanitarian assistance to some 4,3 million Haitians and helped provide temporary shelter to 1,5 million people. MINUSTAH has also played a key role in securing Haiti's urban areas and internally displaced people (IDP) camps. Military engineering companies which were deployed in reinforcement of existing troops after January 12, helped removing rubble that littered the streets, repairing roads and setting-up temporary shelters as quickly as possible. At the end of 2010, a new challenge tested MINUSTAH's response capacity: the cholera epidemic and two hurricanes, which led the Mission to mobilize its human, logistics and financial resources to assist the authorities and the humanitarian community in reaching affected populations. At the same time, MINUSTAH continued carrying out its mandate, including by providing technical and logistical support to the organization of the parliamentary and presidential elections.

On October 14, 2011, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2012 which extends by one year the Mission's mandate, and decides the reduction of its authorized military and police personnel from 12,502 to 10,600. Accordingly, military troops are brought down from 8,940 to 7,340 and police from 4,391 to 3,241, as recommended by UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon in his report dated August 25, 2011. The Resolution also states that "in the future, any change in the force configuration should be based on the general state of security on the ground, given the ongoing development of the capacity of public authorities, including the Haitian National Police (HNP)".

ELECTORAL PROCESS

For the first time in Haiti's history, the presidential and legislative elections of 2010-2011 (November 28, 2010 and March 20, 2011) led to a transfer of power from one democratically-elected president to another from the

opposition. As per its mandate, MINUSTAH assisted authorities in the identification of 1,500 polling centers, the training by its police component of 4,200 electoral security agents and the distribution and collection of election materials in 13,144 polling stations. Some 6,200 peacekeepers from 19 countries, more than 3,000 police officers from 49 countries including 1,775 members of Formed Police Units (FPU), 475 guides and porters and 278 MINUSTAH civilian personnel were mobilized during each of the two rounds. Apart from securing the perimeters of the polling stations and other electoral premises, the military component helped transport and secure electoral material, using 238 vehicles, 3 boats and 395 mules and horses to reach the most remote areas. Moreover, some 174 hours of flight were spent to transport equipment and election officials by plane and helicopter.

Between the first and second rounds of the elections, MINUSTAH Civil Affairs Section held 120 election forums in the country's 10 departments in support to the democratic process. In 80% of the forums held, candidates or their representatives formally committed to promoting a voter-friendly, participatory and non-violent climate for a smooth second round.

SECURITY

Stabilization

MINUSTAH uniformed personnel (military and police) conducts a monthly average of 8,790 patrols across the country, a majority of which jointly with the HNP. The fact that the number of crimes reported to the police almost doubled in one year - from 1,968 cases reported in 2010 to 3,736 the following year - is attributed to several factors, including improved complaints procedures, increased training of Haitian police officers and better cooperation between the police and communities.

As part of the fight against organized crime, including kidnapping, major operations were conducted during the year, together with the HNP. These have helped arrest over 500 of the 6,000 prisoners who had escaped from the National Penitentiary during the earthquake. In 2011, hundreds of MINUSTAH uniformed personnel assisted the HNP in major anti-crime operations in several areas of the capital known as 'red' like Brooklyn, Cité de Dieu, Cité Soleil, Boston, Martissant and camp Jean-Marie Vincent. Similar operations were also conducted in Croix des Bouquets, Saint Marc, Les Cayes and Cap-Haïtien. These operations led to the arrest of gang members and the confiscation of a quantity of weapons and drugs. Two other major security operations named 'Phoenix' and 'Hope' took place respectively on July 14 and October 25, 2011 in Cité Soleil, Bel Air and Martissant. Both operations helped arrest a dozen of gang members and are sought to have destabilized organized crime in these sensitive areas. Supported by an impressive deployment of thousands of military and police, operations 'Phoenix' and 'Hope' also allowed peacekeepers to launch a series of outreach activities in those areas, providing health care, hygiene and sanitation to the local population.

Drug seizures have increased by 24% between 2010 and 2011, with 654 kg seized between January and November 2011 during HNP-UNPOL joint operations, compared to 264 kg in 2010. After a four-month training, two canine units were handed over to the national police, which significantly contributed to strengthening HNP in the fight against drugs, weapons and currency trafficking.

As part of its rapprochement policy towards the local population, particularly in underprivileged areas, peacekeepers implemented 13 Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) including the 'Clean Blocks' project. Thus, 240 people in Cité Soleil teamed up with UN peacekeepers to repair 240 houses, clean and clear the area of rubble and install thirty solar public light poles. UN peacekeepers also regularly offer free medical and dental care for those in need, build clinics where required, and provide school kits to children at the start of the school year. As part of the Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), 120 solar lights poles have been installed in 26 communities since 2008, including 10 in 2011. Côtes de Fer, La Vallée, Jacmel, Beaumont, Anse d'Hainault and Pestel, as

well as police stations in Léogane, Gressier, Grand Goâve and Petit Goâve are now lit by solar energy. Such projects help increase the safety of populations living in remote areas.

Community violence reduction

Since 2007, MINUSTAH Community Violence Reduction Section (CVR) has been working with marginalized neighborhoods to create economic and social opportunities in view to extract them from violence and the influence of gangs. In 2011, the CVR Section opened the country's first Youth Placement and Career Orientation Office (Bureau de Placement et d'Orientation des Jeunes - BPOJ) in Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haïtien, which are respectively managed by Haitian Partners for Christian Development and SOS Village associations. Some 1,300 young people trained as part of the CVR Section's vocational training and social rehabilitation programs are then taken in charge by the BPOJ. Among those who benefited from training in 2010, 73% found a temporary job in the private sector while 31% found a permanent job. In 2010, 34 women were trained in small business management with an initial capital grant. 90% of the businesses created the following year generated profits at the end of the period (late 2010) and created a total of 139 paid jobs.

The CVR Section works particularly with youth and children subject to the potential influence of gangs. In 2011, 600 'street children' in Cité Soleil and Martissant were supported through the 'Zanmi Mwen' program and 3,300 youth from the Jean-Marie Vincent IDP camp and surrounding neighborhoods completed a social rehabilitation and drug and alcohol prevention program. Finally, more than 2,330 victims of gender-based violence have received psychosocial support in the underprivileged areas of Martissant, La Saline, Bel Air and Cité Soleil.

Security and protection in IDP camps

After the earthquake, the Security Council asked the UN police (UNPOL) to secure, together with the Haiti National Police (HNP), IDP camps with a focus on preventing sexual violence against women and children. UNPOL IDP Police Unit (257 officers) – backed by 210 Formed Police Units (FPU) and 90 UN military personnel – is in charge of supporting the HNP to secure 802 camps in and outside of Port-au-Prince, including through night foot patrols and checkpoints. Patrols are conducted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in 77 camps, covering a population of 580,000 displaced people. From July 2010 to June 2011, the IDP Police Unit conducted a total of 26,280 patrols, including 23,040 foot patrols.

UNPOL permanent focal points have been posted in the seven largest camps in the capital identified as being at 'high risk' of sexual violence. They help the HNP in assisting victims of sexual violence and in following up on the claims. With the support of MINUSTAH Gender Unit, four claim-reception posts for women exposed to violence have been set up in police stations inside the Pétienville Golf Club, Carradeux and Jean-Marie Vincent IDP camps (2 posts). Outside camps, similar posts were established in 7 Port-au-Prince police stations, while 24 UNPOL officers are full-time assigned to work on gender-based violence cases. Along with local NGOs, a team of five monitors from MINUSTAH Human Rights Section collects reports on violence, evictions threats and other human rights violations in Cité Soleil, Martissant, Léogane, Petit Goâve and camp Jean-Marie Vincent. In addition, six joint offices of the HNP Brigade de Protection des Mineurs and the Institute of Social Welfare and Research were established in earthquake-affected areas with the support of MINUSTAH Child Protection Unit and UNICEF (Port-au-Prince, Les Cayes, Mirebalais, Hinche, Miragoâne and Ouanaminthe). Mainly located in border areas, these offices can follow-up on cases of trafficking and other children rights violations. According to MINUSTAH, while access to justice remains a challenge, there has been a notable increase in female victims lodging complaints.

Police Development

In accordance with the Police Development Plan of 2006-2011, one of the pillars of MINUSTAH mandate is

to support Haiti in the development of a professional police force. Since the graduation of its first promotion in 2006, the number of police officers has increased from 3,480 to 10,106 in June 2011, 11% of whom are women. They are assigned to different departments such as the traffic police, the coastal guard, the fire department, the prison service, the Office of Drug Trafficking, the administrative and the judicial police.

Since 2006, four police promotions have received basic training, and over 5,700 have benefited from specialized trainings in areas such as criminal investigations, weapons handling, close protection, coastal guard, civil protection, anti-kidnapping and anti-trafficking, canine unit management, crowd control, road traffic, gender-based violence and child protection. In 54 police stations in the country, police officers are co-located with UNPOL counterparts, in order to continue their training process, after they have completed their vocational training at the Police Academy. This number of co-location sites should be increased by 10 more by July 2012, while UNPOL has also a semi-permanent presence in the country's other 125 police stations.

In addition, 5,200 officers have received a specialized training in law, ethics and investigations. 114 HNP officers have completed an advanced training course in middle and senior management and were subsequently promoted to the rank of Inspector. In 2012, 130 additional Police officers will take a qualifying training to be promoted to the rank of Police Inspector. Launched in 2006 but halted after the earthquake of January 12, 2010, the certification process or "vetting" helps review the records of all National Police recruits, ensuring that they meet ethics and professionalism criteria. Of the 7,177 cases reviewed, those of 3,584 agents were forwarded to the HNP before the earthquake, with conclusions and recommendations on the certification/release of these agents. The review process resumed in November 2011.

RELIEF AND CYCLONE SEASON

As part of the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1927 (June 4, 2010), the 1,260 soldiers of MINUSTAH's six military engineering companies contribute to the rehabilitation of vital infrastructures, particularly roads, bridges and drainage systems. To date, they have rehabilitated roads linking Hinche to Cap-Haïtien, Jacmel and Léogane to Port-au-Prince and several other main roads in the metropolitan area. Bridges in Gonaïves, Léogane and Cap-Haïtien were repaired and the river's banks and canals in Léogane, Gonaïves and Cap-Haïtien were drained to prevent flooding. In 2011, military engineers have repaired more than 85,000 meters of roads and paved another 43,000. They also removed over 13,000 m³ of debris and dug 13 wells. Finally, during civil-military operations (CIMIC), peacekeepers distributed some 50,000 liters of drinking water per day and food for 109,000 people. They also provided medical assistance to nearly 7,900 people.

In 2011, the Community Violence Reduction (CVR) Section of MINUSTAH built and equipped seven multipurpose halls in 7 of the 10 most weather-affected municipalities in the Southeast. These facilities serve as shelter for people affected by natural disasters, as well as local emergency operations centers, training or youth community centers. Located in Bainet, Côte de Fer, Cayes-Jacmel, Marigot, Vallée de Jacmel, Belle-Anse and Grand Gosier, these centers serve a total population of nearly 90,000.

In order to provide coordinated support to humanitarian partners, the Joint Operations Tasking Center (JOTC) assisted in the execution of 2,223 relief operations since it was established by MINUSTAH and OCHA in the aftermath of the earthquake. The JOTC centralizes requests for MINUSTAH logistical and security assistance. It has become a de facto hub for the humanitarian response to the earthquake and other natural disasters, as well as the cholera epidemic. In this context, peacekeepers in 2011 have provided over 1,600 escorts for the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Before and during the hurricane season, the entire humanitarian community, in support of local and national government authorities, has developed contingency plans to deal with possible disasters. For this purpose, MINUSTAH participated in SIMEX 2011, a large joint simulation exercise which took place in two departments with the participation of 200 people. In the North, Central and Grand'Anse departments, MINUSTAH has provided mobile storage spaces as well as containers for the pre-positioning of relief aid in preparation to the hurricane season. The Mission also provided logistical support to convey containers in the country's most remote areas.

MINUSTAH also assisted the Civil Protection Department in the production and dissemination of messages and special broadcast programs informing Haitians of the risks and measures to protect themselves against natural disasters, as part of public awareness campaigns.

CHOLERA RESPONSE

Since the onset of the cholera epidemic, MINUSTAH has provided the humanitarian community with resources and air, land and sea assets including five helicopters, 220 trucks and water-tanks, 20 boats and 28 medical teams to support the humanitarian response. In 2011, over 6,000 Blue helmets have built 4 Cholera Treatment Centers (CTC), escorted over 530 convoys and distributed nearly 12 million gallons of drinking water, 16,000 Aquatab tablets and a quantity of hygiene products corresponding to an area of 4m³. The peacekeepers also carry out regular drainage and reinforcement works on the country's main rivers. They have also built a water tank and renovated the school's latrines in camp Jean-Marie Vincent, the largest IDP site in the country.

Funded with MINUSTAH Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) budget, 20 latrines were built in Grand Boucan (Centre), as well as a rainwater collector in Mussotte, a spring water catchment area and two fountains in Plaisance (Nippes) as part of the fight against cholera. MINUSTAH has also built a Cholera Treatment Unit at the Justinien University Hospital (North) and sanitary facilities at the Marigot harbour (South). Health centers in Cabaret, Thomazeau, Kenscoff and Fonds-Verettes also benefit from logistical and medical support and equipments, while the QIPs budget for cholera response amounts to more than US \$ 1.3 million. In addition, the CVR Section has distributed more than 6,365 water purification devices and locally-produced chlorine across the country in 2011, allowing more than 2 million people to have access to drinking water.

RULE OF LAW

Governance and administration

In accordance with its mandate, MINUSTAH provides logistical, technical and financial support to the Haitian Government to strengthen the rule of law, including building strong national and local institutions. In this context, the justice sector reform received a boost in October 2011 with the appointment by the President of the Republic of the President of the Supreme Court, a position left vacant since 2004. With MINUSTAH advocacy and assistance, the implementation schedule and budget of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary have also been adopted, paving the way for further reforms. Late 2011, the new Government adopted its roadmap for the rule of law, a document prepared with MINUSTAH's technical assistance.

On April 20, 2011, MINUSTAH handed over a set of prefabricated modules to the Parliament Speaker, to allow the Parliament to function in temporary quarters after its building was destroyed in the earthquake. Equipped with a generator, computers and furniture, the new US \$ 700,000 temporary structure enabled the two Houses of Parliament to open the 49th parliamentary session as scheduled in May 14, 2011. This project, as well as other key infrastructural projects such as the construction of temporary headquarters for the Department of Prison Administration (DAP) and the extension of prison buildings in the metropolitan area, are part of a Cooperation Agreement signed in February 2011 between the Government of Haiti and

MINUSTAH to provide public institutions damaged by the earthquake with prefabricated structures and equipment. Similarly, with the support of the Civil Affairs Section, the Sub-Delegation of Léogane and the town halls of Cornillon (West), Bainet and Jacmel (Southeast) have been able to move into prefabs while 14 justice of the peace courts were renovated or built in 2011 (see below). In 2010-2011, MINUSTAH has spent more than \$ 7.5 million to fund 229 Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) including 182 in the field of infrastructure and social services.

Moreover, as part of the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1927 (June 4, 2010), the 1,260 personnel of MINUSTAH's six military engineering companies are currently carrying out infrastructure works to support the Haitian government. In addition to the repair of major roads (see above) the military engineering contingents have already leveled and prepared over 222,000 m² of land, including for the temporary site of the Haitian Parliament and in several IDP camps in the capital (Croix des Bouquets, Pétienville Golf Club and Carradeux). They have also prepared sites for public buildings and schools, cholera treatment centers and warehouses (Port-au-Prince, Diquini, Léogane, Petit Goâve and Croix des Bouquets).

Several sections of MINUSTAH involved in rule of law strengthening continue to support the authorities in the legislative and constitutional process. After years of advocacy by MINUSTAH Gender Unit and its partners, the Haitian National Assembly voted a constitutional amendment on May 8, 2011 setting a 30% minimum percentage of public positions to be granted to women.

MINUSTAH and its partners such as UNICEF have also assisted parliamentarians in the amendment of a draft law relative to the Hague Convention on International Adoption, to ensure that the amended law upholds the principles of the Convention. In the same vein, the joint UN Program on HIV/AIDS in Haiti helped revise existing laws on the National Program against HIV/AIDS.

With MINUSTAH's technical support, Haiti's 140 municipalities have developed an inventory of their activities between 2006 and 2011. These documents constitute the institutional memory for the Government of Haiti and will help in the handover process between outgoing and incoming councils to be appointed at the next election. With the support of MINUSTAH, these municipalities were able to develop and adopt their budgets, following the training of 120 accountants.

Justice

As part of its mandate, MINUSTAH supports the strengthening of legal and correctional systems, in the framework of the National Justice Reform Plan that includes modernizing the judicial institutions and improving access to justice. Thus, 20 magistrate students were trained in France and have, upon their return in June 2011, undertaken a six-month practical training program. MINUSTAH Justice Section has also organized refresher workshops for 60 prosecutors, 280 clerks and 411 judiciary police officers.

In 2011, 14 justice of the peace courts were built and equipped in Miragoâne (Nippes), Cavaillon and Vieux Bourg d'Aquin (South), Maissade and Mirebalais (Center), Anse Rouge (Artibonite), Caracol, Terrier Rouge, Grand Basin and Capotille (Northeast), Baie de Henne and Port de Paix (Northwest), Grand Goâve and Petit Goâve (West) through MINUSTAH QIPs projects. In addition, as part of SC Resolution 1927 (cf. above), MINUSTAH built and equipped an additional 20 justice of the peace courts in 7 departments since February 2011. These new courts are housed in prefabricated buildings containing a courtroom, offices as well as equipment and furniture.

In order to increase access to justice for the poor, MINUSTAH has also supported the construction and the functioning of 16 Legal Aid Offices (Bureaux d'Aide Légale, BAL) across the country, including 5 in 2011. Five additional BAL should be opened by February 2012 as part of the UN-funded National Legal Assistance System (SYNAL). Since the opening of the first BAL in February 2008, 14,797 free consultations were granted

and 6141 detainee releases obtained (September 2011 statistics). These BAL operate within the District Courts of St. Marc, Petit Goâve, Port de Paix, Jacmel, Les Cayes, Jérémie, Hinche, Croix des Bouquets, Fort-Liberté, Cap-Haitien, Gonaïves, Port-au-Prince, Aquin, Grande Rivière du Nord, Mirebalais and Miragoâne. In Port-au-Prince, the CVR Section opened a special Legal Aid Office for vulnerable communities in Bel Air and Cité Soleil in June 2011.

Prisons

MINUSTAH Corrections Unit supports the authorities involved in the reform of the Penitentiary. Accordingly, 515 prison officers were trained in 2011 in fields as diverse as file management, gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS and Human Rights. Since 2011, 30 peer educators on HIV/AIDS were at work in Haiti's prisons. This innovative program in the Caribbean is to be reproduced to other countries in the region.

MINUSTAH joint efforts with its partners also focus on improving prison infrastructures. Detention space has increased from 0.3 m² per prisoner before the earthquake to 0.72 m² in 2011. Yet the Department of Penitentiary Administration is still far below the international standards of 4.5 m² per detainee. Moreover, in 2011, 83% of the 233 juvenile detainees were separated from adults, a principle of law that has been advocated by MINUSTAH and its partners in Haiti since 2007.

30 children in conflict with the law in Pétienville civil prison have also benefited from a CVR-funded education program, while the National Penitentiary and the Jacmel prison were renovated through two high-intensity labor projects which respectively employed 200 and 312 detainees. In addition to the provision of temporary facilities to the DAP and some prisons in the metropolitan area, the Mission also funded the rehabilitation of Les Cayes prison for up US \$ 100,000.

After the earthquake, preventive detention went from 80% down to 67.8%, a figure still high mainly because of the arrest of some of the 6,000 National Penitentiary inmates who escaped during the January 12, 2010 earthquake. However, in 2011, 490 inmates who were still in detention despite having long served their sentences were released with the assistance of MINUSTAH and the Ombudsman's office (Office de la Protection du Citoyen, OPC).

Human Rights

MINUSTAH Human Rights Section continued its advocacy for the promotion and protection of human rights, including against forced evictions from IDPs camps, a number in rise in 2011, and its monitoring of human rights violations across the country. Through its technical support to the Ombudsman's office (OPC), four officers were deployed in the field in 2011, along with five others funded by UNDP. The Section also assisted in the establishment of 36 civil society platforms in the Northeast and Artibonite regions. These platforms are meant to be further replicated across the country to support the monitoring of public policies and contribute to strengthening the civil society.

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