



Rule of law in Haiti remains a challenge, mainly due to dysfunctional institutions (justice, police and prisons). Professional police and accountable justice systems are essential to the stability of the country, and therefore to investments, economic growth and development.

The United Nations supports the strengthening of rule of law through promoting democratic governance, securing the legal and physical security of the population and supporting a functioning public administration.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES



The HNP registered its first targeted promotion of 1,000 graduates.

449 police officers trained on sexual and gender-based violence, as per the 7-month basic training for new HNP officers. (1)

A Women's Committee inaugurated at the Haitian National Police.



Gender focal points appointed in 22 commissariats (13 in West Department and 1 in each of the other 9). (2)

Adoption and publication of the HNP Career Plan.

13 police stations rehabilitated or built. (3)

Creation of a Centre for Continuing Education of the Judicial Police Staff. (4)

CORRECTIONS



Pre-trial Detention Monitoring Committees in place in 12 jurisdictions.

JUSTICE

Establishment of the administration of the Superior Council of the Judiciary. 10 tribunals rehabilitated or built and a further 4 equipped. (5)

The country's Appellate Courts agreed to harmonize the application of a law on appeals.

The 4 Legal Aid Offices (BAL) in Port-au-Prince now assist women and children victims of violence. (6)

Recruitment and training of 40 students, including 15 women, at the School of Magistrates. (7)

Implementation of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security 's capacity-building plan. (8)

Publication of the Electoral law setting up a constitutional quota of at least 30% women's representation.

PROTECTION

Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights established in May 2013.

Ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in October 2013.

Office of the Ombudsperson accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions.

10 spaces for the reception of survivors of gender-based violence in Port-au-Prince and 5 departments. (9)

Creation of a multi-disciplinary « Bureau de lutte contre les violences basées sur le genre » offering training as well as medical, psycho-social, police and legal services to survivors of gender-based violence staffed with Ministry of women's affairs and police officers.

Promulgation of the law on adoption. (10)

CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES

UN efforts will continue to bolster the performance of the police, judiciary and corrections, accompany public administration reform, and strengthen border management capacities.

Beyond reinforcing institutions and good governance, the consolidation of a culture of rule of law is essential to the protection of citizens' rights.

The establishment and proper functioning of key accountability and oversight mechanisms is essential.

So are genuine political stability and will to firmly root rule of law in Haiti. This is currently compounded by the fact that many draft laws are awaiting legislative decisions.



VOICES

«Today, I'm very happy to be a police officer following eight months and 27 days of training, and I'm ready to do my job - which is to protect and serve the lives and property of the people of Haiti.»

Guerline Francis, from Port-à-Piment (South) one of 1,058 cadets of the 24th Promotion of the Haitian National Police, which was sworn-in on December 27th, 2013.