

**HAITIAN PRIORITIES PROJECT**  
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April 16, 2007

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**UN TROOPS MUST BE REPLACED BY CREOLE AND FRENCH-SPEAKING POLICE OFFICERS  
COALITION URGES MINUSTAH TO STOP KILLING INNOCENT HAITIANS  
DEMANDS HAITIAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE CONTROL OF HAITI**

Sunrise, Florida. Since February 29, 2004, after the kidnapping of Jean-Bertrand Aristide, impoverished Haitians have been under constant death threat from the hands of MINUSTAH. Over the past three years, the United States, France, Canada, the United Nations and Brazil have failed in their attempts to improve the lives of ordinary citizens in Haiti. Their mismanagement and failed policies inflict more pain on the Haitian populations and make a dire situation worse. Haitians in underprivileged neighborhood like Cite Soleil live in perpetual fear, because they are being hunted by MINUSTAH for being poor and for their political affiliations.

The Haitians Priorities Project (HPP), a coalition aims at representing and creating a Haitian agenda is outraged with MINUSTAH's actions - Haitians in low-income neighborhoods cannot sleep at night - they are frequently awakened in the middle of the night at gun point while MINUSTAH conduct illegal search and seizure seeking non-existing weapons without a search warrant. Hundreds of innocent civilians have lost their lives during these deadly operations.

"The UN has 6,709 troops operating in Haiti with very limited language training, and the language barrier has been detrimental to the Haitian people. It is time for the UN Security Council to replace the UN troops with 6,709 police officers capable of communicating in both Creole and French," Said Jacob Francois Co-Founder of the Haitian Priorities Project. We demands reparation for all victims of MINUSTHA's operations. We urge the Haitian government and the United Nations to set up a long-term fund in order to provide care for the victims and their families by MINUSTHA's operation, including psychological treatment. Moreover, we ask that the UN troops be held accountable for their crimes and the perpetrators should be punished according to Haitian laws.

Haiti now has a democratically elected government to conduct the business of the Haitian people, thus it no longer needs a dreadful peacekeeping force. Article 143 of the Haitian constitution empowers the president to be in charge of the army in Haiti, therefore we demand that the government acts swiftly and take charge of those forces operating in Haiti.

Haiti needs to focus its meager resources at building democratic institutions, basic infrastructure, and responding to its population dire needs for social services. MINUSTAH's presence in Haiti is depriving the Haitian government of much needed funds to meet these demands. "If MINUSTAH remains in Haiti, it must be a civil mission to assist the Haitian government at building roads, catastrophe preparedness, energy enhancement, communications, government technology and health related preparedness," said Eugenia Charles Co-Founder of the Haitian Priorities Project.

If these minimal changes are not done, MINUSTHA must leave Haiti by October 2007. The \$500 million annual budget for MINUSTHA should be reallocated to funding needed projects in Haiti. Once and for all, Haiti can have the funds necessary to sprint into the 21st century.

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