

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
29 January 2013

Original: English

Letter dated 28 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to address you, in my capacity as Coordinator of the Group of Friends of Haiti in New York, in order to transmit attached hereto a joint communiqué recently adopted by the Group of Friends regarding the situation in Haiti and the role of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) José Luis Cancela
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 28 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Group of Friends of Haiti

Joint statement on the situation in Haiti

The Group of Friends of Haiti in New York^a expresses its gratitude and recognition to Ambassador Mariano Fernandez for his dedicated work as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

The Group of Friends reaffirms its solidarity with and commitment to the people and the Government of Haiti in their pursuit of stability, reconstruction, recovery, socioeconomic development and democratic consolidation.

The Group of Friends recognizes that progress has been made in the consolidation of stability, with the support of MINUSTAH, and highlights the importance of maintaining the focus on strengthening the rule of law, including respect for human rights, addressing corruption, conducting democratic elections and the development of security institutions.

The Group of Friends renews its support for the development of the MINUSTAH consolidation plan and transition compact with the objective of allowing the Haitian authorities to gradually assume their fundamental responsibilities for their country's future.

The Group of Friends strongly encourages all political actors in Haiti to deepen their dialogue and cooperation towards their country's democratic consolidation and welcomes their renewed commitment to the timely realization, with the Mission's assistance, of free and fair partial legislative, municipal and local elections, which constitute an essential and urgent step towards lasting stability, recovery and development in Haiti.

New York, 23 January 2013

^a Members of the Group of Friends: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Guatemala, Peru, United States of America and Uruguay.