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Agenda item 7 (d)

Coordination, programme and other questions:

Long-term programme of support for Haiti

**Letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Haiti to the
United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council**

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith letter PM/JEA/sdr/0113 dated 28 June 2006, received in facsimile, addressed to you from Jacques Edouard Alexis, Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti, requesting that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti should be extended (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would include this letter in the documentation concerning the extension of the mandate of the Advisory Group to be considered at the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed): **Léo Mérores**
Permanent Representative of Haiti
to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Haiti to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council

I have the honour to convey my full satisfaction and my awareness and appreciation of the efforts exerted on Haiti's behalf by the Economic and Social Council under your Presidency and the climate in which our relationship is evolving.

The determination to succeed is evident, and we wish to congratulate the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on the work that has been accomplished. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to all the members of the Advisory Group - to the Ambassadors of Benin and Brazil, the Ambassador of Canada, serving as Chairman, and the Ambassadors of Chile, Spain and Trinidad and Tobago, not forgetting the Ambassador of Haiti, currently serving as Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council.

I would like to express once again my confidence in this institution and reiterate my firm intention to move forward with the long-term programme under the auspices of the Council. In that regard, I have the honour to request that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti should be extended beyond the substantive session of 2006, to help us pursue the national struggle against poverty and continue to make progress towards our goal.

I am well aware that the realization of the first seven Millennium Development Goals, to which Haiti subscribes, is inseparable from that of the eighth, namely, the development of global partnerships. In formulating the best possible long-term development plan and in convincing ourselves and our friends that our chances of succeeding are good lies our greatest hope of seeing the plan come to fruition. In that light, I have decided to maintain the long-term programme with the help of the Economic and Social Council and the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti.

Their interlocutor in the Government will be primarily the strategic think tank, already presented to you and to the Advisory Group on 14 March 2006. As indicated in the draft terms of reference of the think tank, its mandate will be to develop a long-term vision for sustainable development and to make that vision workable through the formulation of a programme covering the next 15 years. The programme, deriving from the national strategy to combat poverty, will be integrated into the interim cooperation framework and the interim poverty reduction strategy. Work on the programme will begin immediately; it should be ready for implementation starting January 2008. Thus, the strategic think tank will be the counterpart in the Haitian Government for the Council's Advisory Group, establishing a close and ongoing collaboration.

I would like to assure you that my Government, as soon as it is formed, which will happen shortly, will receive the Ambassadors of the Advisory Group with interest and pleasure should they manifest a desire to hold meetings in Haiti, at any time from the beginning of this coming month of July.

Let me reiterate the hope that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group will be extended and assure you that all efforts will be expended to achieve our aim. Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed): Edouard Alexis
Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti
