



PERMANENT MISSION OF MEXICO

Statement by Amb. Miguel Ruiz Cabañas, Under-secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Right, during the Security Council debate on Haiti

New York, July, 18, 2017

Mr. President,

I want to thank China for convening this debate, as well as the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

I would like to recognize, especially, the Head of MINUSTAH, Ms. Sandra Honoré, for her report and, most of all, for her tireless work throughout the years. Ms. Honoré, Mexico recognizes that you are an outstanding international civil servant. Your commitment to the people of Haiti and your efforts towards the peace and development that we strive for in this Organization have been exemplary.

Mr. President,

The unanimous adoption of resolution 2350 (2017), which outlines the conclusion of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, to which Mexico contributed to with the deployment of a group of military observers, and the establishment of a new United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) in October, is a natural consequence of the favorable evolution of the situation in Haiti. Strengthening the rule of law and national institutions, as well as fully committing to the path of development with the United Nations and the international community, are signs of a new era for a country that has taken responsibility for its own future.

The recent allocation of adequate resources by the General Assembly to MINUSTAH, which will allow for a responsible, progressive and prudent transition towards the new Mission, while avoiding security vacuums and planting the seed for a sustainable and durable peace in Haiti, is a source of satisfaction.

Mr. President,

United Nations is not withdrawing from Haiti. We are simply evolving our presence there and, more importantly, evolved in the way we conceive of peace and development.

We expect impeccable coordination, coherence, efficiency and transparency from the UN Country Team as it remains on the ground. It has a fundamental role in accompanying Haiti through its economic and social development, strengthening of its institutions and in its respect for human rights.

Mexico, as member of the Ad-Hoc Advisory Group of the ECOSOC for Haiti, has observed the will of President Moïse to establish a new dialogue in his country that will translate to a more prosperous future. We encourage Haiti to direct its development, as we do with all other countries, toward the 2030 Agenda, so that its people can enjoy the benefits of fulfilling the Sustainable Development Objectives.

With Haiti, the United Nations has the unique opportunity to prove that we are indeed facing a new paradigm and a new way of working; that we have moved away from managing conflicts to placing sustainable development at the center of our efforts.

The new approach of MINUJUSTH and its close coordination with the Country Team should be seen as an opportunity, not only to coordinate activities on the ground, but also here at Headquarters, though the efforts of the Security Council, Economic and Social Council and all UN system agencies.

Mr. President,

The UN has a moral and economic debt to the people of Haiti. We have yet to find a just response to the problems that arose from the terrible cholera epidemic or how to attend the victims and others affected. We cannot continue to postpone the implementation of a viable solution that allows us to close this regrettable chapter of the UN's presence in Haiti.

Mexico, together with Jamaica, co-facilitated the resolution ““The new United Nations approach to cholera in Haiti”, through which the General Assembly recognized the responsibility of this Organization towards the people of Haiti and the impact of this terrible scourge on the welfare of Haiti.

In this regard, we reiterate the call of the General Assembly for Member States to consider the possibility of contributing unencumbered balances and income credits from MINUSTAH to the Trust Fund for the new approach.

Mr. President,

Before concluding, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the commitment of the military and civilian staff that participated in MINUSTAH during the last 13 years. In particular, Mexico pays tribute to all of the United Nations staff that lost their lives working towards a better future for the people of Haiti. We will never forget them.

Thank you.