



THE UNITED NATIONS WORKING TOGETHER IN HAITI

The UN system in Haiti is comprised of 9 UN agencies and the UN Stabilisation Mission: *FAO, OCHA, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, WHO/PAHO and MINUSTAH.*

The UN Mandate: *Promoting sustainable human development in Haiti*

In the particularly sensitive context of Haiti, the role of the UN System is especially crucial. The UN System in Haiti works to achieve its mandate of fostering sustainable human development by addressing the key issues which threaten this small, populous country: namely by fighting poverty, social exclusion and the impact of HIV/AIDS and promoting human rights, peace and good governance. The Security Council Resolution 1542 (2004) requested the appointment of a Special Representative to oversee the UN activities in Haiti as well as for the “establishment of a Core Group chaired by the Special Representative and comprising also his/her Deputies, the Force Commander, representatives of OAS and CARICOM, other regional and sub-regional organizations, international financial institutions and other major stakeholders, in order to facilitate the implementation of MINUSTAH’s mandate, promote interaction with the Haitian authorities as partners, and to enhance the effectiveness of the international community’s response in Haiti, as outlined in the Secretary-General’s report (S/2004/300)”.

UN Coordination

The UN agencies in Haiti work in concert under the leadership of the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator. The Resident Coordinator holds monthly UN Heads of Agency meetings as well as regular Donor Meetings to coordinate their activities in the country. The different agencies of the UN System in the country work in tandem, building on the particular strengths of each of agency. The UN agencies have concentrated their efforts to address the priorities and needs outlined by the national partners in different fields, and in support of achieving the goals set out by Heads of State in the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals.

The United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)

The peacekeeping operation, MINUSTAH, has the primary task of providing a secure and stable environment through its military and police presence, and, if required, operational support to the Haitian National Police (authorized strength of up to 6,700 troops and 1,622 civilian police officers). By doing so, MINUSTAH will provide the necessary conditions to enable a nation-wide inclusive dialogue and reconciliation process, fight against impunity, conduct elections, as well as economic recovery. MINUSTAH also is mandated to assist the Transitional Government in the areas of police reform and institutional strengthening; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, elections, monitoring, promotion and protection of human rights and the political process.

Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

In Haiti, OCHA supports the Humanitarian Coordinator in bringing together the various entities of the UN to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the country. OCHA shares information and liaises among the UN agencies, international military and civil society through both written briefings (the situation report) and regular humanitarian forums. The team was particularly central to the response to the recent floods in the Southeast, circulating information and providing practical coordination on the ground. OCHA is currently coordinating a joint mission to the Northwest in response to reports on a developing drought and is mapping the country to coordinate the roles and responses of key players in the humanitarian sector.

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

UNAIDS is a joint venture in the UN family which aims to maximise the UN’s efficiency and impact in the field of HIV/AIDS by pooling the experience, efforts and resources of ten organizations. UNAIDS in Haiti supports the development of widespread action involving a number of partners in the public sector and civil society in order to strengthen the national response to HIV/AIDS. UNAIDS in Haiti has largely contributed to the national response providing support for the development of policies and strategies, dissemination of strategic information for planning, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation (including development of a database on HIV/AIDS interventions and funding), involvement of civil society and development of partnerships, particularly with associations of people living with HIV/AIDS, provision of universal access to treatment and care, and mobilization of resources (i.e. the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria).

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

FAO has been helping governments guarantee food security for all, through improving agricultural productivity, development of collectives and contributing to economic growth. In Haiti, FAO works with its partners to increase the availability of food, increase access to food and improve its quality. FAO develops techniques that can be duplicated by people in rural areas and that can guarantee a rapid and sustainable increase in productivity. These initiatives are undertaken with consideration of the fragile ecosystem and availability of natural resources,

particularly in the mountainous regions threatened by desertification. FAO also addresses cross-border threats such as diseases and insects. Equally, they promote political reform in Haiti regarding fishing, aquaculture and development of the agricultural sector.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF fosters the development, protection and participation of children and promotion of their rights. The aim is to help children meet their essential needs and achieve their potential. UNICEF contributes to the national objectives related to the protection and fulfilment of the rights of the children and women in Haiti, through actions in health/nutrition, education and protection against all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse. Advocacy, information and communications constitute principle strategies of UNICEF's programmes as well as capacity building, monitoring and evaluation and piloting new activities. UNICEF strongly believes that investing in children today, with the participation of all Haitians, guarantees a better future of Haiti.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP promotes sustainable human development and poverty reduction. UNDP's mission is to help developing countries create their own solutions to national and global problems through innovative programmes and services. In Haiti, UNDP works with national actors in various fields including promotion of good governance, reduction of poverty and social exclusion, reinforcement of the justice system, sustainable management of the environment, prevention of risks and disasters, combating HIV/AIDS and protection, respect and realisation of human rights. UNDP's places particular emphasis on poverty alleviation measures, including good governance, which is an absolute priority given the current situation in Haiti and as set out by heads of states in the Millennium Declaration.

United Nations Organisation for Education Science and Culture (UNESCO)

UNESCO's mandate is to contribute to maintaining peace and security in the world through promotion of education, science and culture and collaboration among nations with a view to assuring universal respect of justice, the law and human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. In Haiti, UNESCO supports the national plan of education and training, with the medium and long-term goal of achieving education for all, at all levels, through out one's life. UNESCO is working on a programme for 2004-2005 to improve the quality of education, focusing on improving teaching and teachers' quality, setting up a system of support for teachers and rehabilitating classrooms. In addition, UNESCO is helping raise awareness about the protection and conservation of the cultural, historical and artistic culture of Haiti.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

UNFPA is the lead agency for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). UNFPA's work in Haiti covers three priority areas: fighting HIV/AIDS, reducing maternal mortality, and integrating population issues in the strategies for development. Towards that end, UNFPA addresses the following cross-cutting issues: youth, gender, provision of contraceptives and inputs for reproductive health. UNFPA is also initiating projects to address violence against women, training of the national police in reproductive health and reproductive health in emergency situations.

World Health Organization/Pan-American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO)

WHO with its regional bureau, PAHO, is the UN agency mandated to address issues related to health. Their aim is to combat disease and improve the quality of life and life expectancy of people in the region. WHO works through the national and international partnerships, including the public sector and civil society, in achieving Millennium Declaration Goals and following up international conferences and instruments. WHO/PAHO's main activities in Haiti include support to the Ministry of Public Health and Population in developing and implementing the national plan for health sector reform, with an emphasis on decentralisation, and reducing maternal and infant mortality, addressing childhood illnesses, preventing mother-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, providing access to essential medicine and evaluating and monitoring these activities. They also consider related water, sanitation and environmental issues.

World Food Programme (WFP)

WFP in Haiti provides food to more than 500,000 beneficiaries, especially targeting pregnant women, children, and school-aged children. The *Emergency Operation* provides food assistance to 140,000 malnourished children, mothers and expectant mothers, and orphans and supplies urgent assistance to the victims of the May floods. This was achieved despite a shortfall of funds reaching almost 60%. The *WFP Haiti Country Programme* provides food to more than 230,000 persons, focusing on the most vulnerable groups and increasing primary school enrolment and attendance. The *Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation* helps improve nutritional and food security of 131,500 beneficiaries affected by drought and malnutrition in the far west and central plateau of Haiti, with special focus on vulnerable groups such as children and orphans due to HIV/AIDS. The *Special Operation* undertakes the logistics, telecommunications, security and coordination necessary to ensure the successful implementation of WFP's operations.