



CONT Delegation visit to Haiti

22 - 26 February 2012

Feedback report



Introduction

In January 2010 the most devastating earthquakes in the history of the Caribbean killed estimated 300,000 Haitians and displaced 2,000,000 persons (of which almost 500,000 still remain homeless). The European Commission pledged €22 million at the International Donor Conference in New York in March 2010, of which €95 million have been committed so far and the payments made until the end of 2011 amount to €10 million.

The Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT) included a delegation visit to Haiti in its annual plan for 2012 with the aim of answering the following two main questions:

- Was the EU aid after the 2010 earthquake well managed and controlled?
- Have the ways of channelling the aid linked the earthquake as well as to cholera epidemic proved effective and efficient, and have those aid channelling mechanisms ensured sufficient financial accountability, transparency and democratic accountability for the EU funds?

Before the delegation visit took place the following five preparatory meetings were organised:

- internal preparatory meeting on 29 November 2011 with the participation of Commission officials (representatives of DGs ECHO, DEVCO and the EEAS);
- second internal preparatory meeting on 11 January 2012 with representatives of Coordination Europe-Haiti;
- third internal preparatory meeting on 31 January 2012 with the participation of Commission officials (representatives of DGs ECHO and DEVCO);
- fourth internal preparatory meeting on 7 February 2012 with representatives of international NGOs;
- exchange of views in CONT on 9 February 2012.

A background dossier for the delegation visit, including briefing documents received from the Commission, was prepared with the assistance of the Policy Department on Budgetary Affairs and distributed to all participants before the delegation visit.

The programme and list of participants is to be found in Annex I.

Wednesday 22 February

The delegation arrived in Port-au-Prince on the evening of Wednesday 22 February and the official programme commenced with a meeting at the hotel with the following representatives (amongst others) of Haitian NGOs:

Claudette Werleigh (general secretary of Pax Christi International)

Colette Lespinasse (coordinator of GARR - Repatriates and Refugees Support Group)

Katia Bonte (Member of the Management Board of GARR and of CRESFED) and

Antonal Mortimé (Executive Secretary of Platform for Haitian Organizations for the Defence of Human Rights)



At this informal meeting, the following issues were discussed: perception on how assistance is handed out, what should be changed in the project financing, visibility of funds, perception of the work of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC), inclusion of local NGOs in projects, budget support to reinforce the Haitian State vs. fear that this would fuel even more corruption.

According to representatives of the local NGOs, the Haitian society has been put aside when channelling the funds, the financing mechanisms are not clear, there is a lack of communication and of transparency between the Haitian State and the civil society concerning the choices and decisions made, and they also lack information on the results obtained. They also stressed that a structural aid would be indispensable in order to reorganise and decentralise the State which is excessively centralised and told the members of the delegation that in their view EU aid was reinforcing this excessive centralisation even more. NGO representatives strongly criticized the work of the IHRC¹, its lack of legitimacy and they were against the idea of extending its mandate (expired in October 2011). They took the



view that the Haitian State should assume its responsibilities, in particular, in the fields of health care, education² and housing. They emphasized the urgent need to adopt and implement a national plan of social housing as almost 500 000 persons remain homeless and tens of thousands of children and families are still living in temporary "internally-displaced people" camps. They also suggested that a law on the participation of civil society should be adopted and that the whole judiciary system needs to be overhauled.

¹ a "toolbox to transit money" as they said

² only 5% of Haitian schools are public

Thursday 23 February

Morning

Working breakfast with the Head of the EU Delegation Mr **Carlo De Filippi** and with ECHO representative Ms **Elke Leidel**.

The Head of the EU Delegation presented the overview of the situation in Haiti. He characterised the international aid after the earthquake as scattered and uncoordinated. As the agreement of splitting the areas of responsibility was reached, it became more coordinated. As a result of the split, EU is mainly perceived as a road construction donor.

He also said that the premises for the aid are twofold and thus contradictory to some extent: on one hand, donors show discontent when the aid is not channelled via NGOs; on the other hand there is a need to build up Haitian government competence.

He also said that apart from delivery of the development aid which is channelled via EU Delegation [and humanitarian aid – via ECHO], EU has no particular political standing as regards Haiti.

ECHO representative stated that there has been very little change in Haiti in the period from September 2009 (i.e., before the earthquake) until now, – the country has been and still is rather dysfunctional.



Members raised questions as regards the rather negative perception of the situation by the local NGOs (meeting of 22 February 2012), as regards ownership of the aid, as well as on the lack of information of EU aid. . It was suggested that the delegation should set up an information channel.

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Visit to **IFRC Training centre** for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management of disaster response (ECHO project).

The delegation visited this ECHO financed project the objective of which was to strengthen the Haitian Red Cross, one of the main components of the Haitian civil society. The Haitian civil protection (depending on the Ministry of Interior) lacks capacities and therefore it is crucial that the Haitian Red Cross plays a leading role in preparing the population (through the training of trainers) to future disasters.

Although participants appreciated the volunteers' demonstrations and explanations they remained unconvinced about the overall state of preparedness of the Haitian population to future disasters (in particular earthquakes)



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Meeting with **Nigel Fisher**, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator and Head of OCHA office in Haiti.

Mr Fisher first presented the UN role and activities in Haiti.

According to him, camps for displaced people have been quite successful, among other things due to the fact that each of them has a Haitian committee which takes part in running the camp. Problems – for instance, gender-based violence and forced eviction by landlords – occurred at later stages. Now (23 Feb 2012) the camps are worse than they were one year ago,

still they remain better than slums – for many people camps have greatly improved the access to fresh water, sanitation and healthcare if compared to their situation before the earthquake. According to Mr Fisher, if one was to ask for top five concerns of the people willing to leave the camps those would be 1) job, 2) job, 3) job, 4) schooling and 5) housing. Unfortunately investors are repelled by the lack of protection and stability, which is aggravated by Haiti's institutional crisis and the tension between the President and the Prime Minister [and Parliament]. As it is, earthquake response is being phased out, and the issues to address are fundamental structural problems of Haiti.

Members of the delegation raised several issues and put forth a number of questions, in particular, on the acceptable level of risk in the context of the need to invest in the very weak Haitian government, a perception that Haitian government is in a sense "blackmailing" international donors, the issue of demographic growth, as well as the incompatibility of UN reporting and accounting system and the working methods of the ECA.



According to Mr Fischer's responses, several of the Haitian government structures are functioning well, although central functions and coordination remain weak. It is of utmost importance that land register and ID issues are tackled without further delay. As regards IHRC, it would still be necessary. Due to the issues of Haitian government, international donors have been working around it for the last 20 years. Unless the institutions are strengthened, situation may be just the same after 20 more years. As regards the demographic issues, the ultimate answer is education (current surveys show that while Haitian females are aware of the demographic issue, males do not share their concern). Speaking of the ongoing cholera epidemic, the fatality rate in Haiti still remains around 1.2-1.3% – still it is a major improvement from 6-7% in the height of it (October-November 2010). As for the limited compatibility of EU auditing provisions and UN reporting system, Mr Fischer promised to pass on the question.

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Business lunch with **Manuel Hernández Ruigómez**, Ambassador of Spain, **Rodolphe Sambou**, Deuxième Conseiller (Embassy of France) and **Oliver Juengel**, Chargé d'Affaires (Embassy of Germany).



Spanish ambassadors' assessment of the political situation in Haiti is that it is based on outdated constitution plagued with potential problems a double executive power, etc. The case of Haiti differs from typical Western political systems also due to the absence of political parties in the European or American sense. Therefore there is no possibility for a dialogue with the political parties. Europe is generous towards Haiti, unfortunately that alone is not sufficient to bring about improvement due to persistent conflicts between the Prime Minister, the President, Ministers, etc; also internal organisation of the ministries is chaotic. According to French ambassador, in France there is a very strong political interest for Haiti (it is number one priority among Central and Latin American countries). The support is targeted at health programmes, training judges, as well as reinforcement of the administration, which is the top priority as there is a need for strong Haitian counterparts. Germany also recognises persistent inherent problems of Haiti. Haitian State was in a poor shape already before the earthquake, which only aggravated the situation. Germany's political interests are limited, and Haiti has been withdrawn from bilateral aid list; however, aid is still delivered on the account of disasters. To give an example of Germany's assistance, it financed a hydro plant supplying electricity to Port-au-Prince.

The Members put questions as regards the position of the three Member States towards Budget Support, on the Member States' influence on the EU financing decisions

As for the MS influence of EU financing, MS and EU maintain a dialogue. As a result of the agreement reached in 2010, Spain is concentrating on water supply projects, France – on education, and EU – on roads. The international aid is coordinated by Nigel Fisher [the UN Humanitarian Coordinator and Head of OCHA office in Haiti], as well as IHRC – which is stopped. That may pose a problem, as the IHCR gave the donors opportunity to express their position. Another major issue is the absence of land register (cadastre).

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Afternoon

Visit to **Champ de Mars**: IDP site with 20 000 people in front of the destroyed presidential palace.

The delegation visited this ECHO financed project where EU provided safe water supply, sanitation and basic health care to the people who spontaneously took abode in the available open spaces after the earthquake.

At its peak, Champ de Mars hosted around 30 000 people. Currently (23 Feb 2012) the number of people has diminished, nevertheless the needs for safe water, sanitation and healthcare remain considerable, and the costs of that are still born by humanitarian aid.

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Meeting with **Levaillant Louis Jeune**, President of the Chamber of Deputies and with **Simon Dieuseul Desras**, President of the Senate and with members dealing with budget and budgetary control issues.



The delegation met with a number of Members of both Houses of the Haitian Parliament in spite of the carnival recess, including the two Presidents. In the view of the Haitian MPs the role vested upon international organisations was too important and the responsibility and means of the Haitian State should rather be enhanced. Some 75% of the budget is external aid on which Parliament has no scrutiny. They also stressed the crucial need for institutional capacity-building, for more infrastructure development and more direct foreign investment, rather than simply providing humanitarian aid. The interventions revealed the apparent political crisis between Parliament and President Martelli.

Given this continuous political tension within the country, participants advocated having stable and united institutions capable of implementing the agreed development plans. Delegates also stressed the need to reinforce Parliament in its budgetary and budgetary control

rights, as currently it plays a very limited role in holding the government accountable. They also underlined the importance of the obligation of the Heads of EU delegations (acting as authorising officers by sub-delegation) to report to their hierarchy³ on the efficiency and effectiveness of internal management and control systems put in place in their Delegation, as well as on the management of operations sub-delegated to them, and provide a declaration of assurance pursuant to Article 66(3a) of the Financial Regulation. Annexed to the annual activity reports this information will be made available to Parliament and therefore made public. Finally, the delegates pointed out apparent absence of female MPs in the Haitian Parliament.

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Unfortunately the meeting with **Ann Valerie Timothee Milfort**, representative of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC) could not take place as Ms Milfort was not available.

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Friday 24 February

Morning

Meeting with **Mr. Price Pady**, National Authorising Officer.



Mr Pady explained that the earthquake resulted in the sudden stop in the implementation of programmes, which therefore caused delays in the tender procedure, but recognised that this was also partly attributable to the Haitian authorities. There was question of creating an administrative town accommodating all ministries but this plan has finally not been carried

³ to their authorising officer by delegation

out. Joint projects with the Dominican Republic also suffer important delays due to disagreements between the authorities of both countries. While recognising the crucial assistance of NGOs following the earthquake, he also pointed to problem of lack of coordination amongst NGOs and significant waste of resources even though these problems have been resolved to a certain extent. Concerning Budget Support, which represent up to 60% of the budget, he underlined their positive contribution to reinforcing governance, but recognised the unsatisfactory progress in the area of decentralisation.

Mr Pady mentioned three main priorities for the Haitian government: i) education-training (in particular that of civil servants⁴) ii) sustainable agriculture and iii) tourism. He deplored that these priorities were not enough represented in the programmes financed by the EU. On the issue of corruption, he admitted that more should be done at institutional level in order to successfully fight this 'complex phenomenon'. He took the opinion that the Interim Commission for the Reconstruction of Haiti (CIRH) failed to fulfil its own promises, in particular in the crucial area of housing. Talking about local NGOs, he claimed that they were small, badly organised and that Haitian civil society in general was very diversified and hardly structured at all. Finally, Mr Pady admitted that although anti-corruption legislation existed, laws were not implemented.



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Meeting with representatives of the **International Financial Institutions** (WB, IADB, IMF) (Alexander Abrantes, WB Country Rep; Eduardo Almeida, IADB Country Rep; Jacques Bougha-Hagbe, IMF Country Rep).

According to the IMF, in Haiti the question is not about the money – the government could have at its disposal up to 1 billion USD in 2012. Haiti's problem is leadership. Most worrisome issue remains investment budget: once funds are transferred from the treasury to a project, there is very little feedback. A computerised system has been planned, yet it has never been

⁴ estimated at all together some 60 000 public servants

implemented in this area. According to the IADB representative, the bottlenecks are to some extent in the IADB procedures, but mostly it is Haitian government weakness. The situation is aggravated by crises. Haiti has in average one crisis every year (in 2010 it had four). Given that, IADB has accordingly adapted to recurrent crises. IADB does not envisage a possibility to induce a major change in Haiti. A number of "low hanging fruit" can be identified where the assistance can bring results: there is indeed a possibility to create jobs (e.g., garment sector has a potential of increase from current 25000 employees to 100-125000), a need for more industrial parks, etc. According to the WB, the observations and identified problems match those which were outlined by the IADB. Main concern remains the lack of government decisions. For instance, there is nobody in the Haitian government who is in charge of housing. Very basic, essential elements are still not in place, which leads to enormous financial losses (e.g. in state energy company). As for the projects, according to IMF, the lack of feedback remains the major problem. For instance, any project is obliged to submit documentation to the national procurement office; in practice that never happens. The cure is seen in strengthening of Haitian institutions. As regards money, Haiti would be able to manage without donors, – it is the capacity problem. To illustrate this, it would not be unheard of if a ministry would withhold the money dedicated to a certain project just to blackmail a fellow minister. According to IADB, big changes are not realistic to achieve, it should rather be practical things, concrete aims and results.



When asked by the members of the delegation to name their top priorities, IMF mentioned maintaining the Budget Support, WB emphasised the need for coordination between donors, and the IADB proposed that projects could be coordinated and co-financed rather than kept completely separate (for example, the industrial park in the North of the country will need secondary roads, which nominally fall into EU area).

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Meeting with NGOs

The following international NGOs were represented: Concern worldwide, ACF International⁵, ACTED⁶, Handicap International, Médecins du Monde⁷ and Welt Hunger Hilfe.



There are some 200 international NGO which are active in Haiti. In their view the transition between emergency aid and development aid should be fine-tuned, and European mechanisms should link emergency and development funding

NGOs said that while emergency funding after the earthquake had been adequate, Haiti had difficulties to attract development funding, due to the lack of development donors.

Talking about the sustainability of projects the example of 20 health centres across the country was mentioned by ACF. At the beginning they were operated by ACF staff, later the staff of the Ministry of Public Health took them over. Should the funding stop, ACF staff could not stay any longer to monitor and supervise the projects. Therefore, in the view of ACF, funding should continue, otherwise in medium term the centres risk to be eventually closed down. Concerning the issue of demographic growth, it was said that family planning was now recognised as a priority by the Ministry of Health.



They also deplored that a lack of clear and pertinent communication existed concerning the NGOs,

⁵ Action contre la faim (Action against Hunger)

⁶ Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique Et au Développement

⁷ Doctors of the World

which resulted in their action only felt and appreciated by the direct beneficiaries and to a much lesser extent by the Haitian authorities and the population in general. Several representatives underlined the need for the Haitian State to take its responsibilities and act as a ‘master-builder’ in the country by setting up its own medium- and long-term development priorities. Participants stressed that this would also require the political courage of the international community to commit its long-term assistance to the Haitian State in building its capacities.

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Press conference.

A well-attended event. Participation of essentially Haitian TV channels, radio stations and newspapers.



Participants informed the press about the objective of their visit, their assessment of the situation in Haiti, and stressed that the assistance provided to the country was sufficient in monetary terms, nevertheless a better use should be made of the available funds. For the moment there are important delays in the implementation of the programmes. The example of a computerized system was mentioned which would ensure a better follow-up of the funds. Participants also stressed the importance of meaningful involvement of civil society in the implementation of projects and programmes.

Concerning the use of Budget Support, participants stressed that it could be increased if the following conditions will be met:

- i) properly functioning democracy with stable institutions;
- ii) the accounts are made transparent;
- iii) the Government is made accountable; and
- iv) an independent control authority (a Court of Auditors) functions properly.

Other important conditions to a sustainable development of the country were that endemic political crisis should stop and the Government should find new revenues to depend less on international assistance. Delegates also stressed that Haitian authorities should tackle the issues of corruption and land ownership as a matter of priority.

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Following the press conference participants received the information according to which the Prime Minister, Garry Conille, had resigned.

Therefore, for security reasons the two project visits foreseen for the afternoon needed to be restricted to visiting the offices of FOCAL, the NGO in charge of the projects.

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Afternoon

The delegation visited two projects co-financed by the EU (by DEVCO):

Project no. 1:

Programme of revitalization of the area of Martissant.

EU Contribution to this project amounts to EUR 5 million (of which EUR 2 million of the 9th EFD and EUR 3 million from the Stability Instrument). The Financing agreement signed in 2008, and the project had been completed. Implementing partners: AVSI, GRET, Municipality of Port au Prince + (under Stability Instrument) CONCERN and FOKAL

Project no. 2: Support programme to the reconstruction and urban planning in order to facilitate the return of disaster victims.

EU Contribution to this project amounts to EUR 23 million. The Financing agreement had been signed at the end of 2011, and the implementation had started recently. Implementing partners are Agence Française de Développement and UN Habitat.

The overall assessment of the project was positive, nevertheless the opinions of the delegates differed as regards the value for money of the particular programmes.



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Meeting with **André Lemerrier Georges**, Minister of Finance.

Mr Lemerrier Georges first explained the consequences of the PM's resignation and pointed out that according to the Haitian Constitution⁸, in this event the government remains in place until the appointment of a successor in order to transact current business.

He further called on reinforced EU assistance in order to increase transparency, to improve budgetary procedure and to pass from a budget of means to a budget of results. This would also presuppose reinforcing the Haitian Parliament's capacities so that it can fully exercise its budgetary and budgetary control rights over the executive. In relation to international NGOs, he deplored that their actions were lacking coherence and did not form part of the framework established by the government. However he did not mention specifically any NGO or project.



Concerning the Interim Commission, he took the view that the IHRC did not reach its aim, as it failed to give a strategic direction to the reconstruction efforts and to involve all stakeholders. On the question of how to reinforce economic cooperation with the neighbouring Dominican Republic, he advocated the need to enhance the cooperation framework in general and to establish a customs union in the medium-term. Regarding the issue of creating a more business-friendly climate in Haiti, Mr Lemerrier Georges pointed out that important progress has been made regarding the period it takes to set up a business in Haiti⁹ as well as by the adoption of a law on free zones.



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⁸ Article 165 of the Constitution

⁹ from some 100 days to 6 days

Recommendations

The delegation:

1. Is overall satisfied with the work done by the European Union and ECHO in response to the earthquake in Haiti in 2010;
2. Deplores the lack of sustainability of some projects and stresses that projects should principally aim at creating employment and sustainable growth which would allow the Haitian State to increase its own revenues in order to depend less on foreign assistance; requests therefore the Commission to provide Parliament with a list of projects which have been carried out during the last 15 years in Haiti with a detailed assessment of their current situation in order to see how sustainable they are since;
3. Finds inadmissible that apparently no lessons were drawn from the earthquake (the same chaotic constructions take place across the capital city, without any urban planning) and the country seems as unprepared as before the earthquake; fears that the same level of emergency situation and losses would occur should a new disaster happen again; stresses that a national emergency response plan should be considered a starting point for an improved civil defence system and as a matter of urgency be developed to enhance preparedness for future disasters, given the high vulnerability of the country to natural disaster;
4. Deplores that in spite of the fact that the government consists of some 18 ministers and 19 secretaries of State, no one is in charge of housing; urges the Haitian authorities to work out a comprehensive strategy/action plan for (social) housing to provide appropriate protection against natural disasters; takes the view that should this not happen, the EU support to the Haitian State would need to be reduced or even discontinued;
5. Points to the problem of traceability and accountability of development funds; urges the Commission to continue its efforts towards strengthening the Haitian government and administration and insists on linking the Budget Support to performance and, in particular, obligations in terms of administrative capacity building, transparency, traceability and accountability; stresses that more emphasis should be placed on the fight against corruption by the Commission and the Haitian authorities and that the recent law on this issue should be implemented; requests the Commission to report on the situation and on the actions taken;
6. Takes the view that providing public administration with adequate working conditions should be a priority and not be limited to raising public servants' salaries;
7. Regrets the insufficient level of coordination of humanitarian aid and development aid (linking relief, rehabilitation and development); takes the view that provision of humanitarian aid should be based on an exit strategy; considers that the Commission should direct its efforts and funding to rehabilitation and development;
8. Regrets the insufficient coordination between the EU delegation and the ECHO representation; supports a reinforced coordination between all EU actors in the country; urges therefore the Commission to ensure better coherence and

9. Points to the lack of visibility of the EU aid in Haiti; takes the view that in order to enhance visibility not only the flag, but also the name of the European Union should appear in PR documents rather than only that of the Commission or of DG ECHO, which are much less identifiable to average Haitian citizens;
10. Stresses the crucial importance of raising awareness within the population about the need for birth control; fears that any failure to do so is likely to lead to continuous demographic growth, which will cancel any significant progress;
11. Deplores the continuous internal political tension within the country and stresses the crucial importance of better cooperation between the Government, the President and Parliament for successful rebuilding of the country; believes that Haitian Parliament should have real budgetary and budgetary control rights;
12. Finds that control systems where EU funds are spent via the government channels in Haiti are in general inadequate and accounting for the EU spending remains on an unacceptable level; stresses the need that the Haitian authorities assure a major improvement as regards control over expenditure as well as its effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability; takes the view that funds should be channelled through the recently created Haitian Procurement Agency which should act as a control filter;
13. Notes with concern the alarming trend in the violence against women residing in the survivor camps; expects in this context greater responsiveness and accountability on the part of the Haitian police and justice system and stresses the need for real judiciary reform in the country.



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**Fact-finding delegation of the Budgetary Control Committee to
HAITI,
22-26 February 2012**

FINAL PROGRAMME

Members of the delegation:

Ingeborg GRÄSSLE (Leader, EPP, DE)
Jean-Pierre AUDY (EPP, FR) - (*arrival on 23 February*)
Jens GEIER (S&D, DE)
Ivailo KALFIN (S&D, BG)
Martin EHRENHAUSER (N-A, A)

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Interpreters

Michel LESSEIGNE (FR, team leader)
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Languages covered

EN, FR, DE

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Accommodation and transport in Haiti

Hôtel KARIBE:

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<http://www.karibehotel.com/karibehotel/>
Tel. ++509 2812 7000

The delegation will have an air-conditioned bus at its disposal.

Recommended flights of delegation

From Brussels to Haiti - Port au Prince with **Air France** (via Paris and Pointe à Pitre)

OUTWARD			
Flight	On	Leg	Time
AF7182	22FEB	Brussels Midi Station- Paris Charles de Gaulle	0710 - 0825 (Train)
AF3520	22FEB	Paris Orly - Pointe-à-Pitre (Guadeloupe)	1200 - 1535
AF3988	22FEB	Pointe-à-Pitre (Guadeloupe) - Port-au-Prince (Haiti)	1640 - 1735
RETURN (2 options)			
AF3989	25FEB	Port-au-Prince (Haiti)- Pointe-à-Pitre (Guadeloupe)	1110 - 1350
AF3505 <i>(option 1)</i>	25FEB	Pointe-à-Pitre (Guadeloupe) - Paris Orly	2115 - 1000 (+1 day)
AF3511 <i>(option 2)</i>	25FEB	Pointe-à-Pitre (Guadeloupe) - Paris Charles de Gaulle	1800 -0650 (+1 day)
AF7183 <i>(option 1)</i>	26FEB	Paris Charles de Gaulle - Brussels Midi Station	1310 - 1423 (Train)
AF7179 <i>(option 2)</i>	26FEB	Paris Charles de Gaulle - Brussels Midi Station	1037 - 1155 (Train)

IMPORTANT: for security reasons it is strongly advised that all participants take the same flights to and from Port-au-Prince. No liability will be accepted and no individual arrangements will be done for anyone taking a different flight.

Wednesday 22 February

17.35 Arrival of participants with flight AF3988 to Port-au-Prince international airport

18.00 Departure from the airport to the hotel

19.00-20.30 Meeting with NGOs.

Venue: Hôtel Karibe

Thursday 23 February

7.30-8.30 Working breakfast with the EU Delegation and with ECHO representative

Venue: Hôtel Karibe

8.45 Departure from the hotel

9.30-11.00 Visit to **IFRC Training centre** for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management of disaster response (ECHO project)

Venue: IFRC Base Camp, Mais Gaté

11.00-12.30 Meeting with **Nigel Fisher**, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator and Head of OCHA office in Haiti

Venue: LogBase, MINUSTAH Headquarters

13.00-14.15 Business lunch with **Manuel Hernández Ruigómez**, Ambassador of Spain, **Rodolphe Sambou**, Deuxième Conseiller (Embassy of France) and **Oliver Juengel**, Chargé d'Affaires (Embassy of Germany).

Venue: Hotel Plaza, centre of Port-au-Prince

14.30-15.00 Visit to **Champ de Mars**: IDP site with 20 000 people in front of the destroyed presidential palace.

Venue: centre of Port-au-Prince (in front of Hotel Plaza)

15.30-17.00 Meeting with **Levaillant Louis Jeune**, President of the Chamber of Deputies and with **Simon Dieuseul Desras**, President of the Senate and with members dealing with budget and budgetary control issues

Venue: Haitian Parliament, centre of Port-au-Prince

19.30 Departure to the hotel

evening Free dinner (*individual arrangements*)

NB. For security reasons it is strongly recommended to stay in the hotel for dinner

Friday 24 February

7.30-8:30 Meeting with **Price Pady**, National Authorising Officer

Venue: Hotel Karibe / Conference Centre Karibe

8.40-9.55 Meeting with representatives of the **International Financial Institutions** (WB, IADB, IMF) (Alexander Abrantes, WB Country Rep; Eduardo Almeida, IADB Country Rep; Jacques Bougha-Hagbe, IMF Country Rep)

Venue: Hotel Karibe / Conference Centre Karibe

10.00-11.55 Meeting with **NGOs**

Venue: Hotel Karibe / Conference Centre Karibe

12.15-13.00 **Press conference**

Venue: Conference Centre Karibe

14.00 Departure for the visit of a **projects** co-financed by the EU (by DEVCO)

Project no. 1: Programme of revitalization of the area of Martissant, and
Project no. 2: Support programme to the reconstruction and urban planning in order to facilitate the return of disaster victims

Venue: Premises of FOCAL¹⁰

16.00-17.30 Meeting with **André Lemerrier Georges**, Minister of Finance

Venue: Hotel Karibe / Conference Centre Karibe

evening Free dinner (*individual arrangements*)

NB. For security reasons it is strongly recommended to stay in the hotel for dinner

Saturday 25 February

8.15 Departure by bus from the hotel to the airport
(flight AF3989 departing at 11.10)

¹⁰ due to security concerns linked to the resignation of Haitian Prime Minister, Garry Conille, the two project visits had to be restricted to visiting the offices of *FOCAL*, the NGO in charge of both projects.