ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti calls on the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)

New York, 8 July 2022

The ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti expresses its deep concern about the grave security situation in Haiti and its impact on lives of Haitians as well as the socio-economic development of the country.

At this critical time, with the country facing multidimensional compounding challenges on the political, security, justice, rule of law, human rights, humanitarian, and sustainable development fronts, the engagement of the international community is needed more than ever to support the Haitian people in the country's transition to long-term stability and sustainable development.

The Advisory Group strongly urges the Security Council to renew the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) due to expire on 15 July 2022 for at least twelve months. It is critical that the Security Council provide BINUH the necessary mandate and support to assist Haiti through its current crises and to help address the root causes of the country's instability.

The Advisory Group welcomes the assessment of the mandate of BINUH pursuant to Security Council resolution 2600 (2021) contained in the letter dated 29 April 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/369). The Advisory Group is of the view that BINUH can play an instrumental role in addressing long-standing and evolving challenges, helping strengthen political stability, good governance and the rule of law, addressing growing insecurity, and enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights.

The Group encourages BINUH to continue to strengthen its close collaboration with the UN country team, including across humanitarian-development-peace interventions to deliver a whole-of-system response to maximize impact and ensure a successful transition in the country. As highlighted by the Secretary-General in his letter, continued reporting by the UN and BINUH to the ECOSOC through the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti also remains essential to the integrated efforts of the UN.

The Advisory Group stresses the urgency to restore security throughout the country including by taking effective actions against armed gangs, combating the illicit smuggling of weapons and ammunition and reinforcing the capacity of the Haitian national police, including through the basket fund for security coordinated by the UNDP. The Group also firmly believes that those measures should be complemented by a comprehensive and sustainable long-term strategy to address the drivers of violence, including in the socio-economic sphere.

The Group also strongly supports BINUH and the United Nations country team's efforts to work with international financial institutions and regional development banks, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank as well as other development partners to help Haiti to address its acute socio-

economic challenges, including food insecurity which affects nearly 40 per cent of the country's population as well as to help the country successfully recover from the 14 August 2021 earthquake in its southern peninsula.

The Advisory Group stresses the need to increase attention to justice sector reform and implement anti-impunity and anti-corruption measures as well as undertake thorough independent investigations of the assassination of President Moïse and emblematic cases of massacres.

The Advisory Group encourages the national authorities, Haitian civil society, political representatives, and the private sector to actively engage in an inclusive national dialogue where all population groups participate equally, including women, to successfully address the political crises and work constructively towards the successful holding of credible, free, fair and transparent legislative and presidential elections.

The Haitian people continue to show extraordinary resilience in the face of traumatic events and adversity. We, as international community, must remain at their side to help move forward on the path to stability and sustainable development.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti is composed of Argentina, the Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Canada (Chair), Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Haiti, Mexico, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, and Uruguay. The President of ECOSOC is an ex officio member of the Group. It was initially formed in 1999 and its mandate is to follow closely and provide advice on the long-term development strategy of the country.

The latest report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, E/2022/52 of 18 April 2022 is available on ECOSOC's website.