



9 May 2018

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
| Manatū Aorere**

Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Programme Evaluation

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Conversely, island nations such as Haiti have virtually no capacity to plan and respond to natural disasters and consequently suffer devastating damage on a regular basis. OUT OF SCOPE

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Seismic activity poses a further risk, with particularly severe events including the 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti and the 1995 volcanic eruption on Montserrat.

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stands as the lone regional country classified as “low human development”. OUT OF SCOPE

Haiti

OUT OF SCOPE

s6(a)

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The Caribbean region is one of contrasts, ranging from Haiti, the poorest country in the hemisphere through to highly developed, non-ODA eligible countries such as the Bahamas and Cayman Islands. OUT OF SCOPE

Much of the Caribbean is still seismically active and at risk to volcanic eruptions, most recently the massive eruption on Montserrat's Soufrière Hills volcano, and earthquakes, with the 24 January 2010 earthquake in Haiti being one of the most serious recent events. On a positive side the region is working collectively to monitor seismic activity and engage in effective disaster management planning. The downside is that there is limited capacity within the region to absorb the costs of rebuilding, particularly in countries such as Haiti that seem unluckily prone to such massive catastrophes. OUT OF SCOPE

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Bibliography

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Audebert, Cedric (2017). "The recent geodynamics of Haitian migration in the Americas: refugees or economic migrants?" *Revista Brasileira de Estudos de População* 34 (1): pp.55-71

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NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE

New Zealand – CARICOM High Level Talks

Georgetown, Guyana

22 March 2018

Meetings in Dominica and Barbados

19-26 March 2018



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Overview and Key objectives

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is a key regional organisation for the Caribbean, encompassing 14 nations (Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago) and one British overseas territory (Montserrat). CARICOM was established in 1973.

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We also provided \$500,000 to UNDP in 2016 for Haiti's Hurricane Matthew recovery.

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The following 13 pages are out of scope

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We also provided \$500,000 to UNDP in 2016 for Haiti's Hurricane Matthew recovery.

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The European Development Fund is the main vehicle for EU development assistance to the Caribbean, allocating more than €1 billion in funding over the 2014-2020 to the Caribbean region through its eleventh round (EDF11). Of this, €420 million is provided to Haiti. The remaining funding (approximately €580 million) is provided to regional and bilateral programmes.

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The following 7 pages are out of scope

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2 The CARICOM member states are The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago. The associate members of CARICOM are all British Overseas Territories: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

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10 Natural disasters, particularly seasonal tropical storms, regularly cause havoc in the Caribbean. These events cause great humanitarian and economic loss from which it is difficult for SIDS to recover. The slow recoveries of Haiti after the 2010 earthquake and Dominica after Hurricane Maria in 2017 are clear examples.

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2 Guyana is the second poorest country in CARICOM in GDP terms (after Haiti), reliant on agriculture and its mining industries. OUT OF SCOPE

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32 **Five of 15 Caribbean Community** member countries recognise Taiwan: Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Haiti and Belize. OUT OF SCOPE

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The Twenty-Ninth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) was held at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on 26-27 February 2018. The President of Haiti, His Excellency Jovenel Moïse, Chaired the proceedings.

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The Opening Ceremony was addressed by the Secretary-General Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, the immediate past chairman Dr. the Rt. Honourable Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada, and the Chairman, His Excellency Jovenel Moïse, President of the Republic of Haiti.

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The following 3 pages are out of scope

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Heads of Government called upon those Member States which have not yet implemented the decisions of the Conference on waivers of visas for Haitian nationals who are holders of diplomatic and official passports or businesspersons who are holders of US, Canadian or Schengen visas, to immediately implement those decisions, inform the International Air Transport Association and relevant airlines, and provide the Secretariat with the relevant documentation supporting the implementation by 30 March 2018.

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The following 4 pages are out of scope

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From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Wednesday, 16 January 2019 5:07 a.m.
To: MARTIN, Nicola (PRD)
Cc: THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: Protocol question

Hi Nicola,

I've got a protocol-related question for you. The CARICOM Inter-Sessional meeting is coming up at the end of February, where most (if not all) Caribbean Heads of Government attend.

We are keen to have a few bilateral meetings with some of our new accreditations (i.e. Belize, Haiti, Bahamas and Suriname) during this meeting for the purposes of making an introduction and to convey our priorities in the region. However, Anton has not presented credentials to these countries yet. Is he still able to have a bilateral meeting with a PM/Foreign Minister if he hasn't presented credentials? To note that we have sought agreement from all of these countries.

Thanks
Ruth

Second Secretary

New Zealand High Commission Bridgetown | Te Aka Aorere
Lower Collymore Rock, Bridgetown, St Michael, Barbados

s9(2)(a)

www.mfat.govt.nz/barbados | www.safetravel.govt.nz | Twitter: @NZinCaribbean

Sister Cities Haiti Delegation

From: GOULD, Jacinta (NAD)
Sent: Thursday, 14 February 2019 2:45 p.m.
To: THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Sister Cities Haiti Delegation

Worth a quick phone call to Hiromi to say nor are there foreign policy reasons to feel obliged to issue an invitation either? Or perhaps just if she follows up with you.

From: Hiromi Morris [mailto:s9(2)(a)]
Sent: Thursday, 14 February 2019 11:13 a.m.
To: THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Cc: GOULD, Jacinta (NAD)
Subject: Re: Sister Cities Haiti Delegation

Dear Daniel

Many thanks for your advice. I will discuss this with the Board and get back to you.

Kind regards

Hiromi Morris

President - Sister Cities New Zealand

s9(2)(a)

president@sistercities.org.nz | www.sistercities.org.nz | www.facebook.com/sistercitiesn

On Thu, Feb 14, 2019 at 10:36 AM THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER) <Daniel.Thompson@mfat.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Hiromi,

Thank you for your enquiry. I'm responding because I am the desk officer for Haiti here at MFAT.

s6(a)

I understand that the Haitian delegation would be self-funded, is that correct?

I would be happy to discuss this further with you if that would be helpful.

All the best,

Daniel Thompson

Policy Officer – Latin America and the Caribbean

Americas Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

s9(2)(a)

E Daniel.Thompson@mfat.govt.nz

From: GOULD, Jacinta (NAD)
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 1:44 p.m.
To: WOODLEY, Jocelyn (AMER); HAWKER, Diana (AMER)
Subject: FW: Sister Cities Haiti Delegation

Hi Jocelyn, Diana,

Could you please advise to whom in your team it would be best to redirect Sister Cities NZ with this Haiti-related enquiry?

Thanks,

Jacinta

s9(2)(ba)

The following 3 pages are withheld under s9(2)(ba)

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Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Thursday, 14 February 2019 1:27 a.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Kerry

Thanks for this. I understand where you're coming from. I'll have another go at liaising with my contact at Haiti foreign affairs and let you know of his response.

Thanks
Ruth

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC) <Kerry.O'Connor@mfat.govt.nz>
Date: Tuesday, 12 Feb 2019, 11:11 PM
To: DELANY, Ruth (BRG) <Ruth.Delany@mfat.govt.nz>, THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER) <Daniel.Thompson@mfat.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

s9(2)(g)(i)

Many thanks,

Kerry

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Wednesday, 13 February 2019 3:32 p.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Thanks Kerry.

s9(2)(g)(i)

Thanks
Ruth

From: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC)
Sent: Tuesday, 12 February 2019 4:16 p.m.
To: DELANY, Ruth (BRG); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Thanks for all your efforts in following this one up. I've gone back to Bindu to let her know we tried, but honestly I don't think we should expend anymore effort on this.

s9(2)(g)(i)

What do you think?

Kerry

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Wednesday, 13 February 2019 1:01 a.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Kerry

Thanks for this. On Friday my contact at the Haitian Government said that he had spoken to the head of one of the human rights organisations, s9(2)(a) but "he was not in a position to confirm the information". I've gone back to seek more information but haven't heard since. So really doesn't tell us much!

It may be worth going back to the s9(2)(g)(i) for more information, including when they will be visiting NZ. What do you think?

Thanks
Ruth

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC) <Kerry.O'Connor@mfat.govt.nz>
Date: Tuesday, 12 Feb 2019, 12:26 AM
To: DELANY, Ruth (BRG) <Ruth.Delany@mfat.govt.nz>, THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER) <Daniel.Thompson@mfat.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Ruth – any advance on this? Maybe I just go back to Ministry for Women and s9(2)(g)(i)

Many thanks,

Kerry

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 7:40 a.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Kerry,

Just to let you know that I've managed to get through to the Haitian Government and they said that they will get back to me as soon as possible about this. Fingers crossed we'll be able to hear back soon.

Thanks
Ruth

From: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC)
Sent: Monday, 4 February 2019 3:32 p.m.
To: DELANY, Ruth (BRG); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

s9(2)(g)(i)

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Tuesday, 5 February 2019 8:30 a.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Kerry,

Apologies for the late response on this. I've called a few times but haven't managed to get through. I'll try again tomorrow. Fingers crossed I'm able to figure out more on this!

Thanks
Ruth

From: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC)
Sent: Friday, 1 February 2019 3:02 a.m.
To: DELANY, Ruth (BRG); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Ruth and Daniel,

Just following up on this one. Did you manage to find anything out?

Many thanks,

Kerry

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Friday, 25 January 2019 10:38 a.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Subject: RE: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Kerry

Thanks for getting in touch.

This is the first I have heard of a delegation from Haiti coming to New Zealand. I am aware of one that visited a few years ago but it was primarily based on fisheries. This isn't to say that a delegation could still be visiting that we (post) are unaware of- the accreditation shift of Haiti from WSH to us is still in transition- and so they may not have thought to contact us about it.

I'm happy to follow up with a Haitian government contact tomorrow about it?

I'll also see what I can find s9(2)(g)(i)

Thanks
Ruth

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC) <Kerry.O'Connor@mfat.govt.nz>
Date: Thursday, 24 Jan 2019, 5:29 PM
To: DELANY, Ruth (BRG) <Ruth.Delany@mfat.govt.nz>, THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER) <Daniel.Thompson@mfat.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Daniel and Ruth,

I'm brand new to the UNHC human rights and women and gender issues desks and Bindu from Ministry for Women has asked me to follow up on the below request from a s9(2)(a) from the s9(2)(g)(i). As I'm new I'm not yet across the huge number of human rights organisations and how effective or legitimate they are.

Could you please advise whether there was/is a Haitian delegation coming to NZ, and also provide me with any information on the Haitian Human Rights network?

Many thanks,

Kerry

(Ms.) **Kerry O'Connor**

Senior Policy Officer
United Nations, Human Rights and Commonwealth Division (UNHC)
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

s9(2)(a)

E kerry.o'connor@mfat.govt.nz

www.mfat.govt.nz | www.safetravel.govt.nz

From: Bindu Armstrong [mailto:Bindu.Armstrong@women.govt.nz]
Sent: Friday, 25 January 2019 9:41 a.m.
To: O'CONNOR, Kerry (UNHC)
Subject: Advice sought haiti-asking appointment

Hi Kerry,

Please see below. I would normally send this to Rachael but in her absence sent it to Alana instead. I haven't yet heard back though.... Would you mind following this up for me?

Thanks heaps,

B

From: Bindu Armstrong
Sent: Thursday, 17 January 2019 8:11 AM
To: Alana.messent@mfat.govt.nz
Subject: FW: haiti-asking appointment

Kia ora Alana,

I hope this email finds you well. In Rachael and Kerry's absence I was wondering if you could provide me with some advice regarding the email below. Does MFAT have any knowledge of s9(2)(a) and or the s9(2)(g)(i) Are you aware of a visiting Haitian delegation? I would very much appreciate your expert advice on whether or not this would be an appropriate meeting for our Minister to attend.

Thanks so much, and very happy to discuss via phone if needed. s9(2)(a)

Nga mihi,

Bindu

From: Meredith Lawry <Meredith.Lawry@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 16 January 2019 12:58 PM
To: Lis Cowey <Lis.Cowey@women.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: haiti-asking appointment

Hi Lis,

I hope you had a great holiday and your 2019 is off to a good start!

I've just received the below email which looks a little unusual to me – although when I Google Prof Beralus it does say that he is executive director of a Haitian Human Rights network. Have you heard anything, perhaps through our colleagues at MFAT about a visiting Haitian delegation?

Thanks,
Meredith

s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Updated NZ-CARICOM Trade Stats

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From: FITZGIBBON, Patrick (ECO)
Sent: Wednesday, 13 February 2019 9:26 p.m.
To: THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)
Cc: DELANY, Ruth (BRG); ALLEYNE-JONES, Wainelle (BRG)
Subject: Updated NZ-CARICOM Trade Stats

Hi team

I've pulled together some updated trade stats that may be of interest (source with yearly % change attached too)

New Zealand – CARICOM Goods Trade in 2018 (USD)

	Exports	Imports	Total Trade
Trinidad and Tobago	45,726,244	964,254	46,690,498
Jamaica	27,784,988	5,451,917	33,236,905
Barbados	19,691,140	903,146	20,594,286
Guyana	18,850,107	1,019,660	19,869,767
St Lucia	3,658,354	18,531	3,676,884
Grenada	2,394,037	2,720	2,396,756
Bahamas	2,009,933	22,127	2,032,060
Antigua and Barbuda	1,677,138	46,164	1,723,302
Belize	303,782	779,313	1,083,095
St Vincent and the Grenadines	907,056	4,535	911,590
Haiti*	174,194	635,698	809,892
Suriname*	113,353	280,108	393,461
Dominica	45,869	56,646	102,516
St Kitts and Nevis	4,168	1,047	5,215
Total	123,340,363	10,185,865	133,526,228

Cheers
Patrick

Patrick Fitzgibbon

Policy Officer
Economic Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

s9(2)(a)

E patrick.fitzgibbon@mfat.govt.nz

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Bridgetown Weekly Report 11-15 February 2019

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)
Sent: Saturday, 16 February 2019 8:02 a.m.
To: THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER); LEE, Jonathan (GDS); CAMERON, Alexander (GDS); BOOCOCK, Kate (DCI, DPE)
Cc: HAWKER, Diana (AMER); KAY, Richard (AMER); CALMAN, Stuart (GDS); OJALA, Anton (BRG)
Subject: Bridgetown Weekly Report 11-15 February 2019

Hi everyone,

Please find our report for the week below.

Thanks
Ruth

BRG: Weekly Report 11– 15 February 2019

OUT OF SCOPE

- FM on anti-government protests in Haiti to be sent shortly

OUT OF SCOPE

OUT OF SCOPE

Canadian Travel Advisory - Haiti

From: DELANY, Ruth (BRG)

Sent: Wednesday, 20 February 2019 2:38 p.m.

To: EATON, Laura (CON); WOOD, Iain (OTT); HAWKER, Diana (AMER); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)

Cc: HART-SMITH, ALEX (AMER); MCCOLL, Iain (AMER); ALLEYNE-JONES, Wainelle (BRG); GWYNNE, Matt (CON); LELECQUE, Clementine (CON)

Subject: RE: Canadian Travel Advisory - Haiti

Thanks Laura and Iain.

I just had dinner with the Australian Deputy in Trinidad and Tobago (with accreditation to Haiti) who said that they updated their travel advice for Haiti on Saturday to “reconsider the need to travel”. I understand that this is the second highest travel warning after “do not travel”.

Thanks

Ruth

Sent with BlackBerry Work

(www.blackberry.com)

From: EATON, Laura (CON) <Laura.Eaton@mfat.govt.nz>

Date: Tuesday, 19 Feb 2019, 4:09 PM

To: WOOD, Iain (OTT) <Iain.Wood@mfat.govt.nz>, HAWKER, Diana (AMER)

<Diana.Hawker@mfat.govt.nz>, THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER) <Daniel.Thompson@mfat.govt.nz>

Cc: HART-SMITH, ALEX (AMER) <Alex.Hart-Smith@mfat.govt.nz>, MCCOLL, Iain (AMER)

<Iain.McColl@mfat.govt.nz>, DELANY, Ruth (BRG) <Ruth.Delany@mfat.govt.nz>, ALLEYNE-

JONES, Wainelle (BRG) <Wainelle.Alleyne-Jones@mfat.govt.nz>, GWYNNE, Matt (CON)

<Matt.Gwynne@mfat.govt.nz>, LELECQUE, Clementine (CON) <Clementine.Lelecque@mfat.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Canadian Travel Advisory - Haiti

Hi Iain

Thanks for forwarding this through. My colleague Clem will soon be in touch with BRG about potential changes to the Haiti advisory.

Thanks,

Laura Eaton

Emergency Response and Travel Advisories

Consular Division

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

s9(2)(a)

E laura.eaton@mfat.govt.nz

www.mfat.govt.nz | www.safetravel.govt.nz | www.facebook.com/SafeTravel.govt.nz

Check **travel advice**, register your details, take out **travel insurance** when you **travel overseas**

From: WOOD, Iain (OTT)

Sent: Wednesday, 20 February 2019 4:01 a.m.

To: EATON, Laura (CON); HAWKER, Diana (AMER); THOMPSON, Daniel (AMER)

Cc: HART-SMITH, ALEX (AMER); MCCOLL, Iain (AMER); DELANY, Ruth (BRG)

Subject: Canadian Travel Advisory - Haiti

Canadians have changed their travel advisory to Haiti to "Avoid All Travel".

<https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/haiti>

Iain Wood

Senior Policy Adviser

New Zealand High Commission Ottawa | Te Aka Aorere

s9(2)(a)

E iain.wood@mfat.govt.nz

Follow High Commissioner Mellsop on Twitter - [@NZinOttawa](https://twitter.com/NZinOttawa)

**Formal Message: CARICOM: Presentation of credentials, Samoa Pathway,
Invitation to Visit New Zealand**

Sent Wed 20/02/2019 11:03 a.m.

OUT OF SCOPE

Report:

HOM Ojala and DHOM Delany visited Guyana from 11-14 February 2019 for HOM's presentation of Letters of Introduction to CARICOM Secretary General Irwin LaRocque. We report on our discussions with CARICOM. We have reported separately on Venezuela and Haiti (FMs 19/2/2019 and 15/2/2019 refer).

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Formal Message: CARICOM and Guyana: Views on Venezuela

Sent: Wed 20/02/2019 2:02 a.m.

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s6(a), s6(b)

OUT OF SCOPE

s6(a), s6(b)

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Formal Message: Haiti: Violent Anti-Government Protests

Sent: Sat 16/02/2019 1:42 p.m.

Summary:

Anti-government protests in Haiti have resulted in nine people dead and a number of people injured since 7 February. Haitian President Jovenel Moise is refusing to accept protesters' demands to resign over allegations of corruption. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has released a statement calling for calm. There are four New Zealanders registered in Haiti. CON has notified Safe Travel registrants of the violent protests.

Action:

For information. CON to consider upgrading our travel advice.

Report:

Since 7 February Haiti has been experiencing violent protests leaving nine people dead and dozens injured. Over the past few days protesters have attacked banks and gas stations, stoned the President's residence and attempted to block road access to the airport in the capital, Port-Au-Prince. On 12 February at least 78 inmates staged a jailbreak from a prison in Aquin, 150 km southwest of Port-Au-Prince.

s6(a)

3 In his first address since protests began, on 14 February President Moise rejected calls for his resignation saying that he would not "give the country up to armed groups and drug traffickers." s6(a)

s6(b)

4 CARICOM released a [statement](#) on 14 February calling for calm and a cessation of the violence. It also called for "all involved to...respect the rule of law and

democratic processes so that issues can be resolved in a peaceful atmosphere." s6(a), s6(b)

5 Both the US and Canada have advised their citizens not to travel to Haiti because of the violence. The US has also ordered out all non-emergency US personnel and their families. Canada said it was closing its Embassy due to the "current volatility" but would "continue to assess the situation in the coming days."

6 There are four New Zealanders registered on Safe Travel in Haiti. CON has sent a message to them about the violent protests. In light of the US and Canadian advice, you may wish to consider an upgrade from our current advice which advises against travel to the districts of Carrefour, Cité Soleil, Martissant and Bel Air in Port-Au-Prince and to exercise increased caution elsewhere in Haiti. s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

7 Post will continue to monitor the situation.

ENDS

FORMAL MESSAGE: CARIBBEAN MONTHLY REPORT DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

Sent: Tue 5/02/2019 5:27 a.m.

OUT OF SCOPE

OUT OF SCOPE

Economic

- CARICOM Heads of Government met in T&T in early December to discuss improving the rate of implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, and ensuring its benefits are more accessible to CARICOM nationals. CARICOM Heads agreed "to move towards full free movement within the next three years". Haiti committed to full integration into the CSME by 2020.

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International

- Twelve of the 15 CARICOM member states issued a statement on 24 January setting out their position of non-interference in relation to the political situation in Venezuela. The Bahamas, Haiti and Guyana were the three CARICOM member states which did not sign the statement. The Bahamas and Haiti separately announced their recognition of Juan Guaido as Interim President of Venezuela. Our FM 26/1/2019 refers.

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ENDS

FORMAL MESSAGE: CARICOM MEMBER STATES' RESPONSE TO VENEZUELA CRISIS

Sent: Sun 27/01/2019 7:35 a.m.

Summary

Twelve of the 15 CARICOM member states issued a statement on 24 January on the escalating crisis in Venezuela calling for calm and reiterating their position of non-interference. The 12 member states agreed that the current CARICOM Chairman, the PM of St Kitts & Nevis, would seek an urgent meeting with United Nations Secretary General to request the UN's assistance in resolving the issue. The Bahamas, Haiti and Guyana were the three CARICOM member states which did not sign the statement. The Bahamas and Haiti announced their recognition of Juan Guaido as Interim President of Venezuela on Thursday afternoon.

OUT OF SCOPE

Report

At 11pm local time on Thursday 25 January Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers from 12 Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member states met via video conference and issued a statement (attached) in response to the political situation in Venezuela. The 12 member states were Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Suriname. The Bahamas, Haiti and Guyana did not sign the statement.

OUT OF SCOPE

5 The Bahamas and Haiti did not sign the CARICOM statement. During a special meeting of the Permanent Council of the Organisation of American States on Thursday afternoon The Bahamas and Haiti announced their recognition of Opposition Leader Juan Guaido as interim President of Venezuela. s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i) towards Venezuela, and are the least likely to be influenced by regional consensus.

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seen any comment by Haiti at the time of sending this FM.

Post has not

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ENDS

**FORMAL MESSAGE: THE CARIBBEAN: WHEN THERE IS MORE PLASTIC IN THE OCEAN THAN FISH:
MARINE PLASTIC LITTER AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

SENT: THU 24/01/2019 6:38 A.M.

OUT OF SCOPE

The following 2 pages are out of scope

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6 Six CARICOM countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, are signatories to the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter.

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Haiti

19 Haiti has banned single use plastic bags and foam containers twice, the latest ban coming into force in 2013. With much of the population unable to afford reusable containers (drinking water is transported in plastic bags) and little to no enforcement, the ban has done little to stop importation and use.

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