

AIDE MEMOIRE

The international community remains steadfast in its determination to see the return of constitutional government and the return of the democratically elected President to Haiti. To this end, the Organization of American States, the United Nations, and the four countries represented here have undertaken extraordinary diplomatic efforts and unprecedented economic sanctions. In order to minimize human suffering and to ensure that the sanctions are sustainable, they have put in place a major program of humanitarian assistance. To provide a positive incentive to bring about the result we seek, they have put in place a massive prospective package of reconstruction and development assistance.

As a result of these efforts, the Haitian military was brought to the bargaining table last summer, and the Governors Island Agreement was signed. The Friends of the Secretary General remain committed to the Governors Island process for bringing about the goals we seek of the return of constitutional government and of President Aristide to Haiti.

Primary responsibility for the delay in implementation of the Governors Island Agreement lies with the Haitian military leadership. The Friends have made clear in their Statement of Conclusions following their meeting in Paris December 13-14 that the sanctions should remain in place until the military has taken the steps within its competence to comply with all of its obligations under the Agreement. They have also made clear their view that the Security Council of the United Nations should consider additional sanctions measures should the military fail to comply with its obligations. A high-level mission of the Friends will be presenting their position in this regard to the military leadership tomorrow in Port au Prince.

While the military bears primary responsibility for the current situation, it is also the case that successful completion of some of the steps provided for in the Governors Island Agreement requires the active cooperation of parties other than the Haitian military authorities. It is the task of the Haitian parties to work out the procedures and political arrangements required to bring about compliance by both sides with their obligations under the Governors Island Agreement and the broader objective of national reconciliation it envisions. For example, some steps require the active cooperation of the executive and the military, such as the international cooperation with respect to the police and military envisioned in paragraph 5(c) of the Governors Island Agreement, and the establishment of appropriate security arrangements. Moreover, both the President and the Parliament have essential roles to play in (a) the enactment of the legislation called for in the Agreement (notably laws on the creation of a new police force and on amnesty); (b) the nomination and confirmation of a new Commander in Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces in accordance with Constitutional processes; (c) the nomination and confirmation of a new Chief of Police in accordance with Constitutional processes. Similarly, the nomination and confirmation of a new Prime Minister and the approval of his program of government require action by both the President and the Parliament.

Inasmuch as no political party has a majority in both chambers of the Haitian Parliament, it is incumbent upon the President to assemble a sufficient majority among the democratically elected members of the Haitian Parliament to pass the laws and nominations needed to bring about implementation of the Governors Island Agreement. While the Friends