

**Security Council**

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**Note verbale dated 20 June 2025 from the Permanent Mission of
Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the
Security Council**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations has the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 19 June 2025 from William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces, addressed to Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana in its capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of June 2025, regarding the Multinational Security Support Mission to Haiti (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Kenya would be grateful if the present note verbale and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.



Annex to the note verbale dated 20 June 2025 from the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my address to the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on 21 September 2023, I joined other world leaders in mobilizing the global response to the deteriorating situation in Haiti, called on the international community to urgently respond to the request of the Government of Haiti for support to stem the expanding gang violence, and urged and called on the Security Council of the United Nations to establish a mechanism to enable a multinational response. I announced the readiness of Kenya to be part of the international response, offered leadership to the envisaged mission and pledged a contribution of 1,000 police officers.

Acting on this call, the Security Council adopted resolution [2699 \(2023\)](#) on 2 October 2023, which, among other provisions, authorized the standing of a Multinational Security Support Mission to Haiti, with Kenya as the lead nation, to assist the Haitian National Police to counter gangs, restore security and create enabling conditions for free and fair elections.

Immediately, Kenya commenced the necessary administrative and legislative procedures, as prescribed by law, to prepare for and facilitate the deployment to Haiti. This process involved prosecuting a legal challenge to the deployment, the development of the required planning and operational documents and processes and the training of the Kenyan contingent. Having met all the requirements and acting in liaison with the United Nations and important bilateral partners, the first Kenyan contingent of 199 police officers landed in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on 25 June 2024. A second contingent of another 184 officers arrived in early July 2024. These initial deployments were effected with the bare minimum capabilities required because we believed that any further delay risked plunging the situation in Haiti into further dire straits.

In early 2025, Kenya deployed a further 362 officers in two contingents. Other participating countries have deployed a total of 260 officers, including 150 Guatemalans, 78 El Salvadorians, 23 Jamaicans, 6 Bahamians and 2 Belizeans. The Multinational Security Support Mission has lost one officer, while a number have been repatriated for various reasons, including rotation. Therefore, the current number in theatre is 991. This number is 39.6 per cent of the planned 2,500 officers for the mission. While Kenya had trained 1,000 officers for deployment, 261 mission-ready officers remain on standby because the current contract for life support in theatre cannot cater for them.

Besides the understrength in personnel, the Multinational Security Support Mission is also operating below the required capabilities in terms of the equipment and operational support necessary to execute the mission effectively. The equipment levels stand at below 30 per cent of planned capabilities. This has prevented the establishment of forward operating bases, which are critical to the attainment of the mission. Of the 12 envisaged forward operating bases, only 3 have been stood. Further, the Multinational Security Support Mission lacks air and maritime capabilities, both of which are critical for operational efficiency in degrading the capability of the gangs, including disrupting supplies to them, which would in effect reduce the risk exposure to the mission.

In spite of these shortcomings, the Multinational Security Support Mission has, by any reasonable measure, attained significant successes. Key among them is the enabling of a functioning Government which provides essential services in most parts of the country save for a few parts of the country, mainly in the main cities that are

still under gang influence. These include the reopening of most schools and medical facilities. Critical infrastructure in Port-au-Prince has been taken away from the control of the gangs and secured, including the Palace, the main hospital, the airport, the seaport and the Police Academy, as well as main supply routes.

Nonetheless, a lot of work is required to be done to sustainably secure these gains and expand security, in view of the deeply entrenched gang culture in Haiti and other complicating factors, including the fragility of the populations, fractured politics and the unsettled questions around the postcolonial dispensation. Undoubtedly, these issues cannot be resolved in a short order by a small multinational security support mission that is severely underresourced. The Haitian people require greater engagement and support from the international community for the restoration of sustainable peace and security, beyond the life of the Multinational Security Support Mission.

It is in the light of the foregoing that Kenya welcomed the guidance of the Security Council for the Secretary-General to undertake an assessment of the Multinational Security Support Mission with a view to proposing ways of capacitating the mission to enable it to be more efficacious in its support to the Haitian National Police. I am informed that the report of the assessment was submitted to the Security Council in February 2025 (S/2025/122). Kenya supports the proposal contained in the report for the provision of operational, material and administrative support to the Multinational Security Support Mission from the United Nations support office.

It is of concern to Kenya that the Security Council has not deliberated on the report. This is especially worrying in the light of the fact that the mandate of the Multinational Security Support Mission lapses on 30 September 2025. Similarly, the current running contracts for the life support area provided by the United States Government will also lapse on 30 September 2025. Worthy of note also is that the United Nations trust fund for Haiti is short of funds, with far fewer contributions being received compared to the rate of drawings. This therefore calls for urgent consideration of the viability of the mission. On our part, owing to the uncertainties around the future of the Multinational Security Support Mission, with critical deadlines fast approaching, to wit, the lapse of the Security Council mandate as well as the expiry of the life support area contracts, we are duty-bound to review our further engagement and take the necessary decisions thereon.

I therefore write to request that you cause expeditious consideration of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council and advise us on its outcome or any other measures that the Council deems appropriate to help clarify the way forward for the Multinational Security Support Mission. That guidance will assist Kenya, as the lead nation of the Multinational Security Support Mission, to take the necessary decisions and to advise the other participating nations in the Support Mission.

(Signed) William Samoei **Ruto**
President of the Republic of Kenya