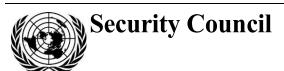
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Letter dated 16 January 2025 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2699 (2023), by which the Council authorized Member States that have notified me of their participation to form and deploy a Multinational Security Support mission in support of the Haitian National Police.

In accordance with this Security Council resolution, I enclose herewith the text of a letter dated 13 December 2024, addressed to me by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, referring to an offer to deploy personnel and an offshore patrol vessel as part of the Multinational Security Support mission in the Republic of Haiti (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) António Guterres





Annex

[Original: English]

13 December 2024

I have the honour to write to you in my capacity as Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. I wish to refer to Security Council resolutions 2699 (2023) and 2751 (2024), which aim to provide operational support and enhance the capacity of the Haitian National Police to counter gangs and improve security conditions in the Republic of Haiti.

In accordance with these resolutions and in reference to the personnel-contributing countries and the countries contributing financial support to the Multinational Security Support Mission, supported by the Government of the Republic of Haiti, I am pleased to inform you of the Bahamas' timeline for deployment. The Royal Bahamas Defence Force personnel, who have been undergoing rigorous training for the Multinational Security Support Mission, will deploy no later than 22 December 2024.

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force will also deploy an offshore patrol vessel supported by two rigid hull inflatable boats by the same date. These assets will support the maritime operations of the Mission by conducting continuous and coordinated maritime patrols within Haitian territorial waters. The primary objectives of these operations include deterring and countering maritime security threats, ensuring the safety and functionality of strategic ports in Haiti and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid, economic development and political stability.

Within the maritime theatre, the offshore patrol vessel and rigid hull inflatable boats will be crewed by a contingent of 60 Royal Bahamas Defence Force personnel and will operate continuously on six-month deployment cycles. Surface asset and personnel rotations will occur every four to six weeks, with a total deployment of at least 120 personnel for maritime operations. This is in addition to the six advanced team personnel currently attached to the Mission headquarters in Port-au-Prince, who were deployed following the Bahamas' signing of the status-of-protection agreement for the Mission. Details of personnel and technical specifications of vessels have been shared directly with the Mission's office in Washington, D.C.

I wish to underscore the critical need for sustained financial support from donor States and personnel-contributing countries to ensure the success of Mission operations. Achieving meaningful relief, development and a peaceful political transition in Haiti requires robust economic and security assistance. In this regard, I seek your support in encouraging all donor States to make additional financial commitments to the Multinational Security Support Mission through the United Nations trust fund in commitment to this vital cause.

(Signed) Frederick A. Mitchell Minister for Foreign Affairs Commonwealth of the Bahamas

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