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STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY BOCCHIT EDMOND, HAITI'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, ON PRESENTATION OF NEW CONSTITUTION

DP

Djenny Passe (Mercury)

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To: Djenny Passe (Mercury)

Bcc: sarah.marsh@thomsonreuters.com; Sandra D. Lemaire <slemaire@VOANews.COM>; jcharles



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Contact:

Molly Toomey, mtoomey@mercuryllc.com

Toby Denselow, tdenselow@mercuryllc.com

Djenny Passe, dpasse@mercuryllc.com

STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY BOCCHIT EDMOND, HAITI'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, ON PRESENTATION OF NEW CONSTITUTION

Washington, DC (January 29, 2021) His Excellency Bocchit Edmond, Haiti's Ambassador to the United States released the following statement on the Independent Advisory Committee's presentation of Haiti's new Constitution today.

"The new constitution, drafted by an independent committee and with broad consultation, will put the rights of the people at its center and create a system of checks and balances befitting a representative democracy. We look forward to putting before the Haitian people so they will decide through a national referendum in April.

The flaws in the 1987 constitution created deeply imbalanced government structures and a distorted decision-making process in the legislature - resulting in regularly postponed elections and Presidents repeatedly governing by executive order without parliamentary oversight. This political dysfunction has led to cyclical instability. Today nearly 90% of Haitians agree that the time has come to have a new constitution."

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Djenny Passé