

Re: STATEMENT ON THE ASSASSINATION OF HAITIAN PRESIDENT JOVENEL MOISE

Djenny Passe (Mercury) <dpasse@mercuryllc.com>

Wed 7/7/2021 11:57 AM

To: Djenny Passe (Mercury) <dpasse@mercuryllc.com>

Bcc: KD <kd@kimberlydozier.com>; Craig Ferriman <Ferrimanc@aljazeera.net>; rosalind.jordan@aljazeera.net <rosalind.jordan@aljazeera.net>; Shaun TANDON <Shaun.TANDON@afp.com>; Lara Jakes <lara.jakes@nytimes.com>; Maria Abi-Habib <maria.abihabib@nytimes.com>; Coto, Danica <DCoto@ap.org>; Jim Wyss (BLOOMBERG/ MIAMI) <jwyss9@bloomberg.net>; Hu, Caitlin <caitlin.hu@warnermedia.com>; mkelemen@npr.org <mkelemen@npr.org>; daphne.psaledakis@thomsonreuters.com <daphne.psaledakis@thomsonreuters.com>; sarah.marsh@thomsonreuters.com <sarah.marsh@thomsonreuters.com>; anthony.faiola@washpost.com <anthony.faiola@washpost.com>; karen.attiah@washpost.com <karen.attiah@washpost.com>; Sandra D. Lemaire <slemaire@VOANews.COM>; Wilkinson, Tracy <Tracy.Wilkinson@latimes.com>; jennifer.hansler@cnn.com <jennifer.hansler@cnn.com>; conor.j.finnegan@abc.com <conor.j.finnegan@abc.com>; nschifrin@newshour.org <nschifrin@newshour.org>; Ali Rogin <arogin@newshour.org>

1 attachments (186 KB)

Haiti Fact Sheet.pdf;

Hello,

Please find attached a fact sheet which includes the late President's presidential term and the circumstances by which he governed.

Presidential Term

- [According to Article 134-1 of the Haitian constitution](#), "The term of the President is five (5) years. This term begins and ends on the February 7 following the date of the elections". Considering that fresh elections were re-run in November 2016, the tenure of President Moïse, inaugurated on February 7, 2017, will end on February 2, 2022.
- [In May 2020, the OAS stated](#): "The OAS General Secretariat urges all political forces in Haiti to find a cooperative framework in order to **comply with the letter and the spirit of their constitutional order, respecting the five-year presidential term in office. In this context, the term of President Jovenel Moïse ends on February 7, 2022.**"
- [The US State Department reiterated in February 2020](#): "[President Moïse] was sworn into office on February 7, 2017 for a five-year term, which is therefore scheduled to end on February 7, 2022."
- On Friday 5 February, United Nations backed the US position. [UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric added that U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres](#) was "closely following developments" and was encouraged "by the willingness of many stakeholders to engage

constructively in finding agreement on a way forward”

- **While the motion alleges there has been a ruling by Haiti’s Superior Council of the Judiciary**, this is false. There has been no formal legal ruling by the collective members of the Council. Instead, individual members of the council voiced their political opinions in an open letter – contrary to domestic and international legal norms.

“Ruling by Decree”

- A deadlocked Haitian parliament failed to pass an electoral law and vote on an election budget – the required first steps for organising the legislative elections which were constitutionally mandated to be held in October 2019. By law, the President has no authority to interfere or force legislatures to meet these duties.
 - [Article 191 of the Constitution](#) makes clear that: “The Permanent Electoral Council is responsible for organizing and controlling with complete independence all electoral procedures throughout the territory of the Republic until the results of the election are announced.”
 - [Article 60-1 of the Constitution](#) reiterates that no branch of power, including the executive may ‘go beyond the bounds set for them by the Constitution and by law.’
- [The failure to meet this constitutional requirement in the legislative chamber](#) meant as of January 13, 2020, the terms of the entire lower Chamber of Deputies and two-thirds of the Senate expired (as did the terms of all local government posts), without newly elected officials to take their places or re-elections for office holders. This lapse of election schedule resulting from deadlock triggered the President to begin governing without a legislature – by executive order or “by decree”. This same scenario has occurred for three successive Presidents since 1987.
- The legislature also did not pass a 2019-2020 budget or confirm multiple executive branch appointments before it lapsed. Without a budget, a confirmed prime minister, or a cabinet, pending agreements with donors could not move forward, causing increasing concern that policy could not be effectively developed or implemented. For example, a three-year, [\\$229 million loan with the International Monetary Fund](#) that the government secured in March 2019 expired without being approved.
- In response to a request from the Haitian government for international support, the [OAS sent a high-level delegation to Haiti on June 19, 2019 to help facilitate a national dialogue](#) to overcome this political crisis and identify a pathway to elections.

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From: Djenny Passe (Mercury) <dpasse@mercuryllc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 10:16 AM
To: Djenny Passe (Mercury) <dpasse@mercuryllc.com>
Subject: Re: STATEMENT ON THE ASSASSINATION OF HAITIAN PRESIDENT JOVENEL MOISE

Hello,

Please find attached an updated statement to reflect the attack took place at the president's personal residence.

From: Djenny Passe (Mercury) <dpasse@mercuryllc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 10:04 AM
To: Djenny Passe (Mercury) <dpasse@mercuryllc.com>
Subject: STATEMENT ON THE ASSASSINATION OF HAITIAN PRESIDENT JOVENEL MOISE

Hello,

Please find attached a statement from Prime Minister Claude Joseph on the assassination of Haitian President Jovenel Moise.

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Mercury.

Djenny Passé

Vice President

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