

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Political Accord Establishes Path to Complete Haiti Electoral Process

The ParlAmericas Mission indépendante d'observation électorale en Haïti (MiOEH) notes the agreement between the executive and legislative branches for institutional continuity and to hold elections on April 24, 2016. This agreement is an important step in a political process that will lead to the democratic transfer of executive power, and full restoration of national and local representative institutions.

The MiOEH is encouraged that the agreement invites civil society actors to be involved in determining Haïti's provisional leadership and the composition of the reconstituted Conseil Electoral Provisoire (CEP). It urges all sectors to nominate representatives that inspire public confidence in the CEP.

The Mission draws attention to the agreement's provision to conduct long-overdue local elections. This creates an opportunity for participation of more political parties and the election of hundreds of women whose voices are critical for Haïti's economic and social development.

« Consensus-building is the backbone of an inclusive democratic process » said ParlAmericas Chief of Mission Thomas Cormier. « We are encouraged by the expanded consensus demonstrated through this agreement, and the opening that it provides for all political and civic actors to collaborate in achieving peaceful elections. This will enable Haïti's democratic institutions to address the urgent priorities of citizens. »

The MIOEH reaffirms its respect for the national sovereignty of Haïti and renews its commitment to continued observation of the electoral process within a broader mandate of support to democratic institution building and increasing women's participation.

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ParlAmericas – the network of the national legislatures of the Americas – serves as an independent forum for parliamentarians of the Americas committed to cooperative political dialogue and participation in the inter-American system.