

Human Rights Violence in Haiti: Continued U.S./OAS/UN Support for Unconstitutional Actions by Haiti's Illegitimate Government

By Black Alliance for Peace

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Over eight days, from June 25-30, Haiti had been subjected to increasing state-sponsored, imperial and gang violence. Massacres <u>killed</u> almost 60 people in Port au Prince, including in Cité Soleil, <u>Delmas</u> and Pétionville, as well as on on Rue Magloire Ambroise. Prominent human-rights activist <u>Antoinette (Netty) Duclaire</u> and journalist <u>Diego Charles</u> were two of the victims.

In light of this violence, the Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) once again affirms its support for the Haitian people and condemns the continued US/UN/OAS backing for the illegitimate Jovenel Moïse administration. Not only do we repudiate the continued violations of human rights in Haiti, we denounce the attempts by the Moïse government and its handlers—especially the Organization of American States (OAS) and the U.S. State Department—to force legislative and presidential elections and an illegal constitutional referendum under an undemocratic voting structure.

Moïse, who has been ruling Haiti by decree since January 2020, has been attempting to pass a referendum to re-write Haiti's 1987 constitution.

"We support the Haitian people, who have maintained that there is no chance for credible elections to be held while Jovenel Moïse is in power," says BAP member and Haitian Chris Bernadel. "We stand in solidarity with the Haitian people against the corrupt and illegitimate regime of Jovenel Moïse, which has been enabled through the support of the U.S., OAS and the United Nations."

Illegal, according to Haitian law, the proposed referendum has been rejected by every sector of civil society, and opposed by the majority of Haitians.

Yet, a recent <u>OAS report</u> on Haiti not only supports the constitutional referendum, the organization also is pushing for Moïse to single handedly appoint a new prime minister, cabinet, and Provisional Electoral Council in order to move forward with both the

referendum and presidential, municipal, and local elections.

These elections will be neither credible, nor legal. The current government is illegitimate. And currently, no clear path exists for free, fair and transparent elections under these conditions.

Yet, the white overseers of Haiti—the United States, the United Nations and the OAS—continue to push for this illegal referendum and elections. The United States has continued its material, logistical and political support of Moïse's administration. It has spent at least \$12.6 million since Moïse was elected in support of dubious elections and bogus political processes. Although the United States acknowledges that thus far, preparations for the referendum "have not been sufficiently transparent or inclusive," Joe Biden's administration has not come out against the referendum. Instead, the Biden-Harris administration has focused on the primacy of holding elections in the fall. At the same time, the UN and the OAS also have provided support for Moïse. The OAS has helped by revising the text of the proposed constitution, apparently to remove some of the more controversial aspects from the first draft. The UN also is advising the national police on an electoral security strategy.

Since February 7, when Moïse's mandate as president had expired, BAP has been <u>calling</u> for the U.S. government and the rest of the so-called "international community" to respect Haitian sovereignty and the will of the Haitian people. We have consistently condemned Western imperialist meddling in Haiti, and BAP members have <u>rallied</u> in <u>Chicago</u>, <u>Washington</u>, <u>D.C.</u> and <u>New York</u> to demand the Biden-Harris administration and Western entities—such as the <u>Core Group</u> and the <u>OAS</u>—end decades of interventions that have violated the right of the Haitian people to transparent democratic processes.

We continue to support the Haitian masses, and express solidarity with the Haitian peoples in their quest for sovereignty and freedom. We condemn the continued imperial violence in Haiti that has been dismissed as merely gang violence.

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