

STATEMENT OF PAPAY

Resolutions from the Patriotic Forum in Haiti



1. Introduction

From August 27 to 31, 2019, as a part of an initiative organized by the 4G Kontre platform, which brings together peasant organizations such as MPNKP, Tèt Kole, KROSE and MPP, several civil society organizations, trade union movements, students' movements, peasants, women, human rights, workers and community organizations as well as political parties, gathered at the Lakay Center in Papaye, to discuss the major problems facing the country.

2. International considerations and problems

This great assembly allowed each participant to analyze the structural and current reality on international and national levels.

The reflections show that the capitalist system, rather than offering long-lasting solutions to the damage it causes on the planet, continues to plunge humanity into despair. Capitalism means war and violence everywhere. It means hoarding natural resources. It means hunger and misery for the large majorities, and the waste of food by a few privileged people. Capitalism is responsible for forcing young people to move out of their country in large numbers, in order to try to escape droughts, floods, unemployment, marginalization and all kinds of abuse. These situations widen social differences and create inequality.

Today, intellectuals and leaders point out that the capitalist system weakens the country and blocks the chances for Haiti to become autonomous, making it a destination for the consumption of poor quality food produced internationally. This society multiplies the diseases that threaten the health of humanity and the existence of life on the planet.

3. National considerations and problems

At the national level, the exact same thing is happening. Our country is dependent, there is no democracy and there is widespread corruption. Electoral fraud and the interference of large embassies impose presidents, incompetent governments and servile parliaments. The mercenary government of PHTK is the sole beneficiary of the imperialist domination. It is this political class, which is associated with all kinds of bandits and criminals, that loot Haiti's wealth and sow death.

Today, for a Haitian family to feed themselves is almost a miracle. Moving from one community to another is almost impossible because of the absence of a road network. The PHTK party has turned the country into hell, as if we were living in a situation of war.

The Patriotic Forum warns of rising inflation that is already at 19%, while economic growth is just 0.4%. On the other hand, big banks and commercial bourgeoisie continue to make huge profits. Haiti's national currency, the gourde, has lost all value.

The Patriotic Forum denounces the malaise among the population, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable sectors. This means that young people, workers, professionals, mothers and fathers are forced to abandon their communities with their children to migrate to the city. Others have to do so by moving abroad, escaping the lack of life, insecurity, misery, unemployment, meager wages, exploitation and exclusion.

The situation of workers who are exploited by their employers is unacceptable. In this regard, the Patriotic Forum is committed not only to denouncing this situation, but also to gather forces to address these criminal imbalances.

These global considerations, which are linked to the demands of the grass-roots' forces, clearly show that only the mobilization of the Haitian people against the colonial system and the PHTK regime can put an end to this situation. In recent years, the mobilizations have become increasingly massive and intense against the government of President Jovenel Moïse, and against his method of leading the country. Clearly, his only interest is that of the great foreign powers. These are the same criminals who have appropriated the funds of the Inter-ministerial Commission for the Reconstruction of Haiti (CIRH). As if that weren't enough, this group of bandits has stolen billion-dollar funds from the public treasury that came to the country under the Petrocaribe agreements.

In short, the government of Jovenel Moïse and his allies lacks the capacity and the will to bring about real change in the country and put it on the path of sustained development. The country lacks direction. The president has no popular legitimacy or the ability to guarantee the



sovereignty of the country. The President's words mean nothing to the various sectors of society that despite their mobilizations, are completely ignored. Jovenel Moïse has not yet understood that the intensity of the mobilizations already signals the end of a cycle.

It is for all the above mentioned reasons that, at a difficult historical crossroads, we, the representatives of people's organizations, social movements and political parties participating in the **“Patriotic Forum for National Agreement against the Crisis”**, let know the Haitian people and the whole world that we have firmly decided to put an end to instability and the endless crisis. We will avoid the dissolution of our nation and leave behind, forever, underdevelopment, misery and division. People on the periphery, peasants, workers, professionals, students, trade unions, political parties and groups, will face imperialism and its local accomplices until we destroy this system of death.

4. Resolutions

Faced with this situation of misery, hunger, insecurity, unemployment, hopelessness, corruption and criminality that injures the country, we consider this Patriotic Forum is an opportunity to unify political organizations and parties, to agree on an understanding about the situation of the country and offer future prospects to the population to get out of this impasse that we are now in. We believe that it is through this instrument that we will be able to lay the foundations for changing the lives of future generations.

These days of discussion have led us to decisive consensuses. Therefore, it is necessary to:

- Continue popular mobilization, developing the best strategy throughout the country to force the immediate resignation of Jovenel Moïse and parliamentarians.
- Establish a transitional government for a period of three years, to address the emergencies of hunger, misery and unemployment affecting more than 80% of the population and reform the State institutions according to the needs of the population.
- Organize without delay a Sovereign National Conference, that is, a Great National Dialogue to guide the country according to our history, our culture, our identity and our aspirations as a nation.
- Prosecute those responsible for embezzling the Petrocaribe and CIRH's funds, as well as those political and material slaughterers for the massacres of La Saline and Carrefour Feuille. We must do so without any delay or conditions.
- Take over our right to self-determination and, respecting the decisions taken in this Sovereign National Conference, to draw up a new Constitution to be validated in a popular referendum.

- Set up a National Coordination to carry out the popular mobilization strategy and define a detailed plan on the characteristics and responsibilities of the next transitional government.
- Keep this Patriotic Forum in session and seek answers and consensus needed to build a direction that expresses unity in diversity.
- Respect these decisions and set up Departmental Coordination, to give more strength to mobilizations and thus guide them in the battle for the liberation of the great popular majorities.

In this regard, the Patriotic Forum has resolved to start a General Assembly composed of two members from each of the organizations that sign this declaration and also to build a Follow-up Committee with eleven members, who will continue to provide strategic reflections. These representatives of the Patriotic Forum will be responsible for integrating new forces and strengthening and coordinating the actions defined herein.

Papaye, Haiti - August 30, 2019

We will not give up the fight!

Mobilization or death!

Organization or death!

Long live Haiti! Long live people's solidarity!

Long live economic, social and political progress for all Haitians!

Long live social justice!

Get out Jovenel! Get out the PHTK!

