Prime Minister  
Alix Didier Fils-Aimé  
Prime Minister’s Office  
31, Boulevard Harry Truman  
Bicentenair  
Port-au-Prince

HAITI

Datum

**Children affected by gang violence need urgent protection**

Dear Prime Minister,

In view of the severe humanitarian crisis in Haiti, I am particularly concerned about the safety of children affected by human rights violations. Gangs control large parts of the capital Port-au-Prince and its surroundings. The gang violence has a devastating effect on children. They are victims of murder, recruitment, sexual violence and other human rights violations. There are no protection measures for children. They are not seen primarily as victims, but are treated as criminals and sometimes detained without due process in the Center for the Reeducation of Minors in Conflict with the Law (CERMICOL). Girls in particular are exposed to sexual violence by the gangs and have only limited access to justice and health services.

I therefore urge you to develop and implement a comprehensive child protection plan that will enable the country to meet its international obligations to protect children and ensure that they receive education, security and psychological support. Haitian civil society must be involved from the outset in the development of sustainable solutions.

Yours sincerely,

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