

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPACT OF THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN HAITI

One Year Later: Lessons Learned and Perspectives

A Haitian Perspective

January 4, 2011

Port au Prince, Haiti

Context

Haiti has been the focus of unprecedented international assistance efforts in response to the devastating earthquake of January 12, 2010. Various reports various international organizations have been produced for donors and other audiences outside Haiti. One year later, it is important for the rest of the world to hear what Haitians are saying and to take stock of what Haitians have learned from this massive humanitarian aid effort.

To address the need to promote dialogue amongst Haitian citizens, the “Conference on the Impact of the Humanitarian Response in Haiti” (‘the Conference’) is being held on January 4, 2011 at the Academie de Formation et de Perfectionnement des Caddres (AFPEC) Pacot, Port-au-Prince. This event is organized by Haiti Aid Watchdog/Observatoire Citoyen de l’ Action des Pouvoirs Publics et des ONGs (OCAPH) and sponsored by the International Center for Journalism (ICJ)

Objectives

The conference will be the first of its kind. The conference will provide an opportunity for discussion, brainstorming, and sharing of information and experiences amongst academia, professionals in related fields, policymakers, and stakeholders interested in addressing issues

The conference will provide the opportunity for broad discussion, and sharing of information and experiences between Haitian citizens representing both the public and private sectors, academia, the Diaspora and the development sector to debate over the impact of the aid response one year later, discuss the lessons learned, and identify the way forward.

By organizing this first national conference Haiti Aid Watchdog wants to give an opportunity for Haitian citizens to present their perspectives and provide a platform upon where issues as well as solutions and processes may be discussed with the aim of promoting citizens participation for efficient coordination through monitoring programs.

Specific Questions that will be addressed in the Conference

Among the question addressed in this conference are

- How effectively have international actors worked with the government at national, departmental and municipal levels?

- How effectively have international actors worked with Haitian civil society institutions and organizations?
- What role have citizens played the past year? Given the extraordinary influx of aid actors, did the coordination system effectively prioritize capacity and assets to match urgent needs?
- Were there too many aid actors involved in the earthquake response?
- What effects did the influx of organizations have on efficiency and effectiveness?
- Did humanitarian organizations effectively absorb and disburse the resources made available to them?
- Is the amount of funding provided for relief activities balanced with that provided for recovery?
- Were the Humanitarian Assistance Project and SPHERE Standards respected?

Themes of this Conference

Theme 1: Let the voiceless Speak out

Chair; TBA

This theme seeks to provide a platform to the men and women leaving to share their experience, frustration with the audience.

Theme 2: Evaluating the Aid Actors, Aid Coordination and Effectiveness

Chair: TBA

This panel focuses on the relationship between international organizations and local officials. What role the media played to facilitate communication between the stakeholders.

Theme 3: Evaluation of Services Provided by International Partners

Chair; TBA

This theme analyzes the international standard and the “do no harm concept” and addresses the issue of services provided the internal displace persons, mainly to the vulnerable groups.

Theme 4: Ways to move forward from a Haitian perspective

Chair: TBA

This panel focuses on lessons learned and what Haitians should do to assure a better transparent and effective aid in 2011 with substantial citizens participation.

Expected Outputs

At the end of the conference, a citizen monitoring plan of action will be presented to the general public. This plan of action will lay out an agenda for civil society organizations to mobilize around an agenda to monitor the aid.

- Participants will become aware of the importance of monitoring the aid.

- Participants will create a network and a platform from which they can monitor the aid.
- Participants, along with the key speakers, will organize a 2011 advocacy campaign to focus on aid oversight, transparency and performance.
- The broader public will become aware of, and mobilized in support of, the joint the monitoring efforts.

Annex 1: Agenda

AGENDA

8H-8H45

Welcome: Wilner Morin, Communication Director of HAW

8h45- 9h

Purpose and objectives of the conference:

Gary Victor

Président of Haiti Aid Watchdog HAW or Observatoire Citoyen de L'Action des Pouvoirs Publics des ONGs (OCAPH)

9h-10h45 (1h of presentation and 45 minutes for Q/A)

Panel 1 - Let the Voiceless Speak out

This panel will open the floor for the direct beneficiaries of aid to speak about their daily life in the tents.

Moderator: tbc

Testimony from representatives of:

- Camps Corail
- Petionville Club- Golf
- Tapis Rouge
- Jean Marie Vincent

10h45 - 11h: morning tea break

11h - 12h45 (1h of presentation and 45 minutes for Q/A)

Panel 2 - Evaluating the Aid Actors, Aid Coordination and Effectiveness

This panel will present a perspective, from government officials and professionals, regarding the coordination and relationship with international partners.

Moderator: tbc

[Perspective from the municipality –Aid actors and coordination in Port au Prince](#)

Mayor of Port au Prince

Analysis of the Humanitarian aid on the private sector

Vladimir Laborde – President of Fondation Avenir
Clifford Baron –CEO Sanco inc

Analysis of the effectiveness and impact of the aid

Karl Jean-Louis – Executive Director of HAW

Perspectives from the Journalists –

- Liliane Pierre Paul - Radio Kiskeya
- Jura Lucien- Radio Signal
- Jacky Cantave- Radio Caraïbe
- Frantz Duval- Le Nouvelliste
- Valery Numa- Vision 2000

12h45 14h: Lunch

14h-15h45 (1h of presentation and 45 minutes for Q/A)

Panel 3- Evaluation of Services Provided by International Partners

An analysis of the services provided on the camp will be done. The focus will be on how the HAP/Sphere standards were managed by the international organizations.

Moderator: tbc

Humanitarian Accountability Standard: were the standards respected by international partners?-

Ketty Luzincourt- Specialist in Conflict Resolution, President of the Haiti Institute of Peace

What has been accomplished in the Health sector? Cholera and the camps

Dr. Claude Surena- President of Haitian Medical Association,
Dr.Loune Viaud- Director of Zanmi la Sante/Partners in Health

Did the handicap receive aid?

Jean Chevalier Sanon- Director of Federation of Associations and Institutions of Persons with disabilities

Eliazar Odnel- Director of Christian Blind Mission

Analysis of the situation in the camps

Pascal Verly- International Development Consultant

Human Rights issues; Women and the camps/ Water and Sanitation

Dilia Lemaire-Mouvement des Femmes Haitiens Pour le Développement

15h 45- 16h: afternoon tea

16h - 17h45 (1h of presentation and 45 minutes for Q/A)

Panel 4 - Ways to move forward from a Haitian perspective

Identify how Haitian citizens and institutions in and outside of Haiti can hold the international NGOs to account.

Moderator: tbc

[Reconstruction/citizens participation](#)

Isnel Pierreval- Economist, Specialist on youth development

Philippee Fils Aime- Director of

[The role of universities and training center in promoting citizen participations-](#)

Professor Georges Brunet- Director of University Centre de Formation et de Développement Economique

[Role of the Diapora in monitoring and advocating for more aid transparency](#)

Judith Registre- Specialist in Women Affair

[Action plan for Citizen engagement and participation on monitoring the Humanitarian aid while advocating for accountability and transparency of the international assistance to Haiti](#)

By Karl Jean Louis Executive Director of Haiti Aid Watchdog

18h00 - 18h15: Closing remarks

