

Proposals for Actions on Transparency and Anti-Corruption to Prime Minister Gary Conille

Dear Prime Minister,

The citizen collective Nou Pap Dòmi greets your appointment as Prime Minister during this special context where you have the heavy task of leading the transition in Haiti. We are aware of the demanding nature of this mission and want to highlight that Haitians place great hopes in you. This transition represents a unique opportunity for the State to reconnect with its citizens, establish trust, and lay the foundations for transparent and responsible governance.

Nou Pap Dòmi welcomes your call for Zero Tolerance against corruption. In this exceptional context where there is no parliament to oversee activities, we must recognize that this emergency period can be favorable to corruption. We acknowledge your declaration and consider it a commitment to work against this plague that undermines our society in general and public institutions in particular. However, we expect concrete actions that can send clear signals about your government's real will to combat corruption in all its forms.

Considering these considerations, Nou Pap Dòmi would like to draw your attention to the urgent need to implement rigorous mechanisms to ensure the transparency and accountability of government actions and public spending. To this end, we make the following proposals to your government to ensure a more transparent and responsible management of public resources:

1. Declaration of Assets

- Proceed with your asset declaration and require the same from all ministers and public officials or civil servants designated by law, and other high-ranking state officials in accordance with *Article 2 of the February 12, 2008 law on asset declaration*. These declarations must be made public in accordance with Article 6 of the same law and should serve as a signal of good faith and commitment to transparency.

2. Coalition of Civil Society and Citizens for Control and Vigilance

- Support the establishment of a coalition composed of civil society organizations and citizens dedicated to monitoring public spending.
- Grant this newly created structure complete access to the information necessary for effective oversight.

3. Establishment of a task force among public Anti-Corruption institutions (Court of Auditors, ULCC, UCREF, IGF, CNMP) for preventive and concurrent audits

- Promote the establishment of this task force to conduct preventive and concurrent audits on all state projects and works.
- Include this measure in upcoming budget allocations to support audit activities. Adequate funding is essential for these audits to be conducted in real-time.

4. Commitment to Public Transparency in Public Procurement

- Make the public procurement process public during the transition period, with the publication of details on an official website. This includes selection criteria, bidding companies, and final results.
- Require the CNMP to publicly disclose all companies holding state contracts, including information on their performance and integrity, in accordance with *Article 10.6 of the public procurement law*.
- Require the CNMP to update and publish the blacklist of companies or suppliers that have seriously failed in public contract clauses and cannot benefit from public contracts, in accordance with *Article 10.15 of the public procurement law*.
- Grant the civil society coalition the right to participate as an independent observer in public procurement processes, in accordance with *Article 8.1 of the public procurement law*.

5. Encouragement of Whistleblowing among State Employees

- Send an open letter to all state employees encouraging them to report cases of corruption
- Establish mechanisms to maintain the anonymity of civil servants and whistleblowers
- Guarantee state protection for whistleblowers to create a safe environment for denunciations

6. Collaborative Development of an Anti-Corruption Strategy

- Encourage anti-corruption institutions to work together to develop a five-year anti-corruption agenda and strategy for Haiti. This collaboration will create a coherent and integrated approach to fight corruption.
- Involve civil society organizations in this strategic planning. Their participation will ensure that citizens' perspectives and concerns are considered in the formulation of the strategy.

7. Audit of Public Administration and Autonomous Organizations

- Request audits on major financial issues such as the PetroCaribe fund, COVID-19 related expenses, and the transition period (July 2021 to April 2024).

8. Establishment of a Complaint Mechanism at the Prime Minister's Office

- Establish a complaint mechanism at the Prime Minister's Office allowing citizens to submit complaints about suspected corruption. This mechanism must be easily accessible, secure, and confidential to encourage citizens to use it.
- Ensure the proper functioning of other complaint mechanisms within anti-corruption institutions, particularly within the ULCC. Ensure these mechanisms have the necessary resources to effectively handle complaints.

9. Encouragement of Public Audits by Citizens

- Encourage citizens to conduct public audits on the proper execution of projects and activities implemented by the state in their area.

10. Fight Against Impunity

- Ask the Minister of Justice to inquire with the prosecutors about the progress of corruption cases referred to them by the ULCC for transfer to the investigative office; and, if necessary, to issue formal instructions for the initiation of public action against those named in these reports.
- Ask the Minister of Justice to instruct the public prosecutor to initiate public action against those who are publicly denounced for corruption and all those subject to international sanctions due to their involvement in reprehensible acts.

Establish an independent Justice, Truth, and Reparation commission to investigate human rights violations, including massacres, assassinations, kidnappings, and rapes.

We strongly solicit your endorsement for these essential measures aimed at strengthening transparency, accountability, and public trust in the government. These proactive actions fall exclusively within the executive branch and your power as head of government. Implementing them will send a clear and powerful message about your determination to fight corruption and establish an environment of trust and accountability in the management of public funds.

Failing to support these measures would miss the opportunity to break with the practices of previous governments and begin to restore citizens' trust in the State. It is essential to demonstrate a decisive change of course and take the necessary measures to ensure transparent and integral governance.

We remain at your disposal for any discussion or clarification on these points.

Sincerely,

Port-au-Prince, June 13th 2024

For the Collective :



James BELTIS



Daphné VALMOND BOURGOIN



Vélina Élysée CHARLIER



Adonis DEFAILLE



Dr. Joseph Stéphane MICHEL



Gilbert MIRAMBEAU Jr.



Stevenson MOISE



Jeffsky POINCY



Pascale SOLAGES