



**Report of the
Canadian Parliamentary Delegation of the
“Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie” (APF)
to the
Parliamentary Mission
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
September 5-8, 2006**

Report

The delegation was composed of Mr. Bernard Patry, MP, President of the APF.

Mr. Bernard Patry took part in this parliamentary mission at the invitation of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF). The APF delegation also included the following members: Senator Jacques Legendre of France, Parliamentary Secretary General of the APF, Mr. Michel Bissonnet, Vice-President of the APF and Speaker of the National Assembly of Quebec, Mr. Bruno Bourg-Broc, Deputy, Vice-President of the APF and President of the French Branch of the APF and Mr. Antoine Kolawole Idji, Deputy, member of the Bureau of the APF and Speaker of the National Assembly of Bénin.

At its last annual meeting held in Rabat, Morocco from June 29 to July 3, 2006, the APF decided to lift its suspension of the Haitian Branch. This decision followed the satisfactory holding of the most recent presidential and legislative elections and the installation of the 48th Legislature on May 7, 2006. At that session, furthermore, the Assembly committed itself to strengthening Haïti's democratic institutions through its program of parliamentary cooperation.

The primary objective of this mission was to re-establish contact with the Parliament of Haïti in order to assist in the reconstitution of a Haitian Branch of the APF and the full participation by Haitian parliamentarians in the forthcoming work of the APF.

This mission also provided an opportunity to study ways to support, in partnership with the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF), the establishment and strengthening of a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies of the Republic of Haïti, specifically through the implementation of interparliamentary cooperation programs. The APF had also expressed its commitment on numerous occasions in the past to support a Haitian Parliament constituted following an election recognized as valid by the international community.

Lastly, this mission was intended to enable the APF to take the initial steps towards playing its role as "catalyst" for bilateral francophone cooperation to assist the Haitian Parliament, as desired by the Haitian authorities and the Secretary General of the OIF, Abdou Diouf.

It was against this background that the APF decided at Rabat, Morocco to send a high-level parliamentary mission to Haïti.

The initial discussions took place on Tuesday, September 5, 2006, in the presence of the Speaker of the Senate of Haïti, Joseph Lambert, and the Speaker of the Haitian Chamber of Deputies, Pierre Éric Jean-Jacques.

During the discussions, the strategic development program for the Haitian Parliament, (*Programme de Développement Stratégique du Parlement Haïtien*) 2006-2010 (PDSPH 2006-2010) was discussed at length. This program has two phases: a initial phase, based on the program of support for immediate priorities (*Programme d'Appui aux Priorités Immédiates*) 2006 (PAPI 2006) aims to respond to urgent priorities of the

Parliament in the very short term and a second phase intended to address its needs in the short, medium and long term through the formulation of a comprehensive intervention program for the development of the capabilities of the Haitian Parliament.

This meeting was followed by discussions with the President of the Republic, René Garcia Préval.

On Wednesday, September 6, 2006, the members of the mission met with representatives of civil society and the political parties.

Finally, on Thursday September 7, 2006, the members of the mission were received by the Prime Minister, Jacques Édouard Alexis.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard Patry, M.P.

President of the *Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie*

Canadian Branch of the
Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF)

Travel Costs

ASSOCIATION	Canadian Branch of the « <i>Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (La présidence)</i> »
ACTIVITY	Parliamentary Mission
DESTINATION	Port-au-Prince (Haïti)
DATES	September 5 to 8, 2006
SENATORS	
MEMBERS	Mr. Bernard Patry, MP
STAFF	
TRANSPORTATION	\$ 64.00
ACCOMMODATION	\$ 0
HOSPITALITY	\$ 0
PER DIEMS	\$ 89.84
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$ 0
MISCELLANEOUS/REGISTRATION FEES	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$ 153.84