

URGENT ACTION

FAMILIES FORCIBLY EVICTED FROM CAMPS IN HAITI

Hundreds of families have been forcibly evicted from two makeshift camps in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Neither camp was given enough time to gather their belongings before their shelters were destroyed.

On 12 January – the third anniversary of the devastating earthquake which left 200,000 dead and 2.3 million people homeless – municipal officials and officials from the Civil Protection Agency forcibly evicted around 600 families from Camp Place Sainte-Anne in the municipality of Port-au-Prince. The camp's residents had been informed of the eviction only five days earlier and were promised 20,000 gourdes (approximately US\$480) per family; however, according to NGO Groupe d'Appui aux Réfugiés et Repatriés, 250 families have yet to receive the money. On the day of the eviction, none of the families were given enough time to gather their belongings before their shelters were destroyed.

On 22 January, police officers violently evicted 84 families from another camp called Fanm Koperativ, also in the municipality of Port-au-Prince. The officers were accompanied by a group of men armed with machetes and hammers; one man was badly beaten. No notice had been given of the eviction and although a Justice of the Peace was in attendance, no judicial order for the eviction was presented. Again, the families were not given time to gather their belongings before their tents and shelters were torn down. A few days before the eviction, residents had organized a press conference to denounce the lack of response from the authorities regarding their situation. Residents believe that the expulsion might have happened as a reprisal to that.

Amnesty International is extremely concerned that residents of displacement camps continue to be forcibly evicted in contravention of international human rights standards.

Please write immediately in French or your own language:

- Calling on authorities to immediately stop all forced evictions of people living in displacement camps, and ensure that evictions are carried out only as a last resort and in full compliance with the guarantees required under international human rights standards, including genuine consultation and the provision of adequate alternative housing to all those affected;
- Asking them to provide remedies, including adequate alternative housing, to the families evicted from Camp Place Sainte Anne and Camp Fanm Koperativ;
- Asking them to seek durable solutions to the housing needs of the hundreds of thousands of families still living in dire conditions in the makeshift camps.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 13 MARCH 2013 TO:

President

Michel Joseph Martelly
Palais National
Rue Magny, Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Fax: + 1 202-745-7215 (via Haiti embassy in the USA)
Twitter: @MichelJMartelly "Calling on Haitian President @MichelJMartelly to stop illegal forced evictions in Jalousie #Haiti Please RT"
Email :

communications@presidentmartelly.ht

**Salutation: Monsieur le Président/
Dear President**

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

General Director of the Haitian Police

Godson Orélus
Directeur Général de la PNH
Police Nationale d'Haiti
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Email: godore68@hotmail.com
Salutation: Monsieur le directeur/Dear Director

Mayor of Port-au-Prince

Marie-Joseph René
Mairie de Port-au-Prince
151, Angle avenue Jean-Paul II et
impasse Duverger, Turgeau
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Email:
mairiedeporauPrince@gmail.com

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

12 January 2013 was the third anniversary of the devastating earthquake in Haiti which left more than 200,000 people dead and some 2.3 million homeless. Three years on and 350,000 people are estimated to still be living in makeshift camps.

Since the earthquake, tens of thousands of people have been forcibly evicted from the camps. In September 2012, the International Organization for Migrations reported that nearly 80,000 more people living primarily in camps set up on private land are currently at risk of eviction – 21 per cent of the total camp population.

As of August 31 2012, 60,978 individuals have been evicted from 152 sites without due process. Made homeless once more, those evicted often resettle in zones at high risk of being impacted by natural hazards, or in bigger camps that might not be at imminent risk of eviction but where there are no services established.

Name: Around 684 families evicted from displacement camps in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Gender m/f: both

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