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Groups Call for Respect for Human Rights, Accountability at Haiti Donors' Conference *More than 300 NGOs Urge that Human Rights Drive Haiti Aid Efforts*

(Boston, New York, Port-au-Prince, Washington DC, March 18, 2010)—The human rights and dignity of all Haitians should be the driving force behind international assistance in rebuilding Haiti, said more than 300 non-governmental organizations in a [letter](#) sent to donors today. A coalition working for human rights and improving aid delivery in Haiti—the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice (CHR&GJ) at NYU School of Law, Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI), the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH), Partners In Health (PIH)/Zanmi Lasante (ZL), and the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (RFK Center)—joined colleagues from every region of the world in calling for a rights-based approach to international assistance, in advance of the Haiti Donors' Conference, to be held at UN headquarters in New York on March 31st.

The much-anticipated Conference will bring together an array of major donors to discuss the future of aid to Haiti. The six rights groups that spearheaded the letter drive also issued a list of concrete [recommendations](#) outlining a rights-based approach to aid delivery in advance of the conference, and have a long history of working on aid and human rights issues in Haiti. Both the letter and the recommendations highlight the need to empower the Haitian people; strengthen the Haitian government's capacity to guarantee human rights; and make assistance transparent and accountable to the Haitian people.

For more information about these organizations, please visit their websites: www.chrgj.org, www.pih.org, <http://ijdh.org>, www.rfkcenter.org