

ELECTORAL OBSERVATION COALITION (COE)

SOFA

CNO

CONHANE

RNDDH

CARDH

POHDH

*Elections of November 20, 2016 :
An acceptable election
Concerns
Corrections to be made*



December 2, 2016

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Summary:

On November 20, 2016, the Haitian people were invited to elect a President, 16 Senators, 25 Deputies and several City Council members in a difficult socio-political context characterized by the deterioration and degradation of the quality of life exacerbated by Hurricane Matthew, and skepticism around the conduct of elections which for various reasons were postponed throughout 2016.

As the 2015 elections were canceled, 27 candidates for the Presidency confirmed their candidacy at the invitation of the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP). Unlike the 2015 elections, electoral campaigns were much smaller and less visible.

The new CEP introduced many changes in the electoral process, including the cancellation of votes on minutes, preparation of a Complementary Electoral List, reduction of the number of polling stations, printing and timely distribution of accreditation cards for political and electoral observation bodies which included information about the individual. In addition, the CEP implemented reserve members of polling stations and new polling booths to ensure the secrecy of the vote.

On election day, the majority of centers and polling stations opened between six (6) and seven (7) in the morning. However, delays did not have an impact on voter participation. The majority of these centers also closed at four (4) pm.

Vote security was provided by the Haitian National Police (PNH) and United Nations agents who filled the streets early in the morning and intervened when necessary.

In 98.42% of the polling stations observed by the Coalition, voters' lists were posted. Similarly, the staff provided satisfactory work, at 77%.

The proxies (*mandataires*) of political parties again exemplified bad behavior, openly campaigning and trying to influence the vote for their candidates.

For their part, many voters also campaigned in or around polling centers. However, they collaborated with the PNH, which made election day a success in terms of security.

In counting the votes, several irregularities were noted by the Coalition. They have given rise to numerous complaints from political parties which to present, have not yet taken legal steps to file their disputes. These irregularities, according to the Coalition, deserve special attention from the CEP, with the aim of not further exacerbating the situation.

This report, with recommendations, is divided into three parts presenting the detailed context in which the elections took place, reporting on election day, reviewing the many facts that drew the attention of the Coalition, and summarizing the findings at the CTV, by the Coalition.

I. Introduction

On November 20, 2016, the presidential and partial legislative elections were held throughout the national territory.

The Electoral Observation Coalition (COE) composed of six (6) organizations including *Haitian Women's Solidarity* - SOFA, *National Observation Council* (CNO), *Haitian Council of Non-State Actors* (CONHANE), *National Human Rights Defense Network* (RNDDH), *Center for Analysis and Research in Human Rights* (CARDH) and *Platform of Haitian Human Rights Organizations* (POHDH), with several years in the observation of the Haitian electoral process, considers it their duty to share with all those concerned this report detailing election observations.

This report is divided into three (3) parts. In the first part, the Coalition presents the methodology used for observation and reviews the entire context of the November 20, 2016 elections. In the second part, the Coalition deals with the conduct of the elections and in the third part, the electoral process before making specific proposals to the relevant authorities.

A. FIRST SECTION

II. Methodology

The Coalition has observed the electoral process since the assembly of the current electoral body. It deployed a total 1,044 fixed observers.

Twelve (12) teams of mobile observers traveled the ten (10) geographical departments of the country.

In addition, eleven (11) information gathering groups were set up, one group per department. An additional group was present on the *Island of Gonâve*.

With these deployments, the Coalition conducted observations in 65.97% of the polling centers installed by the CEP.

However, for the purposes of this report, the graphs use information gathered by 635 observers deployed by RNDDH and POHDH.

III. Background

On November 20, 2016, the Haitian people were invited to elect one (1) President, 25 Deputies in districts where issues had been recorded in the 2015 elections, sixteen (16) Senators, which would be one-third of the Senate, as well as six (6) others from three (3) departments where candidates had qualified to compete in the second round.

These elections were announced in a difficult context. In economic terms, the country's situation was characterized by an increase in the prices of basic necessities, following the devaluation of the gourde against the US dollar. This inflation has had and still has major repercussions on the population's quality of life. Social activities were slowing down and the population was anticipating the completion of elections.

On August 9, 2015, the partial legislative elections were held on the national territory. It was characterized by violence and massive fraud.

On October 25, 2015, the second round of the partial legislative elections, the municipal elections and the first round of the presidential elections were held. Again, the results were strongly contested. Several political organizations as well as electoral observation organizations denounced a vast operation of fraud, which attempted to use State apparatuses to bring to power candidates that were close to the president in power at the time.

Demonstrations were organized every day. They became increasingly violent and rapidly turned into anti-government demonstrations, denouncing the involvement of the MARTELLY/ PAUL government in the large operation of fraud.

The organization of the second presidential round scheduled for December 27, 2015 was hypothetical.

On December 22, 2015, by presidential decree, Michel Joseph MARTELLY created a presidential commission called the ***Independent Electoral Evaluation Commission*** (CEEI), which was responsible for evaluating the entire process.

On January 2, 2016, the CEEI published its report covering the audit of 1,770 tally sheets. In its report, it stated that:

- 26.7% of tally sheets revealed cases of fraud or irregularities
- 43.3% of tally sheets showed alterations
- 51.1% of tally sheets showed that voters did not vote in the offices where they were supposed to vote
- 30.6% of tally sheets did not contain a ***National Identification Number (CIN)***.

Following these observations, the Commission made several recommendations hoping to continue the electoral process. They included a thorough review of fraud complaints, the lists of electoral observation organizations involved in the process, the CEP members by the sectors that selected them, a meeting with stakeholders involved in the electoral process to find a consensus and a more thorough technical examination of electoral body responsibility.

The CEEI concluded in its report, stating that the October 25th elections were "***tainted with irregularities***" and that "***several candidates had benefited from their fraud-related irregularities conducted by their proxies at the polling stations***"¹.

¹ Report of the Independent Electoral Evaluation Commission, p. 10.

However, none of these recommendations were implemented by the MARTELLY / PAUL government. As an immediate consequence, anti-government demonstrations took on an unprecedented scale and the elections had to be postponed until January 24, 2016.

The demonstrations continued. And on January 22, 2016, the demonstrations were characterized by serious acts of violence leading to the decision to delay the second round of the presidential elections.

Simultaneously, pro-administration demonstrations were being organized by those close to the administration in power. Civil struggle took over the country creating fear amongst Haitians. By the end of 2015, schools, formal and informal trade were not functioning daily.

On the one hand, four (4) members of the CEP, then presided over by Pierre-Louis OPONT, resigned. This situation automatically stripped the CEP of all legitimacy and decision-making power. On January 28, 2016, the president of the CEP Pierre-Louis OPONT also presented his resignation.

On the other hand, a group of eight presidential candidates joined forces to demand the cancellation of the first round of the presidential elections of October 25, 2015. They were:

1. Eric JEAN-BAPTISTE, *Mouvement Action Socialiste* (MAS)
2. Moïse JEAN-CHARLES, *Petit Dessalines*
3. Jean-Henry CÉANT, *Renmen Ayiti*
4. Jude CELESTIN, *Ligue Alternative pour le Progrès et l'Emancipation Haïtiens* (LAPEH)
5. Mario ANDRESOL, Indépendant
6. Samuel MADISTIN, *Mouvement Patriotique Populaire Dessalinien* (MOPOD)
7. Sauveur Pierre ETIENNE, *Organisation du Peuple en Lutte* (OPL)
8. Steven I. BENOIT, *Konviksyon*

On January 10, 2016, the 50th legislature composed of several elected officials from the controversial 2015 elections, and new parliamentarians took oath despite the fact that additional elections were to be held for six (6) senators and 25 deputies. According to the constitution, swearing in was scheduled for the second Monday in January 2016.

With the deadline of February 7, 2016 approaching, establishing of a political transition seemed the most judicious decision. On February 6, 2016, an agreement was signed between the outgoing President, Michel Joseph MARTELLY and then President of the Senate, Jocelerme PRIVERT, on the transfer of power to a provisional president whose mandate would last 120 days with the objective of carrying out the second round of the presidential elections and partial legislative elections.

On the basis of this contract, the Haitian Parliament was instructed to elect the Provisional President.

Shortly after, Parliament launched a call for candidates. Candidates were invited to submit their records with the sum of 500,000 non-refundable gourdes. Eight (8) candidates expressed interest. They were:

1. Edgard LEBLANC FILS
2. Dejean BELIZAIRE
3. Jocelerme PRIVERT
4. Mackenson CANGE
5. Jean Luthès DUVERRA
6. Félicien Jean THOMAS
7. Charles GERAUD
8. Joseph Sergo LOUIS CHARLES

However, only three (3) of them, Dejean BELIZAIRE, Jocelerme PRIVERT and Edgard LEBLANC FILS, completed their files and paid the sum.

On February 8, 2016, a bicameral commission was appointed to deal with the applications. It consisted of six (6) Senators and nine (9) Deputies.

- The Senators included, Carl Murat CANTAVE, Ricard PIERRE, Salomon JEAN MARY, Westner POLYCARPE, NENEL CASSY, Jean Baptiste BIEN-AIME.
- The Deputies included, Hermano EXINOR, Peter Castin CONSTANTIN, Patrick NORZEUS, Vikerson GARNIER, Annonce JEAN BERNARD, Caleb DESRAMEAUX, Price CYPRIEN, Enel APPOLON, Jean WILLLAIRE.

On February 13, 2016, a National Assembly session was held in Parliament. Candidates were invited to present the main points of their respective programs.

President Jocelerme PRIVERT won the elections by a vote of thirteen (13) Senators out of twenty-two (22) and sixty-four (64) Deputies out of ninety-two (92).

On February 14, 2016, Jocelerme PRIVERT was sworn in as the Provisional President of the Republic of Haiti.

He established his ministerial cabinet on March 24, 2016, more than one month after his accession to power. This process included on March 20, 2014, appointed Prime Minister Fritz Alphonse JEAN presenting his general policy to the Chamber of Deputies where he received a vote of no-confidence. Four (4) days later, the Senate ratified the general policy of appointed Prime Minister Enex JEAN CHARLES. That same evening, the Chamber of Deputies organized a meeting in which Enex JEAN CHARLES general policy was ratified bringing together the various groups within the political scene.

At the same time, the parties involved in the elections demanded the establishment of a new electoral body on the basis of article 289 of the Constitution, which states the following:

"Pending the establishment of the Permanent Electoral Council provided for in this Constitution, the National Council of Government shall establish a Provisional Electoral Council composed of nine (9) members, responsible for the execution and drafting of the electoral law to govern upcoming elections, the members are as follows:

- 1. One by the Executive, not a civil servant;***
- 2. One by the Episcopal Conference;***
- 3. One by the Advisory Board;***
- 4. One by the Superior Court of Audit and Administrative Disputes;***
- 5. One by human rights organizations, not participating in electoral competitions;***
- 6. One by the Council of the University;***
- 7. One by the Association of Journalists;***
- 8. One by the Reformed Cults;***
- 9. One by the National Council of Cooperatives. "***

The Provisional President promptly invited the sectors concerned to nominate two (2) personalities: a woman and a man, to represent them in the CEP.

On March 29, 2016, a new electoral body was sworn in at the ***Court of Cassation of the Republic***. Since two (2) sectors had not yet been created and others had not expressed interest in participating in the CEP, they were replaced with other civil society institutions. The new CEP consisted of following people:

1. Léopold BERLANGER, Chairman, Representative of the Press Sector
2. Carlos HERCULE, Vice-President, Representative of the Episcopal Conference
3. Marie Frantz JOACHIM, General Secretary, Representative of the Women Sector
4. Lucien Jean BERNARD, Member, Representative of the University Sector;
5. Josette JEAN DORCELY, Member, Union Representative;
6. Frinel JOSEPH, Treasurer, Representative Sector Reformed Cults;
7. Marie Hérolle MICHEL, Member, Representative of the Patronal sector;
8. Kenson POLYNICE, Member, Representative of the Peasant / Voodoo sector;
9. Jean Simon SAINT-HUBERT, Member, Representative of the Human Rights sector.

However, several sectors including human rights, women, the media, trade unions and vodouisants/peasants had been accused of using undemocratic techniques in their appointments.

After establishing the electoral body, political figures demanded that the elections be restarted at the beginning, stating they did not intend to follow through with the irregularities and fraud orchestrated by the MARTELLY / PAUL Government.

At the same time, while the demands were being made to cancel the elections of October 25, 2015, members of the international community, some of whom were involved in electoral observation, stated that the election results were acceptable and pressured those responsible to hold the second round of presidential elections.

On April 14, 2016, a new verification commission was established by the Provisional President. It was called the ***Independent Electoral Assessment and Verification Commission*** (CIEVE). Its

mandate was thirty (30) days and was tasked with *restoring the confidence of the political actors in the electoral process by determining the reality of the results of the 2015 elections.*

On May 29, 2016, CIEVE issued its report recommending the cancellation of the presidential elections and part of the parliamentary elections due to irregularities and massive fraud. But mainly because 40% of the votes or 628,000 votes were not traceable, and that 16.2%, or one 180,250 votes had been cast with false identification cards.

With those findings, the elections were definitively cancelled.

The international community stated it would not finance the electoral process if it did not resume. Expenditures for the elections were budgeted at \$3,520,000,016.09 HT gourdes. In response, the President of the Republic Jocelerme PRIVERT announced that the elections would be financed by the Haitian State. This statement brought much pride to Haitians who felt that the international community had been unveiled and had become aggressive and insolent in the intervention of the private affairs of the Haitian State.

On June 6, 2016, the CEP published a new electoral calendar for 2016-2017, with the possibility of inaugurating the new President of the Republic on February 7, 2017.

On July 3, 2016, the CEP installed a Director and an Assistant Director at the ***Voting Tabulation Center*** (CTV).

On July 19, 2016, the President of the Republic announced that the first round of presidential elections and partial legislative elections would be scheduled for October 9, 2016.

After the cancellation of the 2015 presidential elections, twenty-seven (27) candidates for the presidency, invited by the CEP, confirmed their candidacy. They were:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Amos ANDRE | 15. Vilaire Clunny DUROSEAU |
| 2. Edmonde BEAUZILE | 16. Nelson FLECOURT |
| 3. Jean BERTIN | 17. Marie Antoinette GAUTHIER |
| 4. Joseph Harry BRETOUS | 18. Moïse JEAN CHARLES |
| 5. Henry CEANT | 19. Chavannes JEUNE |
| 6. Jude CELESTIN | 20. Maxo JOSEPH |
| 7. Jean Hervé CHARLES | 21. Roland MAGLOIRE |
| 8. Jean Ronald CORNELLY | 22. Jovenel MOÏSE |
| 9. Kesler DALMACY | 23. Diony MONESTIME |
| 10. Gérard DALVIUS | 24. Maryse NARCISSE |
| 11. Luckner DESIR | 25. Jean POINCY |
| 12. Marc-Arthur DROUILLARD | 26. Jean Clarens RENOIS |
| 13. Daniel DUPITON | 27. Jacques SAMPEUR |
| 14. Joseh G. Varnel DURANDISSE | |

In addition, 117 candidates for Senate and twenty-five (25) for Deputy were also scheduled to participate in the upcoming elections.

At the same time, the *National Office of Identification* (ONI) said that the number of voters increased from 5,800,000 to 6,200,000.

However, in order to purge *the General Electoral List* (LEG) just before the November 20, 2016 elections, ONI initiated an authentication process of *National Identification Cards* (CIN) in circulation. This was due to the fact that ONI was unable to verify 40% of the 6,200,000 *National Identification Cards* issued.

The first step was to invite those who wanted to participate in the November 20, 2016 elections to have their cards authenticated. However, the verification process could not be finalized and this process of authentication was cancelled.

Electoral Campaigns

The electoral campaigns were launched on August 23, 2016. They were scheduled to close on October 7, 2016, in anticipation of the elections scheduled for October 9, 2016.

State authorities affirmed they were ready for the elections. However, on October 3 and 4, 2016, seven (7) of the ten (10) geographic departments were hit by a severe category 4 (and in some areas Category 5 according to the *Saffir-Simpson* scale) hurricane, named Matthew. The geographic departments in the far south, namely the Southeast, the Nippes, the South and the Grand'Anse, recorded extensive losses: Five hundred and 546 people lost their lives and 128 others were reported missing.

In all communities affected by the hurricane, the situation remains catastrophic to this day. These communities have either been partially or totally devastated. Coastal cities are still desolate today. Public buildings, schools, churches, voodoo temples, hospitals and private homes have been totally destroyed or severely damaged. In some areas, the few buildings that did not collapse were built of concrete.

The post-disaster emergency did not help the elections. In addition, the potential loss of thousands of *National Identification Cards* (CIN) due to the disaster were reported by victims. Without the cards, citizens could not vote. In order to assess the situation, the CEP decided to postpone the elections.

Candidates took advantage of the situation to raise their popularity rating by bringing humanitarian aid to those affected. Humanitarian distributions turned into electoral campaigns. At first, the CEP was silent, as were political parties that did not have the means to intervene on the ground, for fear voters might consider them indifferent. Voters were chanting slogans in favor of the candidates who had helped them. This situation favored three (3) candidates for the presidency in particular: Jovenel MOÏSE, Jude CELESTIN and Maryse NARCISSE, registered respectively under the banners of political parties *Haitian Bald-Headed Party* (PHTK), *Alternative Haitian League for Progress and Emancipation* (LAPEH), and *Fanmi Lavalas* (FL). They did not hesitate to fight an unfair battle against the other candidates.

Analysis of politicians behavior came from all directions. Journalists raised the question, inviting people to comment on the situation. Only then on October 12, 2016, did the CEP issue

a prohibition of political parties from campaigning, taking advantage of their increased vulnerability by distributing donation when the population was suffering.

However, political parties and candidates disregarded the prohibition and continued to campaign around the affected countryside. For example, political party PHTK donated water and food kits emblazoned with party logos and messages encouraging the population to vote for presidential candidate Jovenel MOÏSE.

At the same time, the United States, who had previously stated they would not finance the restarting of the presidential elections, changed their mind, stating the situation was catastrophic in the countryside affected by Hurricane Matthew and that new needs were emerging.

The United States provided assistance through the *United Nations Office for Project Services* (UNOPS).

On October 12, 2016, the CEP announced a new election date of November 20, 2016. On October 14, 2016, the electoral calendar was revised to reflect the changes.

On November 3, 2016, the CEP announced the reopening of electoral campaigns. The electoral body informed the public that this decision was made in order to motivate voters after the passage of Hurricane Matthew. The campaign closed on midnight on November 18, 2016.

Until the week before November 20, 2016, there was uncertainty about the organization of elections. And Haitian society noticed the fact that 2016 election campaigns were significantly smaller than those of August and September 2015 elections.

In addition, the Coalition also notes that candidates have changed their campaign strategies. No longer do they present their programs/plans, but instead offer voters carnival activities. Each time, DJ's on moving vehicles, travel through the streets, passing music enthusiasts and chanting the name of their candidate. Foot bands are also used to entice a crowd and invite them to dance to the sound of the music.

With that said, the electoral campaigns generally went smoothly. However, Jean Bertrand ARISTIDE, who accompanied the presidential candidate, Maryse NARCISSE, throughout the campaign, incited to violence, which led the CEP to summon the candidate on November 11, 2016.

The Commissioner of the Government of *Port-au-Prince's* Court of First Instance, Danton LEGER, addressed his counterpart in *Croix-des-Bouquets*, Mario BEAUVOIR asking him be available on November 16, 2016 so that Jean Bertrand ARISTIDE would respond to the incidents of violence during the electoral campaigns. Some believed it was a plot to boost the popularity of the *Fanmi Lavalas* presidential candidate. On November 16, 2016, the Commissioner of the Government in Croix-des-Bouquets responded to Danton LEGER stating he could not act on the request arguing that the time was not suitable.

It is in this socio-political context that the Haitian population arrived at November 20, 2016. Traffic and activities were slowed down. Most of the streets were empty. Many people feared incidents, which made everyone take a cautious approach.

B. SECOND SECTION

IV. Changes in the Election of November 20, 2016

The CEP made several changes that should be emphasized:

1. *Cancellation of the Votes on Minutes*

In the past, Haitian organizations involved in electoral observation have denounced the risks of possible fraud when voting on minutes. In fact, it has been shown that this has been a tool used by individuals to distort the ballot box outcomes. The number of voters who voted on the minutes were higher than the number on the electoral list at hundreds of polling stations. This was an aberration which needed to be corrected. The electoral body therefore decided to cancel the votes on the minutes.

2. *Establishment of Complementary Electoral Lists*

In order to address the difficulties encountered by electoral staff and other persons called upon to travel on election day, the CEP decided to create a ***Complementary Electoral List***. This included information on the staff of the CEP, Haitian National Police (PNH) officers, national observers and proxies of political parties. This list had to be communicated to the staff members of the Polling Stations, in addition to ***Partial Electoral Lists*** and ***Voter Verification Lists***.

However, many PNH agents, proxies of political parties and electoral observers who went outside the department in which they were registered were unable to vote because the Complementary Electoral List could not be found. For example:

- At the polling center, ***Ecole Nationale of Bariadelle, Dame Marie***, Grand'Anse several PNH agents claimed that they could not vote.
- At the polling center, ***Faculté d'Agronomie et de Médecine Vétérinaire***, West proxies could not vote.
- At the polling center, ***Lycée Philippe Guerrier of Cap-Haïtien***, North electoral observers who the CEP had told them their names were put on the list, could not vote.

3. *Reduction in the Number of Polling Stations*

The CEP reduced the number of polling stations from 13,713 to 11,993. As a result, the number of voters registered per polling station increased from 450 to 550. However, the number of polling centers increased from 1,550 to 1,533.

4. Accreditation of Political Parties and Electoral Observers

For the first time in preparing for elections, the electoral body made use of its database, particularly in the preparation and printing of accreditation badges for proxies and observers.

Political organizations and electoral observation organizations were asked to provide information on their proxies and observers. The information was analyzed and the names of people registered on two or more lists were deleted.

In addition, the cards were printed by the CEP with the key information regarding the person including, deployment department, deployment commune, organizational affiliation, last name, first name, photo and ***National Identification Number*** (CIN).

Electoral observation organizations and proxies were also invited to withdraw their accreditation at the beginning of October 2016, several days before the elections scheduled for October 9, 2016.

Despite all these precautionary measures, problems were still encountered in the use of accreditation by proxies. For example:

- At some polling centers, such as ***Ecole Nationale de Vignier***, West, the information found on some of the accreditation badges did not correspond with the bearer of the badge.
- In ***Kenscoff***, West, two (2) people named Reynald JOSEPH et Sonson AC were arrested because they had in their possession a batch of accreditation badges issued by political party ***Pitit Dessalines***

5. Establishment of Reserve Polling Officers

In previous year, there had been several cases where the CEP was left with the absence of some of their polling staff. In the election of November 20, 2016, the electoral body created a post for reserve polling station members in order to fill in for absences. This innovation proved very useful in several voting centers. For example:

- At polling center ***Lycée de Cabaret***, West the President of Polling Station #1 was absent and replaced by the reserve member.
- At polling center ***Ecole Nationale Les Irois***, Grand'Anse the President of Polling Station #3, Martens Kenley ELIASSAINT, was replaced by Marie Sony PIERRE-LOUIS due to delays that might have been caused by a forgotten badge.

However, it should be noted that at some polling stations, reserve members did not know what to do. Some acted as Orienters/Guides, while others, such as in ***Mirebalais***, Central Plateau, acted as proxies.

6. *The Electoral Material*

The electoral materials considered to be non-sensitive, namely polling booths, ballot boxes, and markers, were delivered to voting centers on the basis of the number of polling stations set up.

The CEP was committed to distributing electoral materials throughout the country, even in remote areas by boat.

For areas inaccessible by vehicle, the CEP employed people who carried materials on their heads. In other places, the electoral materials arrived at their destination on the backs of donkeys.

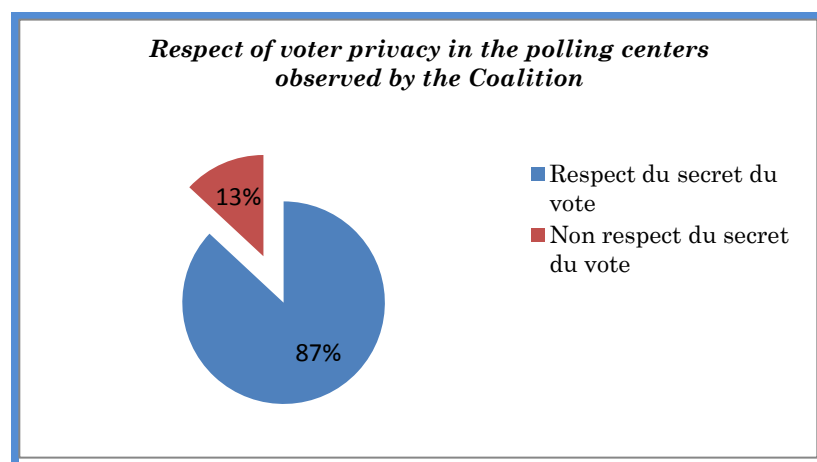
According to Coalition observers, electoral materials were distributed to all polling centers where they were deployed. However, in some voting centers, *Partial Electoral Lists* (LEP) and *Voter Verification Lists* were displayed and distributed late. For example, at the Voting Office # 4 of the *La Victoire*, North the Electoral List arrived at seven (7) in the morning, causing a delay of more than thirty (30) minutes.

The polling booths used on November 20, 2016 were unlike those used in previous elections.

These polling booths effectively ensured voter secrecy and dignity as they fulfilled their civic duty. According to the information provided by the Observers of the Coalition, vote secrecy was 87% respected.



Polling booths used November 20, 2016



Cases where voter privacy were not respected were mainly due to the position of the polling booths. For example:

- At the polling center in the private home of **Gilbert Jean Pierre, Les Irois**, Grand'Anse the polling stations were extremely small and the polling booths were placed in such a way which made voter privacy near impossible.
- At station #2 at polling center **Gaguerre François Ranier, Dame Marie**, Grand'Anse the vote was not a secret as well due to the positions of the polling booths.
- At the polling center **Ecole Nationale de Pernier, Carrefour Pernier**, West the placement of the polling booths did not ensure voter privacy.
- In several polling stations, the polling booths were placed too close to the windows or in the aisles intended for the entrance and exit of voters. This was noticed in station #3 in polling center **Ecole Nationale de Du Parc, Miragoane**, Nippes.



Gaguerre François Ranier

The ink was also different from the usual ink. Instead of marker pencils, it was presented in bottles in which voters were invited to immerse their right thumbs. Contrary to the past, the ink was not accused of being easily removed.

The ballot boxes, however, remained unchanged.

The ballot colors for Senators, Deputies and President had been changed. However, in several parts of the country, the CEP was accused of choosing colors that were difficult to identify. As an example, at the voting centers **Lycée de Cabaret, Lycée Jean Jacques Dessalines**, West voters complained that they had difficulty identifying the candidates for the Senate and the Presidency. They noted, the colors dark brown and black were too difficult to distinguish.



V. Ballot Errors

A serious mistake was made in the ballots. The name of the candidate for Deputy of **Arcahaie**, under the banner of the **Political Party Tèt Kale (PHTK)**, Joseph Lucien JURA, was printed on the ballots for **Jérémie**.

VI. Location of Polling Stations and Centers

The CEP planned to place 1,534 polling centers and 11,993 polling stations across the country.

The Coalition has identified at least forty-three (43) voting centers located in private houses and offices of the ***Council of Assemblies of the Communal Sections*** (CASEC), representing 2.8% of the locations used by the CEP as polling centers. They include:

1. Private home of the former CASEC 6th section Orangers, Léogane, West
2. Private home of Joseph Dieugue, 9th section Citronniers, Léogane, West
3. Private home of Jonas Guerrier, 10th section Fond d'Oie, Léogane, West
4. Private home of Madame Gerda Cajuste, 11th section Gros Morne, Léogane, West
5. Private home of Gertha Joseph, 13th section Petit Harpon, Léogane, West
6. Private home of Saint Fils, 3rd section Trou Chouchou, Petit-Goave, Nippes
7. Private home of Dieuville Erazile, 6th section Bas de la Croix, Bainet, Southeast
8. Maison Privée de Madame Améline St Preuvil, 3rd section, Mornet, L'Acul du Nord, North
9. Private home of Pierrelus Anasse, 5th section Coupe à David, L'Acul du Nord, North
10. Private home of Jean Claude Louis, 2nd section Bonnet à l'Evêque, Plaine du Nord, Milot, North
11. Private home of Fanès Jean, 3rd section Genipailler, Plaine du Nord, North
12. Private home of M. Désamours François, 4th section Bois pin, Grande Rivière du Nord, North
13. Private home of Madame De File, 6th section Montagne Noire, Grande Rivière du Nord, North
14. Private home of Pierre Bénita, 1ère section Bois Neuf, Saint-Raphaël, North
15. Private home of Francio Veillard, 2nd section Mathurin, Saint-Raphaël, North
16. Private home of Madame J.M. Eden et Annexe privée, 4th section San Yago, Saint Raphaël, North
17. Private home of Pierre Exjustance, 4th section Laguille, Dondon, North
18. Private home of Casséus Clotaire, 2nd section Bois de lance, Pignon, North
19. Private home of William Saint-Juste, 1st section de Grande Plaine, Port-Margot, North
20. Private home of L'Eternel est grand, 5th section Camp Coq, Limbé, North
21. Private home of Joseph Ogeste Alténa, 6th section La ville, Plaisance, North
22. Private home of Samson, 2nd section Baudin, Pilate, North
23. Private home of Nelson Saintil, 5th section du bourg, Pilate, North
24. Private home of Pierrelus Jean, 7th section Rivière Laporte, Pilate, North
25. Private home of Hilaire Montilus, 8th section Margot, Pilate, North
26. Private home of Madame Francique Clébert Anita, 1st section Champin, Caracol, Northeast
27. Private home of Saintano et Bureau du CASEC, 2nd section Bois Blanc, Sainte Suzanne, Northeast
28. Private home of Monsieur François Compère, 2nd section Ecrevisse, Vallières, Northeast
29. Private home of Madame Anne Marie Astremond, 2nd section Melonière, Chantal, South
30. Private home of Magna Etienne, 1st section Anse du Clerc, Abricot, Grand'Anse
31. Private home of Mosee Noël, 3rd section Danglise, Abricot, Grand'Anse
32. Private home of Pierre Ricot Bourdeau, 3rd section L'Assise ou Chameau, Moron, Grand'Anse

33. Private home of Pasteur Lindor Emilio, 6th section les Iles Cayemittes, Pestel, Grand'Anse
34. Private home of Imon Redon, 6th section Chardonnette, Beaumont, Grand'Anse
35. Private home of Gilbert Jean Pierre, 5th section Matador, Les Irois, Grand'Anse
36. Private home of Regent Vil Saint, 6th section Bel Air, Les Irois, Grand'Anse
37. Private home of Maurice Beau Séjour, 7th section Garcasse, Les Irois, Grand'Anse
38. Private home of Sonia Sossou, 1st section Baconnois, Arnaud, Nippes

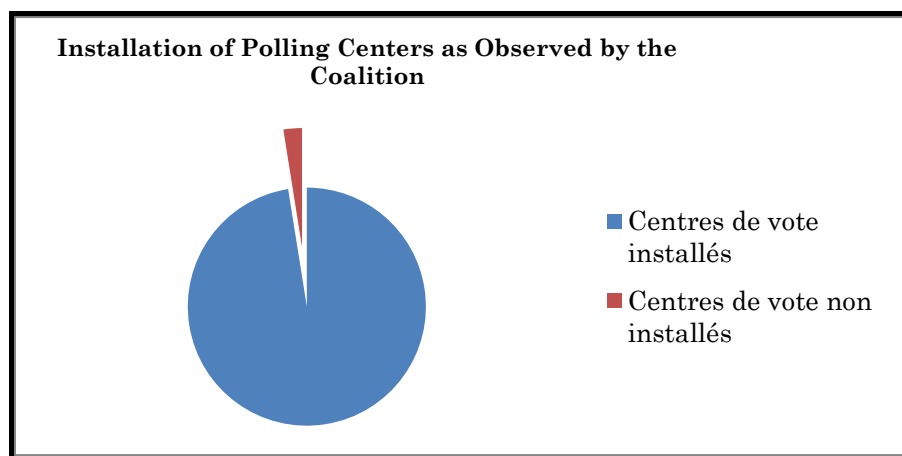
Four (4) were located in the Offices of CASEC or the Private Homes of the CASEC

1. Office of the CASEC 6th section Bras gauche, Port-Margot, Southeast
2. Office of the CASEC, 2nd section Champagne, Plaisance, North
3. Office of the CASEC, 1st section Ballon, Pilate, North
4. Office of the CASEC, 1st section Grand Fond, Saint Louis du Nord, Northeast
5. Office of the CASEC, Glacis Dallier, 2nd section Dallier, Dame Marie, Grand'Anse

The use of private homes and CASEC offices set up as polling centers posed several problems, including the lack of space and the potential manipulation of sensitive materials by untrained people, who might have also had political connections.

For example, in the polling center of the private home Gilbert Jean Pierre, Les Irois, Grand'Anse, there were no guides/orienteers to assist voters with the partial electoral list. This situation did not alarm the electoral staff assigned to the center.

In general, the voting centers were installed at the fixed location. However, the Coalition has identified ten (10) cases where voting centers amongst the centers observed where they were not installed for a variety of reasons.



Other polling centers were relocated on the eve of the elections. These cases were mostly found in the departments of the South and Grand'Anse, which were severely affected by Hurricane Matthew. Here are some examples:

- The polling center at *Lycée Nord Alexis, Jérémie*, Grand'Anse, was relocated at the last minute because victims of Hurricane Matthew did not want to leave their temporary shelters. It was relocated to the *Administrative Complex of Jeremie*.
- The polling center at *Lycée des Jeunes Filles, Jérémie*, Grand'Anse, was relocated to *Ecole Sainte Thérèse* because victims of the hurricane were still in the school.
- The polling center *Lycée Claudy Museau, Cayes*, South was transferred to *Ecole Communautaire Jean Paul II* due to the presence of hurricane victims on the site.

In some polling centers, negotiations had to be used to move the affected population. For example, at the *Ecole Nationale de Christ-Roi, Anse d'Hainault, Grand'Anse*, where fifteen (15) families affected by Hurricane Matthew had found refuge, the Director of the school Donater SIMEUS had to offer food kits and used aluminum sheets to the victims in order for them to leave the school. It was not until November 19, 2016 that they actually agreed to empty the site and return to *Nan Bouchy*, their home community.

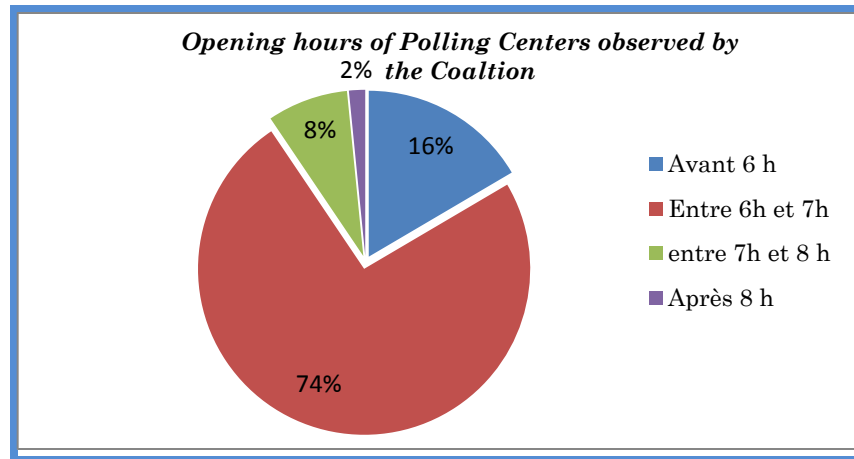
Other polling centers were also moved at the last minute, for other reasons:

- The polling center *Ecole Justin Lhérisson, Anse-à-Foleur*, Northwest was relocated to *Ecole Evangélique Baptiste Béthanie*, due to construction ;
- The polling center *Ecole du Sacré Cœur, Miragoane*, Nippes was relocated to *Lycée Jacques Prévert* because of bad sanitary conditions .

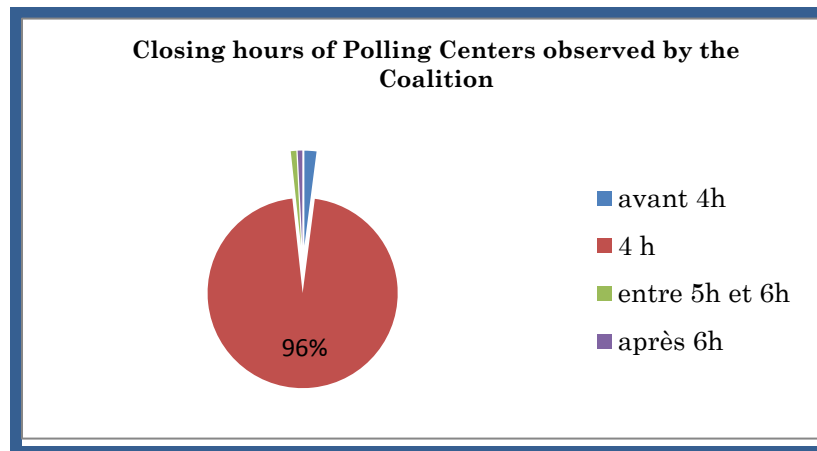
VII. The November 20, 2016 Elections

1. Opening and Closing of Polling Centers and Stations

According to the data recorded by the Coalition for 635 voting centers, 105 opened before six (6) in the morning, 470 opened between six (6) a.m. and seven (7) a.m., 50 centers opened between seven (7) a.m. and eight (8) a.m. and ten (10) centers opened after eight (8) a.m. For example, 73% of the country's polling centers opened between six (6) a.m. and seven (7) a.m. as shown in the graph below:

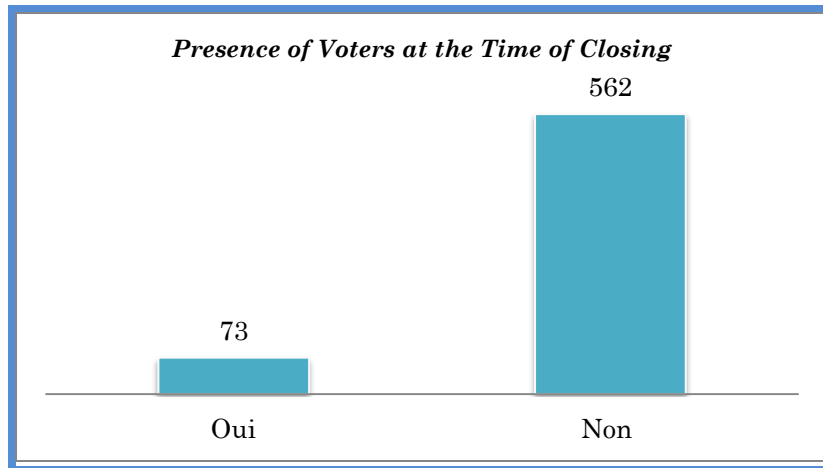


Similarly, 611 polling stations closed at four (4) pm, representing 96% of observed centers. Thirteen closed before four (4) p.m., six closed between five (5) p.m. and six (6) p.m. and five centers after six (6) p.m.



It should be noted that the decision to close the polling stations earlier than planned is illegal, although this was due to the fact that voter participation and turnout was sparse on election day. For example, at *Ecole Nationale de Chambellan*, polling station #3 began preparing their report at 2:56 p.m.

In the recorded sheets, the Coalition noted the case of 73 polling stations, representing 11.49%, where voters were still in line when the voting had to be stopped. However, these voters were still entitled to vote.



2. Security of the Population at Polling Centers

In order to ensure the security of the November 20, 2016 elections 12,800 officers were deployed on the national territory including 9,400 PNH agents, 2,000 United Nations Police Force (UNPOL) and 1400 military personnel of the *United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti* (MINUSTAH).

The administrative agents of the PNH as well as all the specialized units of the police institution were mobilized including: *Motorized Intervention Brigade* (BIM), *Intervention Corps for the Maintenance of Order* (CIMO), *Departmental Unit for Maintenance* UDMO, the *Fire Brigade*, the *Swat Team* and the *Departmental Operations and Intervention Brigade* (BOID).

Very early on the morning of November 20, 2016, the streets were filled with agents of PNH and MINUSTAH. They were noticed everywhere. They established security barriers in the immediate perimeters of the polling centers and controlled vehicles and motorcycles. PNH officers were also deployed inside the polling centers. This deployment reinforced the confidence of the people who were voting. For example:

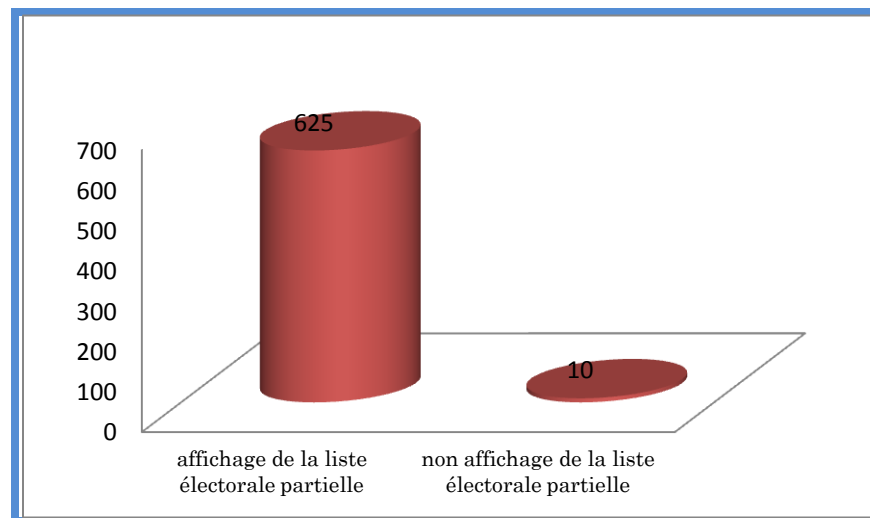
- At the polling center *Ecole Nationale de Bariadelle, Dame Marie*, Grand'Anse, the agents of **BIM** did not allow voters to stay in the school yard after they had finished voting.
- A former mayor and two former deputy candidates attempted to disrupt at polling center *Cœur Immaculé de Marie*, Northeast. The PNH intervened and restored calm.
- At polling center *Ecole Nationale de Jolitrou de la Grande Rivière du Nord*, North agents of the specialized forces of PNH intervened to subdue a group of individuals who were trying to disrupt the day.

Some cases of poor behavior by PNH agents did attract the attention of the Coalition. For example, at the polling center *Ecole Nationale de Plonquette, commune Dame Marie*, Grand'Anse, some PNH agents acted as orienters/guides to help voters find their names.

In addition, the CEP deployed *Electoral Security Agents* (ASE), which were noticed in the polling centers.

3. Display of Partial Electoral Lists

In 635 voting centers accounted for by the Coalition, the electoral list was posted in 625 polling centers, or 98.42%.



In an equally large percentage, voters found their names in the partial voters' lists posted but could not vote because their names were not on *Voter Verification Lists*. There are many examples. Here are a few examples:

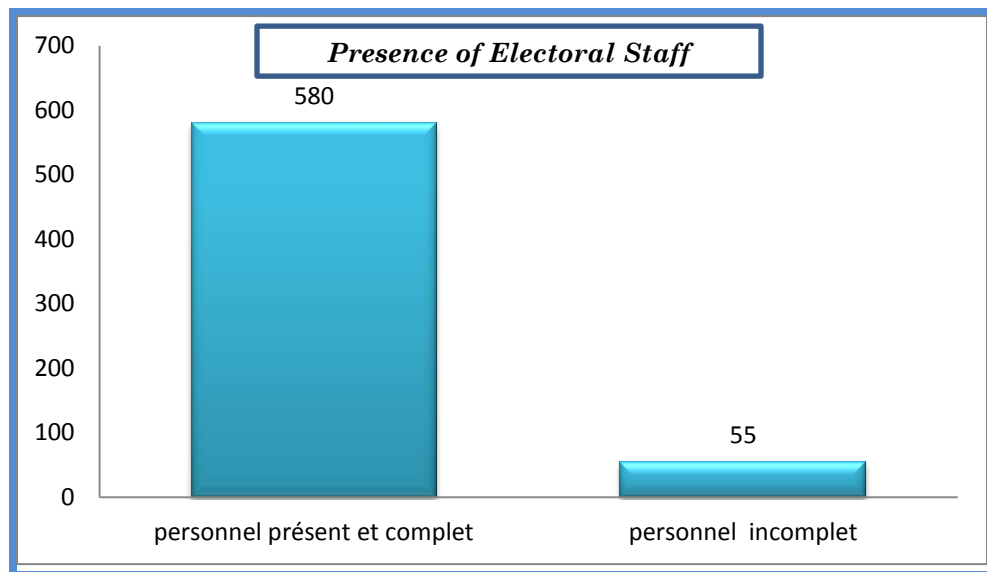
- Lycée Jean Jacques Dessalines, Port-au-Prince, West
- Centre Chester English de Carrefour-Feuilles, Port-au-Prince, West
- Fondation Cœur à Cœur, Carrefour-Feuilles, Port-au-Prince, West
- Ecole Virgine Sampeur, Champs de Mars, Port-au-Prince, West
- Ecole Notre Dame du Mont Carmel, Delmas, West
- Centre de vote Lycée National de Terrier Rouge, Northeast
- Centre de vote Ecole Externat St Joseph de Fort-Liberté, Northeast

In addition, at *polling station # 10 in polling center Ecole Nationale Horace Ethéart* approximately five (5) voters were unable to vote due to the fact that the photo printed on their *National Identification Card* (CIN) did not correspond with that found on *Voter Verification List*.

4. Electoral Personnel

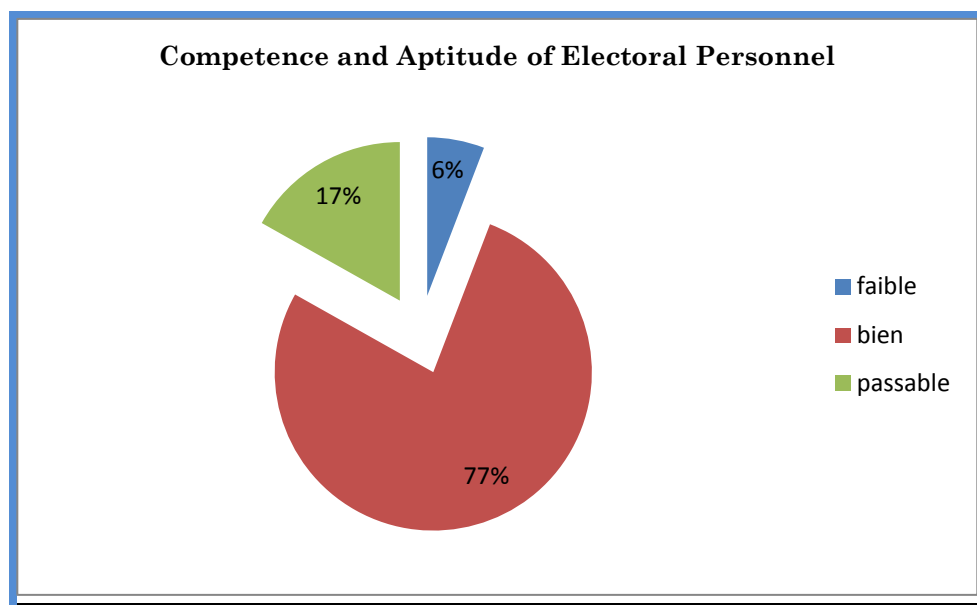
Estimated 91.33% of the electoral staff were present in the centers and polling stations. In 8.67% of the polling centers they were present, but not in full force. However, the members of the polling stations could not be replaced by the reservists until after 7.30 a.m. For example, at the

Lycée National de Fort-Liberté, Northeast, Supervisor Volinx PIERRE replaced two (2) polling station members who had not arrived at the scheduled time.



According to information gathered by the Coalition, election staff were deemed better trained and did performed well at a rate of 77%.

Supervisors conducted their supervisory work and ensured smooth running of the process in the polling centers. Members of the polling stations seemed to be more conscious of their duties. They paid attention to everything: the scoring of the received material, the exact counting of the ballots received, etc. They also took care sully the minutes.



According to the CEP, the quota of 30% of women was respected, and largely confirmed by observers that there was a fairly strong presence of women in the electoral system on election day.

However, some deviations and lack of attention from polling station members caught the attention of the Coalition. Here are some examples:

- In several polling centers, electoral staff started with the counting process in the absence of observers and agents. For some, not even all of the polling station members were present when the counting process started.
- At polling center *Lycée National Bernard Pierre-Louis*, several voters complained about the slowness of staff.
- At polling station # 4 of polling center *Ecole Baptiste de Pignon*, North one of the members, Sara CHARLES acted as proxy for the political party MRA. She even replied to the questions of the observers in place of the representative of the MRA Joacin ADELIN who could not even define the acronym of his party.
- At the order of the president in polling station # 12 du *Lycée Jean Jacques Dessalines, Grande Rivière du Nord*, North Jimson JEAN LOUIS, the proxy for political party LAPEH Rémy Marckenson PIERRE was made responsible for putting ink on the fingers of voters.
- At polling station # 1 of polling center *Lycée Jean Baptiste Cinéas, Limbé*, North, the members could not count, because they did not know where to start.
- At station # 4 of polling center *Centre d'Etudes de Pergame*, a voter saw that someone else, who had the same name as him had already voted for him. A report was drawn up to enable the voter to vote.

Other members of the polling stations exhibited downright unacceptable behavior. For example:

- Many polling station members across the country did not want to wear the CEP shirt.
- In the Central Department, a polling station member named Carl PARVELUS was noticed walking through the streets during polling hours.
- The secretary of polling station # 2 and the supervisor of polling center *Ecole Nationale les Irois*, Grand'Anse, allowed voters to stamp verifying themselves in order to speed up the process.
- At polling center *Ecole Nationale de Du Parc*, Miragoane, Nippes it was 4:30 in the morning when the ballots were all counted by the members of the polling stations. They did not want to start again for the observers, arguing that they had no time to lose.

- At polling center ***Chester English***, operations started before there was a secretary present in the center. He could not be replaced until 7 :30 in the morning.
- At polling center ***Fondation Cœur à Cœur, Carrefour-Feuilles, Port-au-Prince, West***, the members of the polling station were falling asleep because voters were not showing up.
- At polling center ***Ecole Nationale Mixte Mandou, Anse d'Hainault***, Grand'Anse, the partial electoral lists for station #2 and #3 were combined and posted only outside of station #2. For voters scheduled to vote in station #3, the list was simply not present. Many returned home without voting.

5. The Political Party Proxies

On polling day, political party proxies made noise in the polling centers and repeatedly attempted to disrupt. Were it not for the vigilance of PNH agents officers, ASE and center supervisors, several incidents would have had an impact on the voting. Here are some examples:

- At the polling center ***Ecole Nationale de Vigner***, West, a proxy associated with the political party ***Pitit Dessalines*** tried to stir up trouble. PNH intervened and was able to maintain order.
- ***At station # 4 of polling center Ecole Père Foisset, Delmas 63***, West, the proxies of PHTK and LAPEH were pressuring voters to vote in favor of their candidates.
- ***At station # 6 of polling center Ecole Nationale Tertulien Guilbaud, Belle-Air***, West, the proxies of political party ***Fanmi Lavalas*** and ***PHTK*** chanted the names of their candidates in order to influence voters. In the same polling station, the agent of the political party Fanmi Lavalas attempted to seize the presidential ballot box to begin counting the ballots before the closure of the office. Three (3) police officers had to intervene to arrest him.
- At polling center ***Lycée de Cabaret***, West, a proxy presented authorization from a former deputy candidate. He was refused entry.
- ***At polling center Ecole Nationale de Pernier, Carrefour Pernier***, West about ten (10) partisans of the political party VERITE were in possession of badges for supervisors. PNH seized the badges and expelled them from the polling center.
- ***At polling center Ecole Nationale République Etats-Unis, Turgeau***, West a proxy of political party ***Renmen Ayiti*** assigned to polling station # 3, had alcohol in his possession.
- At polling center ***Ecole Nationale de Chambellan***, Grand'Anse the proxies were positioned as close to the polling booths as Security Agents (ASE).

- At polling station # 8 of polling center ***Ecole Presbytérale de Ferrier***, Northeast the proxies of political party ***Fanmi Lavalas*** campaigned.
- At station # 9 et #12 of polling center EFACAP de ***Ouanaminthe***, Northeast the partisans of ***Fanmi Lavalas*** and ***PHTK*** quarreled several times. Each time, PNH agents intervened to disperse the partisans.
- At polling center EFACAP de ***Ouanaminthe***, Northeast Talambert JEAN-CLAUDE, proxy of ***Fanmi Lavalas***, was in possession of a false accreditation card. He was allowed to observe at polling station # 12. Challenged by the other proxies, he was subsequently expelled from the office and accompanied to the entrance of the center by PNH agents.
- At station # 1 of polling center ***Lycée National des Perches***, Northeast the proxies of political party ***Fanmi Lavalas*** and ***PHTK*** openly campaigned for their candidates.
- At the polling center located in ***Carice***, Northeast the proxies of multiple political parties campaigned openly for their candidates.

6. The Voters

The Coalition believes that in general, voters who traveled to vote on November 20, 2016, performed well on election day. Although it is true that the PNH was deployed throughout the country, without the cooperation of voters on election day, there would have been more incidences. However, there still were a few incidences brought to the attention of the Coalition. Here are some examples:

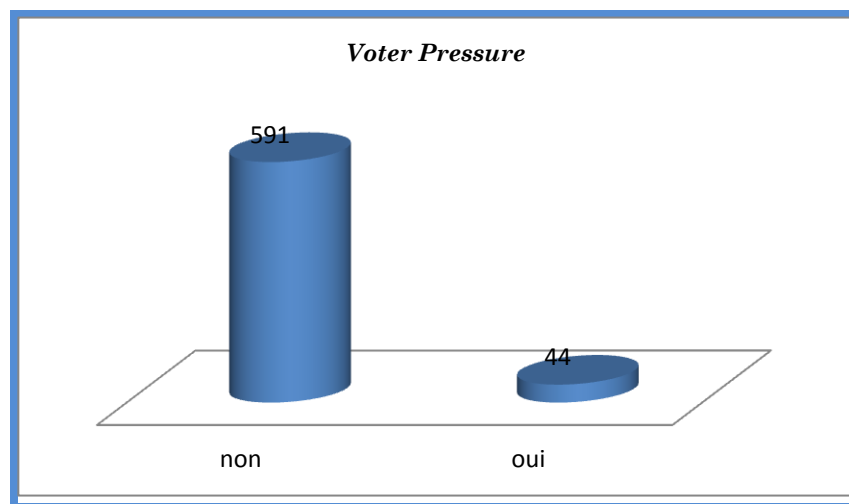
- Many voters, after voting, did not want to put the ink on their fingers. This had been observed in several voting centers. Here are four (4) examples:
 - At polling center ***Ecole Nationale de Filles, Dame Marie***, Grand'Anse
 - At station #3 of polling center ***Ecole Nationale de Christ-Roi, Anse d'Hainault***, Grand'Anse
 - At station # 3 of polling center ***Ecole Nationale de Dilaire***, Northeast.
 - At polling station # 27 of polling center ***Ecole Nationale de Pernier, Carrefour Pernier***, West
- In the Nippes department, voters were in cars and on motorcycles with images resembling Louberson VILSON, senatorial candidate and Maryse NARCISSE, presidential candidate of political party ***Fanmi Lavalas***. Others campaigned for ***Ptit Dessalines***' presidential candidate Moïse JEAN CHARLES.
- Alcoholic beverages were sold in front of polling centers and consumed on the premises of certain centers by voters. This was noted in the voting centers:
 - Ecole Nationale de Du Parc, Miragoane, Nippes
 - Ecole Nationale de Berkin, Miragoane, Nippes

- Eglise Catholique St Clair, Anse d'Hainault, Grand'Anse
- In **Dufailly, Boucan Carré**, Central Plateau, a voter in possession of a container of boiled bananas, was noticed distributing banana pieces to others, urging them to vote in favor of PHTK candidate Jovenel MOÏSE.
- At station # 47 of polling center **Ecole Nationale Tertulien Guilbaud, Bel-Air**, West, a voter partial **Fanmi Lavalas** encouraged other voters to vote for his candidate by chanting the name.
- In station # 3 of polling center **Ecole Nationale d'Haïti de Colette, Cayes**, South, several voters did not sign the **Voter Verification List** after voting.
- At the polling center in **Ouanaminthe**, Northeast Tibébé a well-known name close to **Fanmi Lavalas**, proceeded to distribute false badges enabling his friends to enter the polling stations in order to represent his party. This behavior provoked a fierce dispute between these false proxies and PHTK proxies. In station # 9 of the same center, an individual voted with his brother's card, disrupting the voting process for more than thirty (30) minutes.
- At the entrance of polling center **Ecole Nationale St Joseph de Fort Liberté** Northeast some close to **Fanmi Lavalas** and **PHTK** campaigned. They were exhibiting photographs of candidates Jean Baptiste BIEN AIMÉ and Jovenel MOÏSE.
- At station # 3 of polling center **Lycée National de Terrier Rouge**, Jean DELINX, after having voted, signed in the space reserved for the voter Jean DULINX. When the latter had come to vote, he discovered the error. Operations were disrupted in the office for more than 30 minutes. Before leaving the premises, Jean DULINX demanded that the president of the station in question provide him with minutes.
- Near the polling center **Lycée Paul Eugène Magloire**, Northeast sympathizers of PHTK, **Fanmi Lavalas**, **Pitit Dessalines** continued to campaign with photos of their candidates.
- In the courtyard of **Ecole Nationale de Chambellan**, Grand'Anse photos of senatorial candidate were noticed. In the same way photos of the senatorial candidate Andris RICHE, were noticed at the voting center **Ecole Nationale Les Irois**.
- At polling center **Ecole Nationale de Bariadelle, Dame Marie**, Grand'Anse the voters campaigned
- The director of **Direction des Affaires Sociales** des Nippes entered the polling center **Ecole Nationale de Du Parc, Miragoane**, Nippes with several cards on which were printed the presidential candidate Jovenel MOÏSE.
- At polling center **Ecole Nationale de Du Parc, Miragoane**, Nippes, throughout election day, there was the atmosphere of campaigning. Voters deliberately did not

use the polling booths to announce their votes so that everyone would know that they voted in favor of Jovenel MOÏSE.

- At least 36 brigade members were set-up in the courtyard of EFACAP of ***Ouanaminthe*** by Wisner FIDÈLE aka Jean Koko to influence the voters in favor of the candidates of the political party PHTK.
- ***At polling center Ecole Nationale de Minguette, Ennery***, Artibonite sympathizers and partisans of political parties distributed cards and money in the courtyard in order to influence the vote in favor of their candidates.

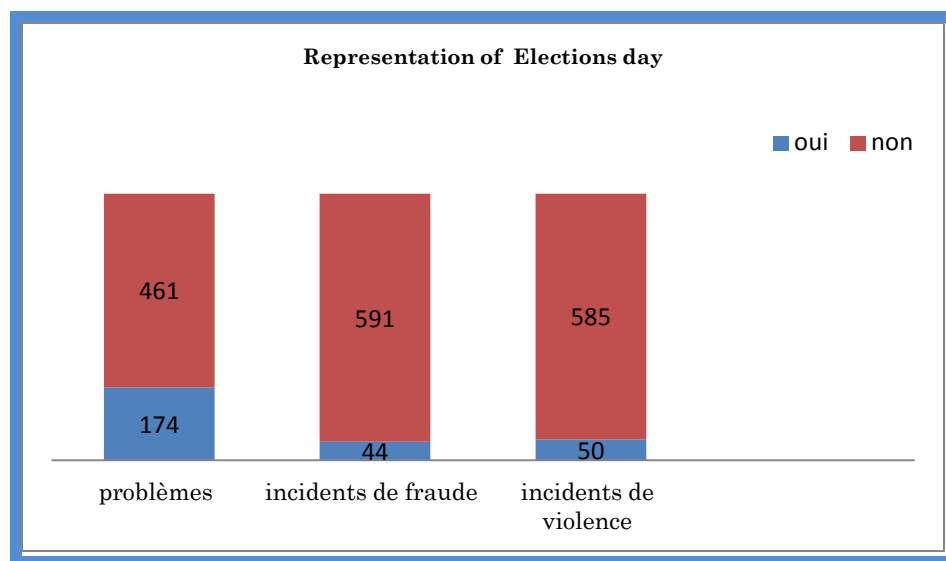
According to information gathered by the Coalition, by 591 observers, in 93.07% cases, there was no pressure was exerted on the voters to vote in one direction or another. However, 44 of them, or 6.93% cases, political party proxies as well as many voters exerted strong pressure on voters.



In the majority of cases, the pressure on voters throughout the countryside were carried out in support of presidential candidates Jovenel MOÏSE, Maryse NARCISSE et Moïse JEAN CHARLES. Less frequently was there pressure being given in support of other presidential candidates from other political parties.

VIII. Other Facts that Attracted the Attention of the Coalition

According to observers deployed by the Coalition, in 461 polling centers, 72.59% of the observed centers, there were no major problems during the voting process. In 591 voting centers, representing 93.07%, no incidents of violence were recorded and in 585, representing 92.12% no incidences of fraud were noted.



However, some facts have attracted the attention of the Coalition:

- On November 19, 2016, five (5) people were arrested in Camp-Perrin, South, in possession of 183 **National Identification Cards**. They include :

- Hénoch ARISMA
- Petro PHANEL
- Jilnes JOSEPH
- Ginette JOSEPH
- Jésula JOSEPH

These people were released by order of the Government Commissioner at the **Court of First Instance of Les Cayes**, Me Yvon PRADEL, because the mayor of **Camp-Perrin** commune, Henock TILUS, confessed to hiring these people to recover the identification cards of the victims of Hurricane Matthew, under the pretext that he was going to proceed with the distribution of humanitarian kits.

- Also in the South Department, on election day, three other people were arrested including :
 - Michelet THERMOFILS, 23 years old. He was arrested in the polling center **Ecole Nationale de Méridien de Torbeck** South, in possession of a accreditation badge of the political party LAPEH which displayed the information of Jean Gardy CHERESTAL, also of LAPEH.
 - Ausbens NOSILMAC, born on April 22, 1995, was arrested because he had in his possession a false accreditation badge of **Fanmi Lavalas**.
 - Getro PIERRE LOUIS, born January 25, 1993 was also arrested because he had in his possession a false accreditation badge of **Fanmi Lavalas**.

The accreditation badges of Ausbens NOSILMAC and of Getro PIERRE LOUIS had no resemblance to the badges granted by the CEP.

- At polling center ***Ecole Saint François de Salles de Don Bosco, Vertières, Cap-Haïtien***, North presidential and senatorial ballots who were holding votes for PHTK were discovered on November 21, 2016. The Coalition saw amongst them, ballots bearing the signatures of members of polling stations # 33, # 35 et # 46 presided over by, respectively, Denise PIERRE, Eddy MICHEL, Diana BRUNO et Carl Henry ACCIME.
- At polling center ***Lycée Antoine et Georges Izmerly***, West, an arrest was made.
- At station #1 of polling center EFACAP de ***Butète***, Nippes early in the morning, a ballot was already in the ballot box while the indelible ink bottle remained unopened. The members of that same station did not finish counting ballots.
- In ***Perches***, 7th section of ***Terrier Rouge***, Northeast, an individual was able to vote with the electoral card of another voter. He rushed out, but the card remained in the hands of PNH agents.
- Deputy Elience PETIT-FRERE elected under the banner of the political party ***Fanmi Lavalas***, accompanied by his brother Duchène PETIT-FRERE, himself a candidate in the Senate for the department of the Northeast, under the banner of the political party ***Pitit Dessalines***. Wanted to enter the polling center ***Lycée Paul Eugène Magloire***, Northeast, accompanied by several security agents.

PNH agents who were assuring the security of the polling center fired in the air creating chaos delaying the vote for 20 minutes. In addition, the security of a Deputy abused PNH agent Joseph JANVIER because he would not allow them to enter the polling center.

- At polling center ***Dilaire, Ouanaminthe***, Northeast, representatives of ***Fanmi Lavalas*** distributed false accreditation cards in order to be represented at the polling stations. In addition, Vladimir VALESTIN, Directeur of Customs ***Ouanaminthe***, forcefully entered the center accompanied by several individuals who were in two vehicles and began distributing money to voters, asking to vote in favor of ***Fanmi Lavalas*** presidential candidate Maryse NARCISSE. PNH agents had to intervene several times to restore calm to the center.
- The walls of polling center ***Ecole Nationale République Etats-Unis, Turgeau***, West were covered with posters of the candidate for the presidency of the political party LAPEH, Jude CELESTIN.

IX. Counting in the Polling Stations

According to observers deployed by the Coalition, at 96.37% stations the members of polling stations proceeded to count the votes in transparency and in compliance with the established rules. They showed the ballots each time, ensuring that the signatures were made and that the choice of the voters was clearly demonstrated.

The minutes with the complete kits were sealed in preparation to forward to the CEP. And according to the law, copies of the minutes were given to the candidates who were in the lead in the presence of observers.

However, it should be noted that in the polling centers of the metropolitan area, the counting took place in the darkness due to lack of electricity.

Moreover, contrary to article 164 of the Electoral Decree, which stipulates that "*Before the opening of ballot boxes, unused ballots are counted and deposited in the envelopes provided for this purpose. The envelopes shall be sealed, the number of ballots contained therein shall be entered on the envelope and in the minutes of count ...* ", unused ballot papers shall not be counted. In most cases, polling station members simply deduced the number of ballots used from the number of ballots received to determine the number of unused ballots

This article is important because it had been inserted in the decree to ensure that the information on the number of votes cast and the number of ballots used is accurate.

X. Counting at the Center for Vote Tabulation

The *Center for Vote Tabulation* (CTV) claimed to have received 11,875 of the 11,993 minutes of the presidency, 2,481 of the 2,521 minutes for the supplementary senatorial, 11,762 of eleven 11,993 for partial senatorial.

The CTV also claimed to have received 2,314 minutes of the 2,376 for the supplementary deputy and all 55 of the total of the minutes relating to the municipalities.

The CTV has a digitization and image processing unit that has been set up to monitor and process photos of the minutes transmitted by the supervisors of the polling centers. In addition, there is a control and compliance unit, consisting of approximately forty-one (41) auditors and working under the responsibility of two (2) lawyers, to verify the compliance of the data received in the electoral kits.

Despite the establishment of this great work team, the Coalition made several observations:

- The votes for which voters did not sign the ***Voter Verification List*** were tabulated. In some ***Voter Verification Lists***, only fingerprints were noticed, with no further voter information. These votes were also counted.
- The Coalition also noticed the introduction of the contingency report in the electoral kit, a tool that the electoral observation organizations were not aware of. According to the CTV officials, these minutes are created for use in polling centers in case for some reason the regular report was been damaged. At least two (2) contingency minutes were noted by the Coalition, including one (1) for the Department of the West, numbered ST75221 and the other for the Artibonite Department, numbered PR83805. It should be emphasized that several representatives of political parties

have accused the Director of the CTV for personally introducing the minutes of contingency, which was not even known by several electoral councilors.

- In addition, in violation of the ***CEP rules on the processing of minutes*** drawn up by this electoral body, the electoral kits received from the polling centers were not systematically opened by the CTV. Those who showed no erasures or changes and which were readable were directly recorded. However, this does not guarantee the integrity of the minutes.
- Twenty-two (22) percent of the minutes that were considered irregular by the Data Entry Team were transferred to the Compliance Monitoring Unit. Many have been accounted for.

XI. Proclamation of Preliminary Results

On 28 November 2016, exactly eight (8) days after the ballot, the CEP presented its preliminary results for the presidential elections. The results for the top five (5):

Candidate	Vote	Political Party	# of votes	%
Jovenel	MOÏSE	PHTK	595.430	55.67 %
Jude	CELESTIN	LAPEH	208.837	19.52 %
Moïse	JEAN-CHARLES	Pitit Dessalines	118.142	11.04 %
Maryse	NARCISSE	Fanmi Lavalas	96.121	8.99 %
Jean Henry	CEANT	Renmen Ayiti	8.075	0.75 %

C. Third Section

XII. General Comments and Recommendations

On November 20, 2016, taking into account the pre-electoral situation and general sociopolitical context, acceptable elections were held in all respects in the country.

The decisions of the electoral body to cancel the votes on the minutes, to set up a supplementary list of voters to allow those who had to travel on election day to vote, and to print accreditation badges with information regarding the individual did eliminate a number of problems. In addition, the electoral materials were good quality and in sufficient quantity. The polling booths ensured the secrecy of the vote, except in cases where they were misplaced. The ink used to mark the fingers of voters who had already voted was indeed indelible. The partial electoral list was posted in 98.42% of the polling stations observed by the Coalition.

In general, all voting centers opened later than planned. However, this delay had no impact on voter turnout, as it was very low. According to the Coalition, voter participation was 21%.

In general, the legal time for the closure of the voting centers had been respected. In rare cases, voters were still in line at the closure. However, they were all entitled to vote.

As a general rule, the spaces reserved for the polling stations were spacious. The voters felt that they received a better reception and greater respect from the electoral institution.

The electoral population generally performed well on election day. Although campaigning did occur, it should be noted that all voters wanted the elections to happen peacefully. However, the Coalition does not feel that the Haitian people are sufficiently aware of human rights principles such as tolerance and respect. Voters used all sorts of strategies to campaign on election day in favor of their candidates, which is contrary to Election Laws.

For their part, PNH agents provided remarkable work, occupying the streets, intervening when necessary and securing the entire population. The PNH, once again, has proved its professionalism and cooperation, hence the importance of it not being politicized.

A total of forty-three (43) people were arrested. Several of them had in their possession batches of National Identification Cards while others held false political party accreditation badges.

The electoral staff was better trained and more present at the rate of 91.1% at the polling stations. They provided a 77% satisfactory job as estimated by the Coalition. It should be emphasized, however, that much remains to be done, particularly among the members of the polling stations who have, in many respects, given the impression of being overwhelmed by the tasks at hand.

Proxies of political parties misbehaved on election day. They continued to systematically campaign, giving the impression they had been directed to do so. It should be emphasized, however, that these proxies, as well as the supporters and sympathizers who exerted pressure on voters on election day were all from the political parties PHTK, LAPEH, Fanmi Lavalas and Pitit Dessalines. Moreover, their pressure was mainly on the election of presidential candidates.

The Coalition noted a weak presence of proxies at polling stations, unlike previous elections. The political parties that had a stronger presence of proxies were LAPEH, PHTK, Fanmi Lavalas, Pitit Dessalines and Renmen Ayiti.

The Coalition considers that the problems, incidents of fraud and incidents of violence recorded on November 20, 2016, assessed by the Coalition at 27.4%, 6.45% and 7.87% respectively, did not have a direct impact on the vote. Each time, the electoral staff was presented with a challenge, they were able to resume voting.

The Coalition continues to believe it unacceptable that close to 3% of the polling centers were installed in private homes and houses belonging to CASEC. They are the properties of people who have political connections, and also are political figures who are affiliated to a political party.

Moreover, the Coalition believes that the political parties that were involved on election day, through their proxies, exhibited the desire to disrupt voting. Several cases of political party proxies campaigning on election day or lobbying voters were reported to the Coalition. The political parties most cited in these cases were PHTK, LAPEH, Fanmi Lavalas, Pitit Dessalines, Renmen Ayiti and to a lesser extent, Bouclier.

The Coalition believes that the behavior of political party proxies is a direct reflection of the party that they were representing.

The Coalition regrets the mistake suffered by the Archaie PHTK candidate, Joseph Lucien JURA who was penalized because his photo was printed on the ballots in Jérémie.

It is deplorable that a large part of the population could not vote.

On the one hand, there are many voters who did not find their information on the Voter Verification List while their names were on the Partial Electoral List (LEP). In this regard, the Coalition considers that the electoral institution should concentrate on definitively resolving the problems encountered regarding the voters' lists. Voter identification remains a problem which need to be solved.

On the other hand, there were also numerous victims of Hurricane Matthew who were unable to take part in the elections for lack of a national identification card. The promises made by the CEP and the ONI to this effect were not been fulfilled. Several of them showed up at their usual polling center with the loss report card provided by the ONI. But they were not allowed to vote.

PNH agents, political party proxies and electoral observers were also unable to vote, either because the Complementary Electoral List were not sent to the polling centers or because it was poorly used by members of polling stations. Still, many of the center supervisors approached by the Coalition said they had not even heard of this complementary list.

On Vote Tabulation

The Coalition believes that the CEP has doubled its efforts to publish the results of the elections as promised. It also believes that the Center for Vote Tabulation (CTV) has worked more transparently, especially since the Director of the Center always provided explanation to observers and proxies on the steps of the process or any other issue.

The Coalition asks that political parties submit their electoral disputes regarding the preliminary results published by the CEP before established authorities. And, to choose legal and peaceful ways to assert their rights and interests.

Lastly, the Coalition strongly believes that since the creation of this current CEP, they have made every effort to create transparency in various stages of the electoral process.

From the report above, the Coalition recommends to the CEP to:

- *Make the Partial Electoral Lists and Voter Verification Lists identical so as not to prevent voters from voting.*

- *Meticulously investigate quarantined reports in the CTV, identify the names of polling station members and electoral staff who have violated the electoral rules and the code of ethics. In those cases where violations are found, to apply sanctions.*
- *Judge and convict voters and proxies of political parties who are guilty of electoral fraud.*
- *Develop objective criteria for the selection and rejection of minutes processed.*
- *Ensure that electoral staff respect the rules of the CTV in particular and the CEP in general.*