# National Network for the Defense of Human Rights (RNDDH)



Covid-19 in Haiti: Support for detention and detention centers is insufficient

This report was published in the framework of the project «THE GOOD LAW: Support to the construction of a more democratic society in Haiti, by the strengthening of the rule of law and the defense of the principle of legality against all violations of the rights of persons deprived of liberty», numbered EIDHR/2019/412-422, implemented with the co-financing of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the RNDDH and cannot in any case be considered to reflect the position of the European Union.

# Summary

	Pages
I. INTRODUCTION	2
II. METHODOLOGY	2
III. SITUATION IN THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT RETENTION CENTERS	3
a) Police Station of Port-au-Prince	3
b) Police station of Pétion-Ville	3
c) Police Station of Delmas 33	4
d) Police Station of Croix-des-Bouquets	4
e) Police Station of of Fonds-Verrettes	4
f) Police Station of Carrefour	5
g) Police Station of Gressier	5
h) Police Station of Léogane	5
i) Police station of Grand-Goâve	6
j) Police Station of Petit-Goâve	6
k) Police Station of Cabaret	6
I) Police Station of l'Arcahaie	6
IV. SITUATION IN THE PRISONS OF THE WEST DEPARTMENT	7
a) Adoption of a contingency plan by PAD	7
b) Port-au-Prince Civil Prison	8
c) Rehabilitation Centre for Minors in Conflict with the Law (CERMICOL)	8
d) Croix-des-Bouquets Civil Prison	9
e) Carrefour Civil Prison	9
f) Cabaret Civil Prison	10
g) Arcahaie Civil Prison	10
V. COORDINATION OF ACTIONS AGAINST COVID-19 WITH	
OFFICIALS OF THE JUDICIARY	11
VI. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	11

## **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. On March 19, 2020, the Haitian authorities announced at a press conference have officially discovered two (2) cases of people with COVID-19<sup>1</sup> in Haiti. This discovery, they say, automatically moves the country to Phase II of pandemic management Covid-19.
- 2. In this regard, a presidential decree was adopted on the same day declaring a state of health emergency on the national territory, renewing and/or strengthening the measures already announced during the COVID-19 pandemic management phase I. Indeed, in addition to the establishment of a curfew on the national territory from 20 hours to 5 hours, the following measures were also ordered:
  - The closure of schools, religious spaces, airports and borders;
  - The supply to hospitals and health centers, masks, gloves, drugs, solutes and all other necessary medical devices;
  - The containment of citizens and the restriction of travel;
  - Social distancing;
  - Quarantine for people from high-risk areas.
- 3. Since then, the number of cases of Covid-19 has steadily increased and, the National Human Rights (RNDDH), particularly concerned by the situation, has made it its duty to observe the operation of certain detention and detention centers in order to analyze implementation and the applicability of the above measures.
- 4. The following report presents the various remarks made by the RNDDH.

#### II. METHODOLOGY

- 5. On 23, 24 and 25 of March 2020, monitoring teams were deployed in the field to visit the police stations and prisons located in the West Department.
- 6. A total of twelve (12) police stations and the six (6) prisons in the department have been monitored. This are the police stations of Port-au-Prince, Pétion-ville, Delmas 33, Croix-des-Bouquets, Fonds-Verrettes, Carrefour, Gressier, Léogane, Grand-Goâve, Petit-Goâve, Cabaret and Arcahaie. Moreover, the CERMICOL as well as the civil prisons of Port-au-Prince, Croix-des-Bouquets, Carrefour, Cabaret and Arcahaie were visited.

<sup>1</sup> Covid-19 is an English acronym meaning coronavirus disease 2019. Covid-19 refers to a disease infectious caused by a contagious strain of coronavirus called SARS-CoV-22 with human-to-human transmission via respiratory droplets or by touching contaminated surfaces and then touching his face. Symptoms the most common of Covid-19 are fever, cough and difficulty breathing, which in its most acute form can cause acute respiratory distress which may result in death of the patient

7. The heads of these institutions were met and, in compliance with the rules of distancing social, some retention spaces examined.

#### III. SITUATION IN THE WEST DEPARTMENT RETENTION CENTERS

- 8. In general, those in charge of the offices visited as part of this monitoring work appeared to be sufficiently aware of the disease, its high level of contagion, virulence and lethality. Most had access to this information through the press and social networks. Some also expressed great concern about the fact that police officers are exposed, as they often manage crowds. Protection measures have therefore been taken.
- 9. However, RNDDH noted that these measures are disparate and vary from one office to the other, hence the importance of presenting the particular situation of each of these places of detention visited.

#### a) Police station of Port-au-Prince

- 10. At the Port-au-Prince police station, officials decided to:
  - Close the Loss of Records complaints section due to the fact that the statements of loss are generally motivated by the interest in submitting a file to the immigration and Emigration, currently closed;
  - Place two (2) hand-washing stations, one at the station entrance and one at the entrance offices of the secretariat of the responsible. The buckets were received from the Town Hall of Port-au-Prince;
  - Decrease the number of arrests, especially those without documents to influence the number of persons in custody;
  - Regularly spray the various locks of the building with chlorinated water.
- 11. In addition, awareness sessions with the officers assigned to this office were they were invited to wash their hands regularly.

12. For its part, the guard of sight, which had thirty-four (34) detained at the opening of the register of the day, had only twenty-three (23) of them at the time of the RNDDH's visit, eleven (11) persons arrested because of the failure to comply with government decisions to combat the spread of Covid-19 was extracted by the Prosecutor's Office at the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince.

# b) Police station of Pétion-ville

- 13. At the entrance to the office of the Chief of Post of the Pétion-ville police station, a hand-washing stand is available. In addition, according to the official, the Office of the Commissioner has received assistance from both state institutions and of individuals:
  - Buckets with integrated taps of the Departmental Directorate of the West of the PNH, some individuals and the Town Hall of Petion-Ville;
  - Chlorine and hand cleaning gels from the logistics department of the PNH and the office of the first lady.
- 14. Awareness sessions were conducted with the PNH officers assigned to the audit police station and regular cleaning measures of holding cells and offices were adopted.
- 15. These frequent cleanings have had a positive impact on the security police station in Pétionville which, unlike the police station in Port-au-Prince, no longer smells nauseous and has an acceptable aspect of cleanliness.
- 16. On March 23, 2020, at the beginning of the morning, thirteen (13) persons were detained, including four (4) church leaders and three (3) supermarket leaders. They were called upon to failure to comply with government provisions to protect the public from the Covid-19 pandemic then extracted the day of the RNDDH's visit by the Public Prosecutor at the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince.

#### C) Police station of Delmas 33

At the police station of Delmas 33, a handwashing station is available at the entrance of the office of the chief of position. This is the only observation that it has been possible for the RNDDH to make, the persons in charge have not been available for a meeting of exchanges, because they are involved, according to them, in the implementation of various measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

# d) Police Station of Croix-des-Bouquets

- 17. The Police Station of Croix-des-Bouquets has installed two (2) mandatory hand washing devices one at the entrance to the building and the other, upstairs, near the administrative offices. The officers of the PNH who are assigned to it are invited to respect the social distance of one meter fifty (1m50) both for exchanges between them only for exchanges with members of the population.
- 18. In addition, having been able to benefit from an awareness session of the Ministry of Public Health and Public, police officers share with each other the rules and measures in place to avoid the spread of virus.
- 19. However, the monitoring of the RNDDH revealed that the Croix-des-Bouquets station has no glove or protective mask. It also does not have gel hydro-alcoholic or quarantine space.
- 20. No person was in custody during the RNDDH visit.

# e) Police Station of Fonds-Verrettes

- 21. At the entrance to the police station of Fonds-Verrettes is installed a compulsory hand washing stand with chlorinated water. This is the only effective measure taken by the police station that has no gloves, no protective masks, hand cleaning gel, or quarantine space.
- 22. Officials complain that the population of Fonds-Verrettes is not informed at all of the disease, because the radio stations of Port-au-Prince do not broadcast in the area. The community systematically rejects social distancing measures and does not respect curfew by the government authorities. Now, Fonds-Verrettes is a border area of forty thousand (40,000) population, which, however, has only a first-aid clinic, totally destitute.
- 23. Three (3) individuals were in custody at the Fonds-Verrettes police station during the visit monitoring of the RNDDH. They were arrested for robbery and rape.

#### f) Carrefour Police Station

- 24. At the entrance to the Carrefour police station there is a handwashing point. The said he had received three (3) buckets from the PNH Departmental Directorate of the West. He kept one for the police station he heads and forwarded the others to the sub-commissariats of Saint-Charles and Rails. The police station also received two (2) bags of mufflers from the Carrefour only a unit of cleaning wipes.
- 25. Upon the visit of the RNDDH, the Office of the Commissioner had a staff of eight (8) selected. Several of them should have been referred by the judicial authorities but, contacted by

telephone by the Commissioner, the latter claimed not to take seat because of the Covid-19.

26. According to officials at the Carrefour police station, the public is not respecting curfew. However, they are unable to arrest offenders because of the lack of security clearance. However, they were forced to close two (2) security night located at Lamentin 54.

# g) Gressier Police Station

- 27. According to information gathered by the RNDDH, the Gressier City Council, the Protection Department Civil (DPC) with judicial and police authorities conducted awareness sessions through the media.
- 28. The Office of the Commissioner subsequently acquired an ordinary bucket without faucet or lid that is placed at the entrance, in order to invite people using the space to wash the hands. They also, at their expense, procured a box of mufflers.
- 29. Three (3) persons were in custody during the RNDDH visit.

# h) Léogane Police Station

- 30. The Léogane police station received four (4) buckets with taps from the Direction of Departmental West of the National Police of Haiti. He kept one (1) and the other three (3) were distributed to the Anacaona, Dufort and Trouin.
- 31. In addition, an individual donated a few masks to the Office of the Commissioner. However, unlike to some others, he did not receive any training sessions or brochures from awareness raising of officials.
- 32. At the time of the RNDDH's visit, six (6) persons were in custody.

# i) Police station of Grand-Goâve

- 33. At the entrance of the police station of Grand-Goâve they installed a handwashing station. This Police station received two (2) buckets of the DDO of the PNH. One (1) of them was forwarded to the sub-police station of the city.
- 34. According to the Office of the Commissioner, the City Hall conducted awareness sessions mass in the streets of Grand-Goâve. However, the agents assigned in the commune, who were able also glean some information scattered by press, are not sufficiently sensitized about the

#### Covid-19.

- 35. The Office of the Commissioner received no protective equipment or hydro-alcoholic gel.
- 36. No holdback was found by the RNDDH during its monitoring visit.

# j) Police station of Petit-Goâve

- 37. The Petit-Goâve police station converted into a prison welcomes a prison population of one hundred and seventy-five (175) detainees of whom twenty-three (23) are convicted. Nine (9) of them suffer from tuberculosis. Due to the fact that several other inmates as well as staff symptoms, HTW conducted a tuberculosis screening on March 25, 2020. From plus, at least one (1) courier tested positive for tuberculosis.
- 38. In a single cell that can accommodate a maximum of five (5) persons, are incarcerated ninety-one (91) detainees.
- 39. The Office of the Commissioner has received five (5) buckets of the DDO from the HNP and other partners and soap. In addition, DAP shipped a bucket of chlorine grain, six (6) gallons of liquid chlorine and one gallon of disinfectant. Police officers also have mouthpieces.
- 40. The Office of the Commissioner received provisions to provide inmates with one meal per day, during five (5) days.

#### k) Police Station of Cabaret

41. At the entrance to the Cabaret police station is a bucket of chlorinated water and soap. The an initiative of the Office of the Commissioner, which to date has not received any protective equipment from the authorities.

#### 1) Police Station of Arcahaie

- 42. A hand washing station is installed at the entrance of the Arcahaie police station, on the initiative of the Haitian Red Cross which also provided chlorine and soap to the police station.
- 43. On March 22, 2020, an awareness meeting was organized by the district unit public health, the Town Hall and the police.
- 44. No protective equipment was received by police station office.

#### IV. SITUATION IN THE PRISONS OF THE WEST DEPARTMENT

- 45. As of March 23, 2020, the Haitian prison space welcomes a total of eleven thousand hundred and ten (11,110) persons, including eight thousand three hundred and twenty (8,320) in prolonged preventive detention and only two thousand seven hundred and ninety (2,790) sentenced. The insecurity that has been set up as a system for several months already had a great impact on the functioning of the Haitian judicial system and, consequently, on the legal situation of detainees. Indeed, the rate of preventive detention which, at the opening of the current judicial year 2019-2020 was 72.37%, has increased in five (5) months, from October 2019 to March 2020, at 74.88%.
- 46. The detainees already lived in a great promiscuity. Indeed, the Haitian prison space is able to receive only a quarter of its current population, already without considering the standards international detention, requiring 4,250 per detainee. This promiscuity therefore tends to repeat as more people are incarcerated.

# a) Adoption of a contingency plan by DAP to combat Covid-19

- 47. Prison authorities aware of the living conditions of the prison population stated RNDDH work to avoid as much as possible, the entry of Covid-19 in prison. They have by therefore, adopted a contingency plan. This plan was developed with the involvement of institutions usually operating in prisons. This is Health Canada's Through Walls, International Narcotic Ans Law-enforcement (INL), Ministry of Public Health and population, the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) and the Directorate General of Police National of Haiti. This contingency plan advocates, among other things:
  - Raising awareness among DAP staff and inmates around Covid-19;
  - The establishment of hand-washing stations with chlorinated water in all prisons of the countries;
  - Screening of DAP staff and new inmates admitted;
  - The revision of the arrangements for visits to prisons;
  - The development of four (4) detention center, one (1) center per region, in detention centers in charge of inmates with Covid-19;
  - Quarantine and administrative segregation, particularly for new inmates.
- 48. It was also decided, as part of the implementation of this plan, to:
  - Replenish or supply prisons with food, condiments and propane gas for three (3) months;
  - Restrict the reception of certain foods brought by parents such as salads;
  - Clean all prison cells with chlorinated water.
- 49. What about the implementation of this contingency plan?

## b) Port-au-Prince Civil Prison

- 50. At the Civil Prison of Port-au-Prince, the number, as of March 24, 2020, was three thousand six hundred fifteen (3,615) inmates, three hundred and ninety-one (391) convicted.
- 51. The prison authorities stated that they had received awareness leaflets from the DAP and a case containing two hundred (200) units of mufflers. In addition, the NGO Health Through Walls offered twenty (20) buckets for hand washing and chlorine, which facilitated the installation of five (5) hand-washing stations at the entrance to the said prison, at the office of the head of post, at the dispensary, at the archives and not far from the manager's offices.
- 52. In addition, upon admission, new inmates will be kept under observation for a period of fourteen (14) days in a cell assigned for this purpose.
- 53. At the prison dispensary, other than the mandatory hand-washing facility, no concrete measures have yet been adopted because the sick is crammed like sardines.
- 54. Deprived of recreation, inmates of the civil prison of Port-au-Prince receive only one meal a day and are only allowed to come out of their cells for bathing.
- 55. Informed by radio of the risks of the spread of Covid-19, the detainees demanded protection as well as gels and cleaning wipes. They object to the fact that they are deprived of and that they receive only one meal a day.
- 56. A situation of tension becomes a little more palpable every day. Already two (2) acts of rebellion were registered on 22 and 23 of March 2020.
  - On 22 of March 2020, a DAP agent, Yves-Marie PIERRE, was physically assaulted by a detained Sydney EREL, at the level of Hall 5;
  - On 23 of March 2020, at least six (6) detainees know Vildor BRUN, Ligène PIERRE, Junior JOCELYN, Luckson JEAN LOUIS, Jonal VERDENA and Sydney EREL, launched feces in the direction of three (3) officers assigned to the prison, answering the names of Jeffté PYRAM, Zacharie JOSEPH and Mackendy AURELUS. They were also attacked in Hall 5.
- 57. If prison personnel are sensitized to the minimum distance of one meter and fifty (1.50 m), this measure is not strictly respected both in their relations with the outside world and in their relations with other persons assigned to the said prison.

# c) Rehabilitation Center for Minors in Conflict with the Law (CERMICOL)

- 58. As of 24 March 2020, the prison population of the Rehabilitation Center for Minors in Conflict with the Law (CERMICOL) was fifty-five (55) minors incarcerated at the rate of eleven (11) or twelve (12) per cell of which forty-eight (48) are in remand and seven (7) are convicted.
- 59. CERMICOL has received, in the same way as the civil prison of Port-au-Prince, pamphlets of awareness around the spread of Coronavirus and awareness sessions were conducted with the miners.
- 60. The DAP has passed verbal instructions to prohibit the visits of parents, the admission of new detainees as well as the extraction of detainees.
- 61. The City of Delmas provided CERMICOL with three (3) buckets with integrated faucets, which facilitated the establishment of four (4) mandatory hand washing stations at the entrance to the prison, at the prison registry, at the level of detention and near the dispensary.
- 62. In addition to these measures, CERMICOL officials intend to place inmates who play the role of collectors, in a special cell due to the fact that they are in contact with the outside. They also intend to require washing of the food bowls brought by the parents, before their admission in the walls of the prison.
- 63. However, despite these measures, officials remain very concerned. The operation is not sufficient and to date, the masks and gloves they hold were stored to be used during the excavations and cleaning of the cells. Therefore, they may soon be broken of stock.
- 64. In addition, according to CERMICOL, food management remains a challenge. DAP can only supply the said center for a period of two (2) weeks, without the products for the preparation of breakfast. Because of this, they may not be able to provide soon, only one meal a day to the inmates.

#### d) Civil Prison of Croix-des-Bouquets

65. Due to the fact that only DDP officers and personnel assigned to the civilian prison of the Croix-des-Bouquets can introduce the virus into the holding space, preventive measures have been taken by the prison, including mandatory hand washing. In this sense, four (4) chlorinated water bucket stations were installed respectively at the prison entrance, in the room in the kitchen and in the common detention area.

- 66. However, agents do not have face masks, gloves, chlorine or cleaning gel for the hands.
- 67. During the RNDDH monitoring visit, the prison had a staff of one thousand four hundred and sixteen (1.416) inmates including four hundred and ninety-one (491) sentenced. Since March 23, 2020, the officials have been given the verbal order from the DAP not to admit any new detainees. They must not no more follow-up on orders for judicial extraction.

## e) Carrefour Civil Prison

- 68. The number of inmates in the Carrefour Civil Prison is seventy-nine (79), of whom forty-three (43) are in preventive detention and thirty-six (36) are sentenced, all in three (3) cells. They therefore evolve, in a great promiscuity and are only allowed to leave their cell to take their bath.
- 69. The prison still faces the same challenges: insufficient food, lack of cleaning products, cellular overcrowding, etc.
- 70. If in the other prisons visited, hand washing with chlorinated water is mandatory, in the civil prison of Carrefour, it was only at the start of the delegation that an ordinary bucket of water was placed in order to invite people using space, washing their hands.
- 71. To carry out their work, the officers of the DAP and the personnel assigned to this prison do not have no mask, glove, hand cleanser, or medication.

#### f) Cabaret Civil Prison

- 72. At the time of the RNDDH visit, the Cabaret Civil Prison had a staff of two hundred and forty-five (245) detainees including thirty-four (34) convicted. At the entrance, awareness pamphlets on the Covid-19 are displayed on the wall. A box of protective masks is available at the reception, for the agents and gloves are also distributed to them. The wearing of the protective mask by the agents is mandatory.
- 73. The prison has received from the prison administration a case containing eighteen (18) boxes of ten (10) gloves each, one (1) box of mufflers and two (2) five (5) gallon buckets of chlorine. In addition, on March 22, 2020, an awareness session was conducted with the officers by the Regional Head of LDD.
- 74. Extractions and receptions of new detainees and visits by relatives are prohibited.

- 75. Six (6) hand-washing stations are located at different points in the prison. However, the Buckets do not have faucets.
- 76. The greatest concern of those in charge of this prison is that the dormitory is constituted an open hall, which therefore does not facilitate respect in custody, minimum distance or management of contagious diseases.

# g) Arcahaie Civil Prison

- 77. At the time of the RNDDH's visit, the Arcahaie civil prison held ninety-six (96) condemned.
- 78. As the prison did not receive any support from the authorities, only one (1) washing station is installed at the main entrance to it by the agents themselves, sensitized through the press and by social media. It is, however, one (1) regular bucket without a built-in faucet.
- 79. Visits are prohibited. The food depot is almost empty because the food supply DAP continues to be random.

# V. COORDINATION OF ACTIONS AGAINST COVID-19 WITH OFFICIALS OF THE JUDICIARY

- 80. The Public Prosecutor at the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince has asked the civil prison of Port-au-Prince to prepare the detailed list of prisoners who are incarcerated there;
- 81. The Public Prosecutor's Office of the Court of First Instance of the Croix-des-Bouquets requested a room at the level of the prison, for the establishment of an ad hoc court, in particular because of the fact that the DAP prohibits the judicial extraction of detainees.
- 82. The civil prison of Cabaret also put, at the request of the Courts of First Instance of Port-au-Prince and of the Croix-des-Bouquets, a room at the disposal of Justice for the hearing and/or judgment of detainees. Those in charge of this prison claim to be able to make other rooms available to the judiciary, if necessary.

#### VI. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

83. This monitoring work was carried out in twelve (12) of the police stations as well as in the six (6) prisons located in the department of the West, therefore, a priori, close to state officials who announced a set of measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in Haiti.

84. The geographical position of the police and prison institutions supervised by the RNDDH should normally have made it easier for them to access protective equipment. However, a week later, that the state authorities have declared a state of health emergency and enacted a series of measures, the RNDDH findings reveal that:

# a) The measures adopted in police stations and prisons are disparate

- 85. PAD Management has a contingency plan that takes into account three (3) levels intervention to prevent the entry into prison of Covid-19, to prevent its spread if ever a New inmate was ill and provide necessary medical assistance to inmates with Covid-19, if applicable.
- 86. Officers and civilian staff assigned to prisons are not considered. However, they use public transit and are called back home to return to their places of work the next day. Due to the virulence and lethality of Covid-19, they should have of protective equipment such as masks, gloves, in sufficient quantity.
- 87. To date, no intervention plan for the staff assigned to the various police stations of the Department of the West or even to assist persons under police custody, is not known.
- 88. In addition, some police stations have installed several mandatory handwashing points. Others have fewer or none at all. Cleanup measures are not the same at all the police stations visited. Some officials like those of the police station of Pétion-ville, require regular and frequent cleaning up to three (3) times a day. Others are content with the rules usual cell cleaning.
- 89. In some police stations visited by RNDDH, buckets with integrated taps, gloves and mufflers have been distributed by the police, certain town halls and / or by individuals. Awareness sessions were also carried out by the Ministry of Public Health and Population or by PNH officials for the benefit of certain police officers. However, other police stations have not received any protective equipment and the officers assigned to them have not been made aware of behaviors to avoid getting Covid-19. In several others, these are the officials and the agents who themselves buy muffler boxes and buckets for installation compulsory hand washing points.
- 90. This comparison can also be made at the level of the six (6) prisons located in the West department. Indeed, if at all prisons, compulsory hand washing points are installed, the fact remains that their number does not take into account the prison population or even the number of DAP agents and prison staff.
- 91. Similarly, the orders are not similar with regard to the management of new detainees. By example, in CERMICOL as well as in the civil prisons of Croix-des-Bouquets and Cabaret, it is

prohibited from receiving new detainees while in others, such as the civil prison of Port-au-Prince, a fortnight cell is planned to welcome new arrivals. For its part, the Arcahaie Civil Prison has received no such order.

92. Furthermore, prisons face the challenges they generally face. These tend to be exacerbated and if the renewal of food stocks, water supply and in drugs not done regularly, Covid-19 may cause situations of tension in prisons.

# b) The protective equipment offered to police stations and prisons is not sufficient

93. Several authorities as well as individuals offer materials to police stations and prisons including buckets, mufflers, gloves, hydro-alcoholic gels and cleaning wipes. These materials are distributed according to the capacities of these bodies or individuals. So there follows a situation of confusion which risks favoring an unequal treatment of these institutions, one vis-à-vis the other or to allow certain materials to be available in quantity at a level same institution, and others, no. However, the use of space, the number of people received by agents' exposure to external contacts are all factors that must be analyzed for good distribution of protective equipment.

# c) Promiscuity in police custody and in prisons risks promoting the spread of Covid-19

- 94. The detainees and the detainees are very crowded and are therefore extremely exposed to the spread of any contagious disease, as long as it is introduced into their space. Poorly lit, insufficiently lit police and detention cells airy, designed to receive two (2) to ten (10) people welcome significantly more. This is the case with example of the civil prisons of Carrefour and Port-au-Prince.
- 95. However, the police station of Petit-Goâve converted into prison, today represents a torture center. All the inmates who are incarcerated there are potential TB patients. Police officers are also highly exposed to this highly contagious disease. However, according to doctors and infectious disease specialists, people whose immune system is affected remain and remain one of the vulnerable groups in relation to the spread of Covid-19. Among them are people with tuberculosis.

# d) Detention and holding spaces are not sufficiently cleaned

96. The RNDDH considers it regrettable that today, the majority of the spaces of retention and visited detention emit foul odors due to the fact that the cells are poorly lit and unaerated.

# e) MSPP's support for detention and detention center is not sufficient

97. RNDDH believes that the Ministry of Public Health and Population is not sufficiently involved in accompanying police stations and prisons in the country. Organize rare and sporadic awareness sessions in certain police stations and in one of the six (6) prisons of the Western Department is certainly not adequate to prevent the spread of the virus at the level of these spaces.

# f) The Haitian population must help to prevent Covid-19 from being detained and detained

98. The RNDDH remains convinced, as are several heads of police stations and prisons encountered, that the Haitian population must also change its behavior in order to help the representatives of law enforcement in their many interventions and prevent the Covid-19 from entering in custody and in prison. And, population will not change their behavior if they not sensitized. By the effect, if the situation seems crucial in the commune of Fonds-Verrettes, it is not different in the municipalities other than Port-au-Prince, Delmas and Pétion-ville. According to the information gathered, at Léogane and in Petit-Goâve, the containment measures as well as the curfew are not respected by the population.

99. It is therefore clear that the work of accompanying those in charge of detention centers and detention must be meticulous and, the population itself must behave responsibly. It is in this sense that the heads of police stations and prisons have proposed to the RNDDH several recommendations to the appropriate authorities. These include:

- Raising awareness, particularly in remote areas, PNH and DAP and detainees on Covid-19;
- Supply buckets, gloves, protective masks, gels and cleaning wipes police stations and prisons of the country;
- Install mandatory hand-washing points on streets and detection of symptoms of Covid-19;
- Install 14-person spaces in all detention and detention spaces in the country;
- Spray chlorinated water into the cells of the guards and prisons;
- Prohibit the reception of food in prisons;

- Act on the overcrowding of cells by analyzing the files of vulnerable inmates by reason for their state of health;
- Transport agents and civilian personnel to avoid public transport;
- Open access to the civil prison of Petit-Goâve for the transfer of detainees kept in the Petit-Goâve police station converted to prison.