

RELEASE IN FULL

Sitrep 1: 0900 Reporting, Embassy Port-au-Prince**Key Points:**

- **At least 40 voting centers in Port-au-Prince did not receive correct materials or did not receive materials on time. Was a MINUSTAH error and they are working to get materials out. Haitian radio media are reporting on this.**
- **Crowds gathered outside a couple of voting centers in Port-au-Prince chanting and demanding right to vote; many appear to be Martelly supporters.**
- **In Verettes, in the Artibonite department, embassy team reports tension inside voting center, fistfights, and inadequate HNP staffing.**
- **In other departments, many voting centers are opening late, but otherwise the process appears calm.**
- **OAS reports voter turnout appears higher than on November 28th, and outside of Port-au-Prince, the voting process appears to be going smoothly.**

Media Reporting 0900:

Numerous Haitian radio stations reporting on lack of supplies, including ballots, ballot boxes, and ink. Radio Kiskeya now attributing these problems to MINUSTAH. Crowds have been described as patient, though at some sites, anger does appear to be rising at delays. Media have not reported much on problems with voter lists.

Radio Caraibes reports that in Martissant, two observers inside the voting center are directing people to vote for Martelly.

International correspondents, through their Twitter feeds, are tracking the same stories.

Port-au-Prince Area:

Several polling stations remained unopen in the Port-au-Prince area, causing frustrations for voters. MINUSTAH delivered insufficient ballot boxes and materials to about 40 voting centers around the capital.

In and around the Champs-de-Mars IDP camp, voting had yet to start at 0800 because of undelivered ballots and voting materials. MINUSTAH was expected to deliver the remaining materials. Similar problems were reported in Kafou Fey and Laboule.

In Petionville, votes for president and deputy are being cast in the same ballot box at several polling stations. One of the larger voting center (Lycee Petionville) delayed opening due to missing materials, causing frustrations with voters (apparently mostly pro-Martelly).

Observers noted voters often had little privacy when casting ballots.

Voting center in Pacot not open yet, large crowds outside demanding the right to vote.



Artibonite

St Marc:

Ecole Antoinette Dessalines opened at 6:00. Voters began arriving around 6:15; first vote at 6:35. Everything set up by 6:45, supervisor making rounds. Relaxed environment, not a large number of voters yet. Voters are finding their names on the list; some are voting before signing off on voter list.

Verettes:

-Ecole Nationale Charles Belair – opened at 6:00; voters allowed to enter at 7:20. MINUSTAH contingent from Argentina in place. In general embassy team observed a climate of dispute and tension characterized by animated arguments between party partisans and poll workers and voters. Voters came to fistcuffs within minutes of polls opening - these individuals were escorted outside. In BV 14 Proces verbal filled out incorrectly - resolved by CV president thought the collective writing of a memo. In BV9 observed a dispute over presence of 2 party observers from same candidate and party, successfully resolve with peaceable removal of 2nd observer by president of CV.

-BV Central: There are only 2 or 3 policemen and MINUSTAH says there should be more. The police say they do not have enough manpower to send others in here but they have roving patrols that are trying to cover the BVs. Many people are not finding their names on the lists and they are angry. Someone voted several times. He washed his thumb between votes at least 3 times. Lines of voters waiting in line outside BV because persons who already voted remain in BV not permitting others in. This prevents police from allowing others into CV and tensions among voters seem high as wait time grows.



MINUSTAH indicated that polling station slated to open in Eglise Grd Commission Chapelle Evang du Christ in 3eme section Guillaume Moge was relocated due to priest's last minue refusal to open church. Tents were set up in monastery grounds instead (see below).



North

Cap Haitien:

-Lycee Philippe Gueier – voting started at 6:45.

-Another voting center opened around 715. Also, many rooms were not prepared to accept voters when they did open, so they had to close their doors and have voters wait outside.

Northeast

From UN: Stones thrown at UNPOL in Mombin-Crochu . One civilian injury reported. Electoral-related discontent with regard to the composition/origin of polling station personnel. UNPOL has called for Military support. Tensions rose last night, with the population (reportedly Inite partisans) demanding military presence to proceed with elections. UNPOL reports that at least two voting centres in the area have been closed in downtown Mombin-Crochu. All other polling stations in the area reported operational, without incident.

SUD Department

Torbeck:

Ecole Wesleyenne de Mahot opened on time but by 0630 poll workers were still counting ballots and prepping BVs. Some voting ballots intended for another CV were delivered to this location. Political parties and OAS monitors present.

Les Cayes:

Ecole National Colette several BVs not opened as of 0630; one opened on time. No problems reported regarding staffing of BVs or training of poll workers. Political party representatives observed with no badges.

College Pierre Corneille Gabion: 25 BVs all properly staffed with necessary materials as of 0730; were reported to all have opened on or nearly on time. MINUSTAH, HNP, domestic observers, political party representatives, and local press present. Voter turnout light, mostly young people, with a less than 5 minute wait time per voter.]

Phillip Guerrier: 25 CVs opened on time, staffed with all necessary materials. No problems reported with secrecy of vote or presence of political materials. Domestic (Justice and Peace) and international (Canadian) observers and political party monitors for each candidate present, along with OAS, MINUSTAH, and UN Security personnel. Embassy team reports that Martelly officials were delivering snacks to their observers in white bags bearing "#8 Martelly" in pink writing.

GRAND ANSE Department

Jeremie:

Lybee Nord Alexis: By 0700 only BV members and mandataires had started voting in the 33 BVs. No voters had been allowed into CV, although most BVs ready to receive them. Police and riot police observed, along with CNO.