Country/entity	Haiti
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Governors Island Accord
Date	1 Jul 1993
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Haitian Political Crisis (1991 - 2006)

After decades of brutal authoritarian rule by François Duvalier and later his son Jean-Claude Duvalier, which ended in 1986, Haiti was under pressure to institute free democratic elections. The interim administration scheduled presidential elections for December 1990. The winner was Jean-Bertrand Aristide. His time in power was disrupted by an unsuccessful coup just one month after election, and another, this time successful, coup in September 1991. A military junta, headed by General Raoul Cédras, seized power, while Aristide sought refuge in the US. The junta remained in power until 1994, ruling the country in a violent manner, resulting in thousands of deaths, a refugee crisis, and numerous instances of rape and organized sexual violence. In 1993 an agreement (Governors Island Agreement) was reached between Aristide and Cédras, allowing for Aristide to return to power in October of that year, and granting amnesty to Cédras and other prominent members of the regime. However, this agreement was not respected, and the following year saw the implementation of comprehensive sanctions against Haiti accompanied by a US-led and UN-sanctioned intervention, which was moderated by a last-minute agreement between the US envoy Jimmy Carter and Raoul Cédras on the 18th of September 1994. Aristide returned to power, but the political turmoil in the country continued, as Aristide was again ousted in a coup d'etat in 2004, after winning the presidency for the second time in 2002.
Close
Haitian Political Crisis (1991 - 2006)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Haitian peace process
Parties	Signed: Jean-Bertrand Aristide, President of the Republic of Haiti General Raoul Cédras, the Commander-in- Chief of the Armed Forces of Haiti

Third parties	[The document does not include any mention of third parties. UN mediator Dante Caputo was already coded on the database.]
Description	The agreement is about political dialogue and the necessary steps for the transition. It requests the suspension of sanctions and embargoes; the implementation of assistance through international cooperation; grants an amnesty; includes provisions for the police and the armed forces; and it specifies the date for the return of the president in exile.

Agreement document	HT_930703_GovernorsIslandAgreement.pdf (opens in new tab) | Download PDF

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
Men and boys	No specific mention.

LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)	No specific mention.
State configuration	No specific mention.
Self determination	No specific mention.
Referendum	No specific mention.
State symbols	No specific mention.
Independence/ secession	No specific mention.
Accession/ unification	No specific mention.
Border delimitation	No specific mention.
Cross-border provision	No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references Page 1, 1: Organization, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS), of a political dialogue between representatives of the political parties represented in the Parliament, with the participation of representatives of the Presidential Commission, in order to: (a) Agree to a political truce and promote a social pact to create the conditions necessary to ensure a peaceful transition; (b) Reach an agreement on the procedure for enabling the Haitian Parliament to resume its normal functioning; (c) Reach an agreement enabling the Parliament to confirm the Prime Minister as speedily as possible; and (d) Reach an agreement permitting the adoption of the laws necessary for ensuring the transition. Page 1, 2: Nomination of a Prime Minister by the President of the Republic. Page 1, 3: Confirmation of the Prime Minister by the legally reconstituted Parliament and his assumption of office in Haiti. Page 2, 9: Return to Haiti of the President of the Republic, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, on 30 October 1993.
Elections	No specific mention.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: [...] (b) Assistance for the administrative and judicial reform; [...]
Constitution	Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal Page 1, 6: An amnesty granted by the President of the Republic within the framework of article 147 of the National Constitution and implementation of the other instruments which may be adopted by the Parliament on this question.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	Page 2, untitled postscript: The President of the Republic and the Commander-in-Chief agree that these arrangements constitute a satisfactory solution to the Haitian crisis and the beginning of a process of national reconciliation. They pledge to cooperate fully in the peaceful transition to a stable and lasting democratic society in which all Haitians will be able to live in a climate of freedom, justice, security and respect for human rights.
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Liberty and security of person Page 2, untitled postscript: The President of the Republic and the Commander-in-Chief agree that these arrangements constitute a satisfactory solution to the Haitian crisis and the beginning of a process of national reconciliation. They pledge to cooperate fully in the peaceful transition to a stable and lasting democratic society in which all Haitians will be able to live in a climate of freedom, justice, security and respect for human rights.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	Page 2, untitled postscript: The President of the Republic and the Commander-in-Chief agree that these arrangements constitute a satisfactory solution to the Haitian crisis and the beginning of a process of national reconciliation. They pledge to cooperate fully in the peaceful transition to a stable and lasting democratic society in which all Haitians will be able to live in a climate of freedom, justice, security and respect for human rights.

Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: [...] (b) Assistance for the administrative and judicial reform; [...]
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.
Traditional Laws	No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: • Technical and financial assistance for development;
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: • Technical and financial assistance for development; • Assistance for the administrative and judicial reform; Assistance for modernizing the Armed Forces of Haiti and establishing a new Police Force with the presence of United Nations personnel in these fields.
Business	No specific mention.
Taxation	No specific mention.
Banks	No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights	No specific mention.
Pastoralist/ nomadism rights	No specific mention.
Cultural heritage	No specific mention.
Environment	No specific mention.
Water or riparian rights or access	No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees	Page 2, untitled postscript: The President of the Republic and the Commander-in-Chief agree that these arrangements constitute a satisfactory solution to the Haitian crisis and the beginning of a process of national reconciliation. They pledge to cooperate fully in the peaceful transition to a stable and lasting democratic society in which all Haitians will be able to live in a climate of freedom, justice, security and respect for human rights.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: [...] (c) Assistance for modernizing the Armed Forces of Haiti and establishing a new Police Force with the presence of United Nations personnel in these fields. Page 1, 7: Adoption of a law establishing the new Police Force. Appointment, within this framework, of the Commander-in-Chief of the Police Force by the President of the Republic.
Armed forces	Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: [...] (c) Assistance for modernizing the Armed Forces of Haiti and establishing a new Police Force with the presence of United Nations personnel in these fields. Page 2, 8: The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Haiti has decided to avail himself of his right to early retirement and the President of the Republic shall appoint a new Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces in Haiti, who shall appoint the members of the General Staff, in accordance with the Constitution.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.

Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper Page 1, 6: An amnesty granted by the President of the Republic within the framework of article 147 of the National Constitution and implementation of the other instruments which may be adopted by the Parliament on this question.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	Page 2, untitled postscript: The President of the Republic and the Commander-in-Chief agree that these arrangements constitute a satisfactory solution to the Haitian crisis and the beginning of a process of national reconciliation. They pledge to cooperate fully in the peaceful transition to a stable and lasting democratic society in which all Haitians will be able to live in a climate of freedom, justice, security and respect for human rights.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar	Page 1, 5: Implementation, following the agreements with the constitutional Government, of international cooperation: [...] (c) Assistance for modernizing the Armed Forces of Haiti and establishing a new Police Force with the presence of United Nations personnel in these fields.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.