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OAS Assistant Secretary General Addresses International Donors Conference on Haiti

Assistant Secretary General Albert Ramdin, representing the Organization of American States (OAS) at the International Donors Conference on Haiti in New York, announced today that the OAS will provide significant technical and financial assistance to the government of Haiti for the country's reconstruction efforts. He also stated that the OAS will target three main areas: elections, civil registry and cadastre.

In addressing the Conference, which included participation from UN member states, international organizations and multilateral financial institutions; Ambassador Ramdin expressed his satisfaction that "Member States and the international community have agreed to adopt the vision and Development Plan of the Government of Haiti as the only framework for providing assistance to Haiti."

Ambassador Ramdin also welcomed comments from conference participants in support of the idea that the Government of Haiti should be in the driver's seat in the reconstruction process, and that donor input should be aligned with the priorities of the government of Haiti. Ramdin concluded that, "in the follow-up to the Conference, it will be critically important to complete the process of management of pledges through the Interim Reconstruction Commission and the Multi-Donors Trust Fund."

On April 7-10, Assistant Secretary General Ramdin will lead an OAS Mission of experts to Haiti to hold discussions with Haitian Authorities and other important stakeholders on the holding of national elections by early 2011.

For more information, please visit the OAS Website at www.oas.org.