



PR#431

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Belize Stands in Solidarity with Haiti**

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The Government of Belize has made a contribution of BZ\$200,000 to the Government and people of Haiti through the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) in support of humanitarian assistance efforts in the aftermath of the earthquake, which struck Haiti on August 14, 2021, and Tropical Storm Grace, which made landfall on August 17, 2021.

Official reports indicate that 2,189 people have died because of the earthquake, and at least 12,268 people have been reported injured. Dozens remain missing, which is likely to further raise the death toll. An estimated 30,000 families in Haiti have been left homeless; more than 7,000 homes and residential buildings have been destroyed, while 12,000 have suffered damage. The total costs of the infrastructural devastation have yet to be ascertained.

The Haitian people are experiencing an extraordinarily difficult moment in the life of their nation. Haiti is confronting simultaneously political flux, insecurity, an ongoing humanitarian crisis and the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This donation to Haiti is an expression of the solidarity of the Government and people of Belize.

**Ends**