Permanent Mission
of Austria to the
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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
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Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on Haiti
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Thank you, Madam Vice-President,

Austria aligns with the EU statement and thanks the High Commissioner and the Human Rights Expert for their Update.

We are deeply concerned by the persistent human rights violations and abuses, including child exploitation by criminal gangs, and the increasing use of sexual violence to spread fear and punish communities.

Haiti's multidimensional crisis requires a comprehensive plan to achieve durable peace and security that goes beyond human rights. It is crucial to fight against the armed criminal groups that terrorise the population and undermine the authority of the State. In view of the humanitarian crisis that is further exacerbated through violence, we underline our recent commitment to supporting the Haitian people through a contribution of one million Euro to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The Multinational Security Support Mission signifies an important step towards enhancing security and restoring and strengthening the rule of law and democratic institutions. It is essential to strengthen the Mission through reliable funding and to ensure that it operates in compliance with international human rights law and standards. We welcome the extension of the MSS by the UN Security Council earlier this week, and highlight Kenya's contribution as lead nation.

High-Commissioner,
Mr. O'Neill,
Could you elaborate on how the Office can support the MSS or national authorities on their way forward?

Thank you.