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December 27, 2025

Intelligence for Haiti's Democratic Transition

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Political pressure on the Transitional Presidential Council intensifies as MORN announces a December 29 sit-in demanding CPT resignation with 42 days remaining until the February 7 2026 constitutional deadline. The CPT denied allegations of 500000 to 600000 dollar departure bonuses. Security forces foiled a Tabarre market arson attack on December 25-26 where gangs planted explosive devices from gas cylinders targeting holiday shoppers. The government announced Champ de Mars rehabilitation and community meetings on resident returns to project stability. A December 24 Minoterie drone strike killed dozens of Bel Bos gang members.



QUICK SUMMARY FOR STAKEHOLDERS

MORN announces December 29 sit-in demanding CPT resignation 42 days before February 7 2026 mandate expiration.

PNH foiled Tabarre market arson attack using gas cylinder explosives targeting holiday shoppers.

Government announces Champ de Mars rehabilitation projecting stability amid ongoing crisis.

December 24 Minoterie drone strike killed dozens of gang members in asymmetric warfare operation.

DEVELOPMENT 1: POLITICAL MOBILIZATION ACCELERATES TOWARD CONSTITUTIONAL DEADLINE

The Movement for Reconstruction and National Reconciliation announced on December 26 that it will organize a sit-in on December 29 2025 demanding the resignation of the Transitional Presidential Council and its government. MORN called on the population particularly in the metropolitan area to mobilize massively to reject renewal of the April 3 agreement and demand CPT departure. The movement framed February 7 2026 as marking 40 years since the country has lived in total instability and corruption since the fall of the Duvalier regime.

The CPT responded on December 27 by issuing a formal denial of allegations made

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

by Pierre Esperance Executive Director of the National Network for the Defense of Human Rights who claimed CPT members were proposing departure bonuses of 500000 to 600000 dollars. The CPT stated its mission remains exclusively focused on responsible conduct of political transition and transparent management of public resources. The Council urged the public and media to remain vigilant against disinformation campaigns. The denial represents defensive positioning as scrutiny intensifies with 42 days remaining until constitutional expiration.

This marks the first major opposition mobilization announcement since the Electoral Council published the revised electoral calendar on Christmas Day. By scheduling the sit-in 40 days before the February 7 mandate expiration MORN aims to force a political crisis that either compels the CPT to announce a mandate extension framework or creates street pressure that collapses the Council before the constitutional deadline. The timing is critical as the CPT must either announce self-extension with no legal basis negotiate a new transitional framework with CARICOM and the Organization of American States or expire on February 7 with no successor triggering constitutional crisis.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The February 7 date holds dual significance as both the anniversary of Jean-Claude Duvalier's 1986 departure and the constitutional deadline for CPT mandate expiration creating symbolic and legal pressure points.

TALKING POINTS

December 29 sit-in will test CPT ability to maintain order in Port-au-Prince while addressing political demands.

CPT denial of bonus allegations enters defensive mode as public scrutiny intensifies. 42 days remain until February 7 2026 constitutional deadline with no succession framework announced.

MORN mobilization aims to deny CPT legitimacy for any unilateral mandate extension.

365-day constitutional gap between February 7 2026 and February 7 2027 remains

unaddressed in electoral calendar.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

International community should convene emergency CARICOM and OAS sessions before January 7 to address February 7 succession crisis.

CPT should issue public statement by December 31 clarifying mandate extension legal basis or transition framework.

Security forces should prepare contingency plans for December 29 protest management balancing assembly rights with public order.

Diplomatic missions should communicate directly with CPT and opposition on red lines for political transition.



CONFIDENCE



High confidence based on official institutional reporting.

DEVELOPMENT 2: GANGS SHIFT TO ECONOMIC TERRORISM WITH MASS CASUALTY TARGETING

Security guards at the Tabarre market discovered explosive materials made from gas cylinders hidden inside the facility on the night of December 25 to December 26 2025. The National Police confirmed that terrorists had carefully planned the operation intending to start a fire and reduce the market to ashes during peak holiday shopping season. The judge of paix conducted legal inspection after PNH was alerted. The attack was designed to kill dozens or hundreds of vendors and customers destroy livelihoods of small merchants and terrorize the population into abandoning commercial activity.

The foiled attack represents a strategic shift from territorial control to economic warfare and mass casualty terrorism. Gangs targeted a commercial center during the holiday period to maximize casualties and economic damage. This occurred two days

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

after the December 23 Coast Guard maritime attack on La Gonave-bound vessels indicating gangs are expanding operational domains beyond territorial control. Previous attacks targeted healthcare infrastructure including the December 24 General Hospital assault and December 17 Bernard Mevs Hospital incident demonstrating multi-domain strategy.

Tabarre has been the site of repeated gang attacks in November 2025 with more than 600 people displaced following armed assaults on November 13-14. The area remains contested territory where gangs attempt to establish presence through violence against civilian populations. The use of explosive devices made from gas cylinders shows tactical sophistication and intent to cause maximum destruction. The fact that security guards discovered the materials before detonation prevented what could have been one of the deadliest single attacks in the current crisis.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Tabarre experienced major displacement in November 2025 when armed attacks forced more than 600 residents to flee making the market a symbolic and economic target for gang control operations.

TALKING POINTS

Explosive devices made from gas cylinders intended for mass casualty event during holiday shopping.

Attack foiled by security guards demonstrating importance of private sector security infrastructure.

Gangs expanding from territorial control to economic warfare targeting markets hospitals and maritime routes.

Multi-domain strategy aims to make Haiti functionally ungovernable by denying state control of critical infrastructure.

December 23 maritime attack and December 24 hospital assault show coordinated pressure across sectors.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

Commercial centers should implement enhanced security screening and guard protocols particularly during high-traffic periods.

PNH should deploy dedicated protection units to major markets and economic hubs in contested areas.

Government should issue public guidance on suspicious materials and reporting procedures for civilian detection.

International community should provide technical assistance for improvised explosive device detection and counter-terrorism training.



CONFIDENCE



High confidence based on official institutional reporting.

DEVELOPMENT 3: GOVERNMENT PROJECTS STABILITY THROUGH SYMBOLIC REHABILITATION

The Prime Minister's Office announced on December 26 that the Champ de Mars is undergoing rehabilitation and beautification work for end-of-year holidays. The government framed the project as part of urban revitalization to reclaim symbolic public spaces. The Primature stated the work creates a favorable environment for organization of free and democratic elections in the near future and promotes unity collective responsibility and respect for institutions. Prime Minister Alix Didier Fils-Aime also held meetings with community organization leaders regarding return of residents to Solino and Delmas 30 areas previously under gang control.

The rehabilitation coincides with the revised electoral calendar published on Christmas Day and the December 29 MORN sit-in announcement indicating strategic communications to project stability and control over Port-au-Prince center. The Champ de Mars has been largely abandoned due to insecurity making its rehabilitation symbolically significant. The government messaging links the work to

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

electoral preparation despite the 365-day constitutional gap between February 7 2026 and February 7 2027 that remains unaddressed in the revised calendar.

However the stability narrative conflicts with operational reality on the ground. The December 24 Minoterie drone strike killed dozens of gang members while the December 25-26 Tabarre market foiled attack demonstrates ongoing asymmetric warfare and terrorist threats. The government is conducting lethal drone operations while gangs attempt mass casualty economic attacks creating fundamental contradiction between messaging and security environment. The Return to Neighborhood program initiated with December 20 Solino visit by CPT President Leslie Voltaire and other officials has not yet produced verifiable resident returns to formerly gang-controlled areas.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Champ de Mars serves as Haiti's symbolic central square and has been site of major political demonstrations making its rehabilitation both practical and symbolic for government legitimacy claims.

TALKING POINTS

Champ de Mars rehabilitation projects government control over Port-au-Prince symbolic center.

Timing coincides with December 29 MORN sit-in suggesting strategic communications ahead of opposition mobilization.

Government links rehabilitation to favorable environment for elections despite constitutional gap.

Stability messaging conflicts with ongoing drone strikes and foiled mass casualty attacks.

Return to Neighborhood program has not produced verifiable resident returns to Solino or Delmas 30.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

Government should provide transparent metrics on resident return numbers and security conditions in formerly controlled areas.

International observers should verify actual security improvements versus government claims of territorial recovery.

Stakeholders should assess whether Champ de Mars work represents substantive security gains or symbolic messaging.

CPT should clarify how current security environment supports May 19 to August 28 2026 campaign period.



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Moderate confidence based on partial institutional reporting.

DEVELOPMENT 4: ASYMMETRIC WARFARE CONTINUES WITH DRONE STRIKES AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The Haiti National Police conducted an operation in the Minoterie sector of Titanyen on the night of December 24 2025 targeting the Bel Bos gang resulting in deaths of several dozen presumed gang members. The operation utilized explosive drones to target a gang celebration on Christmas Eve. This confirms the PNH ongoing asymmetric warfare strategy using aerial platforms for lethal strikes against gang concentrations. No official confirmation of exact casualty numbers has been released but multiple sources reported dozens killed.

NPR and WUNC featured reporting on December 27 by Miami Herald correspondent Jacqueline Charles documenting how gangs in Haiti use sexual violence as a tool of terror to control communities. This aligns with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights statement from December 24 noting a 1000 percent increase in cases of sexual violence against women girls and adolescents in Haiti. The systematic use of sexual violence represents a deliberate gang strategy to terrorize populations into submission and prevent resistance.

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The combination of PNH drone strikes and gang sexual violence demonstrates the dual nature of Haiti's security crisis. State forces conduct targeted killings through asymmetric warfare while gangs employ systematic sexual violence as population control mechanism. Both strategies operate outside conventional law enforcement frameworks. The December 24 operation occurred on Christmas Eve indicating PNH willingness to conduct lethal operations during holiday periods when gang members may be concentrated. The lack of official casualty confirmation suggests limited transparency in drone strike operations.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The PNH has increasingly relied on drone strikes and asymmetric tactics as conventional policing proves ineffective against heavily armed gang coalitions controlling significant territory.

TALKING POINTS

December 24 Minoterie drone strike killed dozens of Bel Bos gang members during Christmas Eve operation.

PNH conducts lethal asymmetric warfare outside conventional law enforcement frameworks.

Gangs use sexual violence systematically as population control tool with 1000 percent increase reported.

Both state and gang forces employ tactics that operate beyond traditional security paradigms.

Lack of official casualty confirmation indicates limited transparency in drone operations.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

International community should establish framework for monitoring and documenting drone strike operations and civilian impact.

Human rights organizations should continue documenting sexual violence cases to support future accountability mechanisms.

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Security assistance providers should clarify rules of engagement and civilian protection standards for asymmetric operations.

CPT should issue transparency guidelines for reporting security force operations and casualty numbers.



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High confidence based on official institutional reporting.

WHAT TO WATCH NEXT

NEXT 24 TO 48 HOURS

December 29 MORN sit-in at Champ de Mars will test CPT ability to manage opposition protest and determine whether security forces allow assembly or disperse demonstrators.

Turnout levels and opposition coalition participation will indicate breadth of anti-CPT mobilization ahead of February 7 deadline.

CPT response to RNDDH bonus allegations may emerge through official statement or continued silence strategy.

THIS WEEK

CPT may issue statement by December 31 addressing mandate extension legal basis or February 7 succession framework.

Additional gang attacks on commercial or economic infrastructure may follow Tabarre market foiled attempt.

CARICOM or OAS emergency sessions could be convened to address political crisis timeline.

STRATEGIC HORIZON

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February 7 2026 constitutional deadline approaches with 42 days remaining and no succession framework announced.

365-day gap between February 7 2026 and February 7 2027 remains unaddressed creating electoral calendar legitimacy crisis.

International community faces decision point on supporting CPT self-extension versus negotiating new transitional framework.

PRIMARY SOURCES

NPR All Things Considered feature on gang sexual violence by Jacqueline Charles December 27 2025.

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights statement on 1000 percent increase in sexual violence cases December 24 2025.

ReliefWeb Emergency Tracking Tool data on Tabarre displacement November 2025.

Le Nouvelliste ongoing coverage of Port-au-Prince security developments December 2025.

Haiti Libre reporting on Tabarre market arson attempt and CPT denial of bonus allegations December 26-27 2025.

Vant Bef Info coverage of Tabarre explosive materials discovery and Minoterie drone strike December 26 2025.

Le National article on MORN December 29 sit-in announcement December 27 2025.

Haiti24 reports on Champ de Mars rehabilitation and community meetings December 26-27 2025.

Primature official communications on Champ de Mars beautification and Return to Neighborhood program December 26 2025.

Le Quotidien coverage of Tabarre market security response December 2025.

Gazette Haiti reporting on CPT denial of departure bonus allegations December 27 2025.

Haiti National Police official statements through DICOP on Tabarre market investigation December 2025.