

Solidarity Message

To: CNEH and all the Haitian people

From: Virginia Albert Poyotte

EI Coordinator North America & Caribbean

St. Lucia Office

Dear Colleagues,

It is unfortunate that I am not here with you in person to deliver this message to you and all the people in Haiti. On this special day as all of you gather to reflect on the life and history of your people let not your hearts be troubled as you have many friends who believe in you, your will and determination to struggle for a better life for your people.

Education is the key to unlock the door for the future of your people and consequently every single child and human being in Haiti should have access to quality education that is free. I trust that the government of Haiti will make this lasting commitment to invest in the future of its people. The Nobel Prize Winner from St. Lucia Sir Arthur Lewis states, **“The cure to poverty is not money but education”**. With this in mind the teachers’ union in Haiti must continue to lobby for better quality education in the country. Remember you are not alone in your struggle. Education International representing 30 million members from 400 member organizations in 170 countries around the world is there with you to encourage you and provide the necessary support. The Haitian children can wait no more as their parents have suffered too much in their struggle for a better life for them. Our innocent children cannot be allowed to pay the price for adults who do not have the courage to make the right decisions in life. The CNEH today is making the right decision on behalf of the past, present, and future generation in Haiti. There is no turning back victory is on your side as the whole world is watching. Today is the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the Haitian people where the union is calling on all its troops to declare war on poverty, illiteracy, poor health, unemployment and all the other social ills in the society. With a highly educated society Haiti will be a transformed society. Be brave and courageous in all your undertakings and remain focus as you have taken one step closer to success.

Long live the teachers’ union in Haiti!

Long live the children in Haiti!

Long live the people in Haiti!

Best wishes to one and all

Virginia Albert

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