Good afternoon BIT/IMM,

Please review the attached USCIS-drafted response to Rep. Alcee Hastings and provide comments/edits (in Track Changes) or clearance to PLCY Exec Sec by **10:00am on Wednesday, April 12**.

BIT/Americas and TPSP/SCO have been cc’d for awareness and possible equities.

Best regards,

[Redacted]
Social Science Analyst
Office of Policy, Executive Secretariat
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
March 24, 2017

Honorable John F. Kelly
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20516

Dear Secretary Kelly:

We write to encourage you to exercise your authority under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) to extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitian nationals who have been residing in the United States and benefitting from this program.

Through TPS, our country has been committed to providing a safe haven to individuals unable to securely return to their home country due to ongoing environmental disasters and violence that have severely impacted their country. On January 12, 2010, Haiti was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake causing massive devastation throughout the country. The earthquake is estimated to have directly affected 3,000,000 people, nearly one-third of Haiti’s population. In addition, the earthquake destroyed government buildings, hospitals, schools, and vital aid offices, including the United Nations' mission headquarters. Haiti, to this day, continues to rebuild from this debilitating earthquake.

Since the earthquake hit Haiti, the country has not only suffered a cholera outbreak that is responsible for the deaths of, to date, 9,000 Haitians, but also Hurricane Matthew, which made landfall on October 4, 2016. Hurricane Matthew was the worst hurricane to hit the country in 50 years, taking the lives of over 1,000 people and directly affecting 2.1 million Haitians. The hurricane was responsible for the internal displacement of 175,000 people and left 1.4 million in need of urgent humanitarian aid.

It is estimated that Hurricane Matthew resulted in damage that will cost Haiti $1,000,000,000, or about 11.4 percent of its gross domestic product. This includes extensive damage to Haiti’s roadways, bridges, buildings and critical infrastructure. Additionally, Hurricane Matthew resulted in tremendous destruction of Haiti’s agricultural sector with crop losses estimated to be $360 million.

Within the context of the terrible damage wrought by Hurricane Matthew, Haiti continues its efforts to rebuild from the 2010, 7.0 magnitude earthquake, and recover from the Cholera outbreak of the same year.
The United States remains steadfast in assisting Haiti with its democratic development and providing necessary assistance for reconstruction, development, and humanitarian relief. Given the continued difficult conditions in Haiti, we urge your administration to extend the TPS designation, within all applicable rules and regulations, for Haitian nationals who are currently living in, and contributing to, our great country.

Sincerely,

Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

Bill Nelson  
United States Senator

Marco Rubio  
United States Senator

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress

Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

Carol C. Mumpo  
Member of Congress

Frederica Wilson  
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress
See revised summary:

Title: Termination of the Designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status

Summary: Through this Notice, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces that the Secretary of Homeland Security has determined that conditions in Haiti no longer support its designation for TPS and is therefore terminating the TPS designation of Haiti. This termination is effective January 22, 2018, six months following the end of the current designation.

RESPONSE REQUESTED BY 3pm on Wednesday, April 19

IMM PLCY:

Attached for your review is a draft regulatory action. Please review the document and insert any comments in track changes. Provide your name and your office and division as your track changes username throughout the document. When you are finished reviewing the document, insert a comment bubble at the top of the first page. In that comment bubble, provide a name, office, and contact information for your edits and comments in the document. Also provide a general description of your comments.

Reviewers may not share the document(s), in whole or in part, with anyone outside of DHS without first obtaining authorization for such disclosure from the DHS OGC Regulatory Affairs Law Division.
Summary of Regulatory Action

Through this Notice, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces that the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) is extending the designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 18 months, from July 23, 2017, through January 22, 2019. This Notice also sets forth procedures necessary for nationals of Haiti (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in Haiti) to re-register for TPS and to apply for renewal of their Employment Authorization Documents (EAD) with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The current EADs, with a facial expiration date of July 22, 2017, held by beneficiaries of Haiti TPS are also automatically extended by this notice through January 22, 2018. USCIS will issue new EADs with a January 22, 2019, expiration date to eligible Haiti TPS beneficiaries who timely re-register and apply for EADs under this extension.

Thank you,

Office of Policy, Executive Secretariat
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Any idea who?

Hey Matt - Who is the best person on your staff to touch base with on the TPS/Haiti issue? See the note from State below.

Always a hot topic!

Cheers,

---

my understanding is DHS will soon be making a determination about extension/termination of TPS for Haitian citizens. State would like to be closely coordinated to anticipate press needs in advance as (1) a news leak is possible, (2) public and media interest is high, (3) this comes up in every public engagement with diaspora and wider audiences and just came up on an Apr 10 VOA Creole interview with a Political Officer from post.

Attached is draft press guidance for your review and edits. If I have your clearances by Apr 12 COB, I will hold this until a final determination is made. If DHS DOES extend TPS, obviously I will resend revised!
I don't have any edits/comments on this report, other than to say it makes for an interesting read.

13 countries currently have TPS designations, 3 of those will terminate this year. Of the remaining 10, 7 have their designations scheduled to expire within the next 12 months (Haiti is the first, expiring on 7/22/17). Might be worth listing TPS on the IMM PLCY priority list so we know how the DHS FO/USCIS want to proceed and can coordinate appropriately.

Anyone have any edits/comments to the report? If not, I'll check with TPSP/SCO and get this back to PLCY Exec Sec.

---

**From:** Plcy Exec Sec  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:08 PM  
**To:** Immigration Policy <ImmigrationPolicy@HQ.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** Plcy Exec Sec <PlcyExecSec@hq.dhs.gov>; PLCY-BIT Tasking <PLCY-BITTasking@hq.dhs.gov>; PLCY-TPSP Tasking <PLCY-TPSPTasking@hq.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** [Due 4/6 at 5:00pm] [ESEC Report Comment/Clearance] USCIS draft re: Temporary Protected Status CY 2015 (WF #1137357).

Good afternoon BIT/IMM,

Please review the attached USCIS-drafted report regarding TPS for CY15 and, working with TPSP/SCO for equities, provide PLCY-consolidated comments/edits (in Track Changes) or clearance to PLCY Exec Sec by **5:00pm on Thursday, April 6**.

If you believe other PLCY subcomponents should be added to this tasking, please let PLCY Exec Sec know soonest.

Best regards,

Social Science Analyst  
Office of Policy, Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
All – Wanted you to see this second letter (which has gone forward to S1’s staff) and updated note from Ambassador Altidor below.

Thank you for your prompt reply. Attached to this email is a follow-up letter that I am addressing to Secretary Kelly on behalf of the Haitian government. I would appreciate your assistance in ensuring that Secretary Kelly receives the attached letter.

As for your questions, I would like to point out that the main objective for the Foreign Minister to come to Washington DC is to meet with Secretary Kelly. As for a suitable time, the Foreign Minister would travel to DC as early as Wednesday this week so he can meet Secretary Kelly on Thursday or Friday. Alternatively, early next week is also an option. However, given the sensitive nature of this TPS issue for both of our countries, we would strongly prefer to meet with Secretary Kelly this week.

The Haitian government, through my office has been in constant contact with members of Congress and the State Department on this issue. This morning, I am due to meet with Congressional leaders to further highlight the detrimental effect that a non-renewal of TPS would
have on both of our countries. While in DC, Foreign Minister Antonio Rodrigue would certainly meet with other agencies and leaders on Capitol Hill. The lines of communications have already been established with other relevant entities. As for meetings with other agencies within DHS, I personally plan to meet with them.

As previously stated, our priority is to meet with Secretary Kelly given that DHS is the only agency that we have not had a chance to engage with on this critical issue. We strongly hope that the Secretary would be available later this week to meet with Foreign Minister Rodrigue.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me. I appreciate your assistance in ensuring that Secretary Kelly receives the attached letter.

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing back from you regarding this meeting request.

Regards,

Ambassador Altidor

On Fri, May 5, 2017 at 4:10 PM, (b)(6) wrote:

Ambassador Altidor – It’s a pleasure to hear from you and was expected – I was in touch with Mr. Merten’s staff at the State Department earlier today.

I received your letter to Secretary Kelly and have already sent it forward to his staff. However, the secretary is currently on travel outside the United States, so I ask for your patience regarding a response.

Regarding the request for a meeting between Haitian Foreign Minister Rodrique and Secretary Kelly. I will request this meeting, but was hoping you could answer some questions first:

1) When will the foreign minister be in Washington, and what specific dates/blocks of time will he be available for a meeting with Secretary Kelly?

2) Could you tell what other visits (with members of Congress, other members of the executive branch, etc.) are scheduled or have been requested?

3) Have you requested any separate meetings with other agencies or offices that are part of DHS, such as U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services?

Thank you – once I have that information, I’ll send a meeting request forward to Secretary Kelly’s staff immediately.

Very Respectfully -

(b)(6)

DHS Office of Policy for Latin America/Caribbean

(b)(6) (M)
From: Paul Altidor (mailto:
Sent: Friday, May 5, 2017 2:15 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Haitian Ambassador to the US

My name is Paul G. Altidor, the current Haitian Ambassador to the United States. Mr. Kenneth Merten, the Haiti Coordinator at the State Department, passed me your contact info.

Yesterday, I addressed a letter to DHS Secretary John Kelly on behalf of the government of Haiti via the office of Mr. Merten at the State Department. I understand that the letter was sent to your office. In addition to the letter, my office here in DC has also requested a meeting for Haiti's Foreign Minister with Secretary Kelly. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with Secretary Kelly to further clarify why we believe a renewal of TPS for Haitians would be in the best interests of both the United States and Haiti.

I am reaching out to you to seek your assistance in facilitating this meeting with Secretary Kelly. I am personally available to speak with you on this TPS matter as well. Please let me know when would be a good time for us to have a conversation.

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Ambassador Altidor

---

Paul G Altidor
Ambassador of Haiti to the US
Washington, DC

---

Paul G Altidor
Ambassador of Haiti to the US
Washington, DC
May 8, 2017

The Honorable John F. Kelly
Secretary of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Kelly,

This correspondence serves as a follow up to my letter to you dated May 4, 2017. I am requesting a meeting with you to be attended by the Haitian Foreign Minister, the Honorable Antonio Rodrigue, and myself, to discuss the impending expiration of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for more than 50,000 Haitians living in the United States. The Haitian government strongly believes that a renewal of TPS for Haitians, for at least another eighteen (18) months, is in the national interest of both Haiti and the United States.

As you know, Haiti’s economy is heavily supported by Haitians living in the United States. Haitian nationals with TPS inject hundreds of millions of dollars into our economy every year. By our estimates, a Haitian national with TPS impacts the economic livelihood of as many as five (5) Haitian households. Allowing TPS to expire before Haiti can absorb and support their return will cause an immediate increase in poverty in Haiti, as thousands of households will no longer have an economic lifetime. This also will lead to a humanitarian and economic crisis of unprecedented proportions that may spill into the rest of the region, including the United States. For starters, we are likely to witness a sudden rise in clandestine and risky voyages to U.S. shores by people who have had to rely on Haitians with TPS for their survival. There is also a huge cost in time and resources to prevent thousands of Haitians from taking to the sea for risky voyages toward U.S. shores. The cost to the United States of a non-renewal of TPS far outweighs the benefits. A sudden repatriation of tens of thousands of Haitians will give rise to instability in Haiti as well. We have all seen, far too many times, the ramifications of an unstable Haiti and the cost to both our counties. It is therefore in our nations’ shared interest to see a renewal of TPS for at least another eighteen (18) months.

As we request a renewal of TPS, the Haitian government is working diligently to ensure that the country is prepared to receive and adequately support the return of its citizens. The administration of the recently elected Haitian President, his Excellency Jovenel Moise, is in the
midst of implementing a carefully crafted development plan for Haiti that not only will significantly improve the lives of Haitians at home, but also will incentivize the return of those living overseas to help the country and prosper. The next eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) months will be critical for this plan to begin to yield tangible results. However, a non-renewal of TPS and a sudden repatriation of Haitians living under this status will cause further hardship to Haiti and effectively derail our rebuilding efforts.

Mr. Secretary, I would also like to highlight that by all accounts Haitians with TPS have been exemplary residents in the United States and pose no security threat. Those with employment authorization pay taxes and contribute to their local community in the United States, while supporting families back in Haiti. While we want and are working to welcome our compatriots back to Haiti, the ripple effect from a non-renewal of TPS at this time will prove calamitous for both the United States and Haiti. We stand ready to engage in a discussion to engineer a reasonable timeline for phasing out TPS that would be beneficial to both of our countries.

The devastation from the 2010 earthquake was undeniably monumental. Rebuilding from that catastrophe alone would have been an arduous and lengthy process for any country, but adding to that a series of obstacles including a cholera outbreak, broken pledges by donors and, more recently, Hurricane Matthew causing more than two (2) billion dollars (USD) in damages, leaves my country needing more time before we can welcome our citizens currently benefiting from TPS home. Our two countries have a long history of working hand in hand to address and resolve issues affecting our people. It is in the mutual interest of our two governments to renew TPS for Haitians for at least another 18 months.

I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you to further discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul G. Altidor
Don’t Send 50,000 Back to Fragile Haiti

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD APRIL 29, 2017

A family in Haiti trying to salvage what was left of their belongings after their home was destroyed by Hurricane Matthew.

Tens of thousands of Haitians living in the United States are facing an ominous deadline. The temporary protected status that has allowed them to live and work here legally since 2010 — the year an earthquake devastated their country and left them unable to return safely home — is set to expire on July 22. Unless the homeland security secretary, John Kelly, decides to renew it, about 50,000 Haitians will lose their welcome here and be vulnerable to deportation.

A reasonable person might say: The United States couldn’t do that. Haiti has made only a fitful recovery from the quake, which all but destroyed the national government and left hundreds of thousands homeless, and ensuing disasters have deepened the country’s misery. Hurricane Matthew in October 2016 ravaged Haiti’s southwest peninsula, killing more than a thousand people and laying waste to villages and farmland. A cholera epidemic that erupted after the earthquake has not been subdued.
These acute crises, laid atop chronic poverty and political turmoil, make Haiti a fragile place. The sudden return of tens of thousands of expatriates would be yet another damaging blow. Better those Haitians remain in the United States, where they can be safe and work and send money home, and not further burden their traumatized homeland.

That is a reasonable conclusion. But not everyone in the Trump administration recognizes it. The acting head of Citizenship and Immigration Services, James McCament, wrote to Mr. Kelly this month recommending that temporary protected status be ended next January.

“Although Hurricane Matthew recently caused a deterioration of conditions in Haiti’s southwest peninsula,” he wrote, “over all, circumstances in the country have continued on an upward trajectory since the 2010 earthquake.”

Give that man a prize for bureaucratic understatement: “Deterioration of conditions” is a brutally antiseptic way to describe a Category 4 hurricane that left so much death, sickness and hunger in its wake. In fairness, Mr. McCament’s memo does acknowledge many of the other afflictions that would argue for temporary protected status, including homelessness, gender-based violence, food insecurity, deep deficiencies in sanitation and health care, and a weak government.

And yet it reached the wrong conclusion. Only in December, in President Barack Obama’s administration, the State Department examined the same circumstances and recommended that the Haitians be allowed to remain.

Temporary protected status is where United States law joins practicality and humanitarian compassion. Mr. Kelly may make his decision by May 23, 60 days before the expiration date. Before he decides to send them back — and, given the Trump administration’s coldblooded approach to destitute migrants the world over, who knows what he will do? — we hope he considers what advantage there could possibly be in sowing greater instability in Haiti, deepening its poverty and subjecting so many people to such pointless cruelty. Rather than make a desperate situation intolerably worse, he should extend America’s welcome to the Haitians once again.
From: DHS Press Office [mailto:pressoffice@messages.dhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2017 1:25 PM
To: Cissna, Francis
Subject: SECRETARY KELLY STATEMENT ON THE LIMITED EXTENSION OF HAITI’S DESIGNATION FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

Press Release

May 22, 2017

Contact: DHS Press Office, (202) 282-8010

SECRETARY KELLY STATEMENT ON THE LIMITED EXTENSION OF HAITI’S DESIGNATION FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

WASHINGTON—Secretary of Homeland Security John F. Kelly today announced his decision to extend—for an additional six months—the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation for Haiti. This extension is effective July 23, 2017 through January 22, 2018.

“After careful review of the current conditions in Haiti and conversations with the Haitian government, I have decided to extend the designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status for a limited period of six-months,” said Secretary Kelly. “Haiti has made progress across several fronts since the devastating earthquake in 2010, and I’m proud of the role the United States has played during this time in helping our Haitian friends. The Haitian economy continues to recover and grow, and 96 percent of people displaced by the earthquake and living in internally displaced person camps have left those camps. Even more encouraging is that over 98 percent of these camps have closed. Also indicative of Haiti’s success in recovering from the earthquake seven
years ago is the Haitian government’s stated plans to rebuild the Haitian President’s residence at the National Palace in Port-au-Prince, and the withdrawal of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.”

Secretary Kelly was particularly encouraged by representations made to him directly by the Haitian government regarding their desire to welcome the safe repatriation of Haitian TPS recipients in the near future. “This six-month extension should allow Haitian TPS recipients living in the United States time to attain travel documents and make other necessary arrangements for their ultimate departure from the United States, and should also provide the Haitian government with the time it needs to prepare for the future repatriation of all current TPS recipients. We plan to continue to work closely with the Haitian government, including assisting the government in proactively providing travel documents for its citizens.”

Prior to the expiration of this limited six-month period, Secretary Kelly will re-evaluate the designation for Haiti and decide anew whether extension, re-designation, or termination is warranted. The Department of Homeland Security urges Haitian TPS recipients who do not have another immigration status to use the time before Jan. 22, 2018 to prepare for and arrange their departure from the United States—including proactively seeking travel documentation—or to apply for other immigration benefits for which they may be eligible. “I believe there are indications that Haiti – if its recovery from the 2010 earthquake continues at pace - may not warrant further TPS extension past January 2018. TPS as enacted in law is inherently temporary in nature, and beneficiaries should plan accordingly that this status may finally end after the extension announced today.”

Further details about this extension of TPS for Haiti, including the application requirements and procedures, will appear in a Federal Register notice later this week.
In case it comes up, here is the email from March 22nd in

Do we have an ETA for the Haiti option paper for S1? I'm fine sending that up without the Tillerson letter with the understanding that it might be coming at a later date (mid-April).
From:
Sent: 19 Apr 2017 15:35:08 -0400
To: Plcy Exec Sec
Cc: Immigration Policy
Subject: RE: DHS Rule for Review: 2017 TPS Haiti | Due by 4/19/2017 3:00 PM

PLCY ES,

IMM has reviewed the reg notice and clears as written. Our only comment is to please ensure that

Many thanks,

On Behalf Of Plcy Exec Sec

From: On Behalf Of Plcy Exec Sec
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Immigration Policy
Cc: Plcy Exec Sec
Subject: FW: DHS Rule for Review: 2017 TPS Haiti | Due by 4/19/2017 3:00 PM

See revised summary:

**Title:** Termination of the Designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status

**Summary:** Through this Notice, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces that the Secretary of Homeland Security has determined that conditions in Haiti no longer support its designation for TPS and is therefore terminating the TPS designation of Haiti. This termination is effective January 22, 2018, six months following the end of the current designation.

Office of Policy, Executive Secretariat
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

RESPONSE REQUESTED BY 3pm on Wednesday, April 19

IMM PLCY:
Attached for your review is a draft regulatory action. Please review the document and insert any comments in track changes. Provide your name and your office and division as your track changes username throughout the document. When you are finished reviewing the document, insert a comment bubble at the top of the first page. In that comment bubble, provide a name, office, and contact information for your edits and comments in the document. Also provide a general description of your comments.

Reviewers may not share the document(s), in whole or in part, with anyone outside of DHS without first obtaining authorization for such disclosure from the DHS OGC Regulatory Affairs Law Division.

Summary of Regulatory Action

Through this Notice, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces that the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) is extending the designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 18 months, from July 23, 2017, through January 22, 2019. This Notice also sets forth procedures necessary for nationals of Haiti (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in Haiti) to re-register for TPS and to apply for renewal of their Employment Authorization Documents (EAD) with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The current EADs, with a facial expiration date of July 22, 2017, held by beneficiaries of Haiti TPS are also automatically extended by this notice through January 22, 2018. USCIS will issue new EADs with a January 22, 2019, expiration date to eligible Haiti TPS beneficiaries who timely re-register and apply for EADs under this extension.

Thank you,

Office of Policy, Executive Secretariat
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Cool thanks. I'll take TPS Haiti and the vetting QFR (also working with SCO on that cash for passports letter). Suggest letting the CRCL one go unless they reach out. Not sure we have bandwidth for that right now, unless you guys think otherwise.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: 18 Apr 2017 17:55:59 -0400
To: Immigration Policy
Subject: RE: ESEC Taskers

Here is a breakdown of everything due:

- WF 1141949 – Need to draft a response to Amnesty Int. due COB 4/19
- CRCL UN Questionnaire - overdue
- WF 1141248 – Calvo letter due 4/19 @ 2pm
- WF 1141183 – Parmley letter due 4/19 @ 2pm
- TPS Haiti Notice due 4/19 @ 3pm
- WF 1141058 – Vetting QFR due 4/20 @ 1pm
- WF 1140609 – Marriage fraud QFR due 4/20 @ 1pm
From: [b|(6) (b|(6) (b|(6) (b|(6)
Sent: 5 May 2017 09:46:14 -0400
To: [b|(6) Immigration Policy
Cc: [b|(6) [b|(6)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request for Haitian Foreign Minister Antonio Rodrigue with Secretary Kelly and TPS Extension Request
Attachments: The Honorable John F. Kelly .pdf

Thanks for sharing this. We just received it from our State PRM colleagues, as well. James, they asked that we make sure you had it prior to your call with WHA on Haiti TPS this morning.

From: [b|(6) (b|(6) (b|(6) (b|(6)
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:06:21 AM
To: [b|(6) Immigration Policy
Cc: [b|(6) [b|(6)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request for Haitian Foreign Minister Antonio Rodrigue with Secretary Kelly and TPS Extension Request

Adding Kathryn as well.

Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: [b|(6) (b|(6) (b|(6) (b|(6)
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 8:56 AM
To: [b|(6) Immigration Policy
Cc: [b|(6) [b|(6)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request for Haitian Foreign Minister Antonio Rodrigue with Secretary Kelly and TPS Extension Request

[b|(6)
Thanks so much for passing this along. I’m adding colleagues in our FO and in the Office of Policy and Strategy for their awareness and thoughts.

Good morning all – wanted you to see this note from State and letter to S1 from the Haitian FM. Any thoughts on the matter before I forward (via PLCY) to S1’s staff?

Thanks,
That’s my understanding as well – S1 has not made a decision. State inquired about this a week or so ago and asked for talking points. We provided them with previously cleared DHS language re: TPS Haiti (and TPS generally). Not sure if it’s helpful, but suggest using some or all of the following:

As required by statute, prior to the expiration of any TPS designation, the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with appropriate U.S. Government agencies, reviews the conditions in a country designated for TPS to determine whether the conditions support an extension of the country’s existing designation for TPS. The Secretary will undertake a review of this nature for Haiti’s designation prior to its July 22, 2017 expiration. Once a decision is made, it will be announced by USCIS and a detailed notice will be published in the Federal Register.

I do not believe S1 was planning on making a decision at this time. No idea whether the news reports have affected the decision timetable.

Greetings. DHS and USCIS are going to get hit soon with additional inquiries from the hill on the status of the TPS extension consideration for Haiti. Any sense of when a decision will be made. You may have seen the story below reporting that S1 has yet to make a decision. Thanks.

Thanks, we use the language below in letters and emails. We have historically seen a ramping up of congressional inquiries and requests for Members to speak with S1 beginning about 3 months prior to a TPS expiration date. We were trying to head those off if possible. Has DOS issued a recommendation?
Good morning all – wanted you to see this note from State and letter to S1 from the Haitian FM. Any thoughts on the matter before I forward (via PLCY) to S1’s staff?

Thanks -

DHS Office of Policy for Latin America/Caribbean

Referred to Another Agency/Component
No comments from IMM PLCY prior to forwarding. Likely follow up questions from front office will be about numbers. If TPS ends, how many will fall into unlawful status, how many are adjusting, what were statuses prior to TPS receipt, etc. My understanding may be off, but number of TPS recipients not necessarily equal to number of potential removables, right? Does USCIS (or OIS) have that kind of breakdown?
Hey team,

Thanks for your assistance,

U.S. Department of Homeland Security