

11-19-2009

Haiti: New Government Unlikely To Bring Change

LADB Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen>

Recommended Citation

LADB Staff. "Haiti: New Government Unlikely To Bring Change." (2009). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/9748>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Haiti: New Government Unlikely To Bring Change

by LADB Staff

Category/Department: Haiti

Published: Thursday, November 19, 2009

The advent of a new government in Haiti at the beginning of November will not result in any change in general economic or political policy. Michele Pierre-Louis had been prime minister for just less than 14 months when she received a no-confidence vote from a Senate dominated by the Lespwa party linked to President Rene Preval. A new prime minister, Jean-Max Bellerive, who served as minister of planning and external cooperation under both Pierre-Louis and her predecessor, Jacques-Edouard Alexis, was quickly ratified. In early November, Bellerive formed a new government team that retained 11 ministers from the previous administration. He kept the post of minister of planning and external cooperation, giving a clear indication of the desire for continuity in relations with international donors. A further sign of continuity was the promotion of Ronald Baudin from within the ministry to serve as the new minister of economy and finance. In his presentation of the new government's program to the parliament, Bellerive highlighted his intention to continue with the same broad approach developed by the Pierre-Louis government. The ostensible reason given for ousting Pierre-Louis was that she had failed to provide satisfactory answers to questions about the government's use of US\$197 million for relief and repairs to infrastructure carried out in the year since the hurricanes disaster of August and September 2008. However, some senators said that their problem with Pierre-Louis was more general, claiming her government was not doing enough to help alleviate poverty or taking effective measures to revive the economy. Despite these claims, it is likely that the move against Pierre-Louis was politically motivated, reflecting an ongoing realignment of forces ahead of legislative and presidential elections in 2010. The Lespwa party invigorated in the Senate following the arrival of six newly elected senators earlier this year-

-- End --