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| **CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS** |
| April 30, 2004 | United Nations Security Council Resolution 1542 adopted establishing UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). |
| June 2004  | MINUSTAH operations commence in Haiti. |
| July 9, 2004 | Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) signed by the United Nations and Government of Haiti. |
| January 12, 2010 |  7.0 magnitude earthquake hits Haiti, killing over 200,000 people and displacing more than 1.5 million. |
| October 9, 12, 16, 2010 | Approximately 1,075 Nepalese peacekeepers deployed as part of MINUSTAH force to three bases: Meille, Hinche and Terre Rouge.  |
| October 14, 2010 | First reported case of cholera (28 year-old male living near Meille Base). In following days hundreds of residents reported symptoms of cholera. |
| October 21, 2010 | Haiti’s Ministry of Public Health confirmed cholera epidemic; United States Centers for Disease Control conducted laboratory testing and identified causal agent as *Vibrio cholerae.* |
| October 22, 2010 | Over 4,470 cholera cases and 195 deaths reported in 21 of Haiti’s 141 communes.  |
| October 26, 2010 | UN and MINUSTAH issued a statement to the press “seek[ing] to clarify rumors circulating . . . that human waste spilled into a river in Mirebalais by MINUSTAH is the cause of the cholera epidemic in Haiti.” First in a number of statements that contributed to confusion and misattribution of the source of the outbreak.  |
| October 27, 2010 | AP reporter Jonathon Katz visited Meille Base and reported “debilitating . . . stench of excrement; observed exposed broken plastic pipe running from near what looked like a building of latrines inside the perimeter [of the base]” which was connected to an overflowing septic system,” as well as “reeking, dark liquid flow[ing] out of [the] broken pipe, toward the river.” Katz told by MINUSTAH Spokesperson that soldiers were collecting water run off from the Base to test for cholera. |
| October 27, 2010 | Al Jazeera English reporter Sebastian Walker visited Meille Base and documented “UN soldiers working furiously to contain what look[ed] like a sewage spill” from the same pipe observed by Katz. He also observed liquid running from toilet stalls along the perimeter of the Base, which ran into the Tributary a few yards away. He also noted “local residents said they had frequently seen sewage from the base leak into the river and that families in the area had recently become ill.” |
| October 28, 2010 | MINUSTAH issued a statement asserting all Nepalese soldiers deployed to Haiti in October 2010 had undergone all necessary medical testing and none tested positive for cholera; but the Spokesman later admitted that none of the soldiers had been tested for cholera -- a statement corroborated by same admission from Chief Medical Officer of the Nepalese Army. |
| November 20, 2010 | Haiti’s Ministry of Public Health reported cholera cases in all ten of Haiti’s geographic departments.  |
| November 7-27, 2010 | Renowned epidemiologist Dr. Renaud Piarroux led a Haitian-French team that conducted an epidemiological investigation in Haiti. The team, in an (unpublished, but later leaked) report, noted that their findings showed “no doubt” that cholera had been imported to Haiti by MINUSTAH. The report concluded that the epidemic “started around the camp of MINUSTAH and was spread explosively due to massive contamination of the water in the Artibonite River and one of its tributaries with feces of patients with cholera.” |
| January 6, 2011 | UN Secretary-General announced the creation of a panel (“UN Panel of Experts”) composed of four international experts to investigate source of cholera. |
| May 3, 2011 | The UN Panel of Experts released its report that found that “the evidence overwhelmingly supports the conclusion that the source of the Haiti cholera outbreak was due to contamination of the Meille Tributary of the Artibonite River with a pathogen strain of current South Asian type *Vibrio choleraeF* as a result of human activity.” It addressed a number of issues, including the adequacy of repairs made by MINUSTAH, finding that notwithstanding the repairs undertaken, the sanitation conditions at the bases were not sufficient “to prevent fecal contamination of the Meille Tributary System of the Artibonite River.” The Panel Report made a number of suggestions, including (i) the recommendation that UN troops traveling from cholera-endemic areas should “either receive a prophylactic dose of appropriate antibiotics before departure or be screened with a sensitive method to confirm absence of asymptomatic carriage of *Vibrio cholerae*, or both” and (ii) that fecal waste from UN bases should be treated “using on-site systems that inactive pathogens before disposal [and that are] operated and maintained by trained, qualified United Nations staff or by local providers with adequate United Nations oversight.” |
| November 3, 2011 | Approximately 5,000 Haitians represented by the *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux* and the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti filed claims with MINUSTAH seeking (1) compensation; (2) remediation through water and sanitation infrastructure; and (3) a formal admission of responsibility. They requested that MINUSTAH establish a standing claims commission to hear the claims in a fair and impartial manner, as called for by the SOFA. |
| December 21, 2011 | UN Legal Counsel acknowledged receipt of cholera claims. |
| January 11, 2012 | PAHO, UNICEF and CDC convened a meeting to call for a comprehensive water and sanitation response to the cholera epidemic. |
| March 2012 | Dr. Renaud Piarroux and his team published a second article on the origins of the cholera epidemic, noting that the evidence “all point[ed] to Nepalese UN peacekeepers as the initial source of cholera in Haiti.” This article relied on a combined analysis of all available evidence related to the origins of the outbreak, including three field investigations, comprehensive literature review and analysis of available laboratory results. |
| March 7, 2012  | Former U.S. President Bill Clinton, in his capacity as UN Special Envoy to Haiti, noted that UN troops were the “proximate cause” of the cholera outbreak. |
| February 21, 2013 | UN Legal Counsel sent letter to attorneys representing claimants stating that the claims were “not receivable” because they “would necessarily include a review of political and policy matters.”  |
| February 27, 2013 | Details of a plan, developed by the Haitian Government in partnership with a number of NGOs and UN agencies, released, detailing efforts to eliminate cholera from Haiti through improved access to water, sanitation, medical care and public education. The Haitian Government, in close cooperation with UN agencies, estimated it would take ten years and close to $2.2 billion (USD) to eliminate cholera. To date funding of the Plan has stalled at approximately 18%. |
| May 7, 2013 | Attorneys representing Haitian claimants responded to the UN Legal Counsel’s letter requesting a basis for the UN’s refusal to hear the claims, as the claims did not implicate political or policy-related matters. The Response also requested (1) a meeting with the UN’s Office of Legal Affairs; (2) the engagement of a mediator; and/or (3) the establishment of a standing claims commission as required by the SOFA. |
| May 22, 2013 | Members of the UN Panel of Experts released an article that noted “the preponderance of the evidence and the weight of the circumstantial evidence does lead to the conclusion that personnel associated with the Mirebalais MINUSTAH facility were the most likely source of introduction of cholera into Haiti.”  |
| July 5, 2013 | UN Legal Counsel responded with a letter summarily denying claimants’ requests. |
| August 2013 | UN Secretary-General appoints Pedro Medrano Rojas as the Senior Coordinator for the Response to Cholera in Haiti. |
| August 6, 2013 | Yale Law School, Yale School of Public Health and the *Association Haitienne de Droit de l’Environnment* released Peacekeeping Without Accountability: the United Nations’ Responsibility for the Haitian Cholera Epidemic, a comprehensive analysis of the evidence that the UN brought cholera to Haiti, and the international legal and humanitarian standards relevant to UN accountability. |
| October 9, 2013 | Attorneys for claimants filed *Georges et al. v. United Nations et al.* in U.S. federal district court (Southern District of New York), naming the United Nations, MINUSTAH, Ban Ki-Moon (UN Secretary-General), and Edmond Mulet (former Under-Secretary-General for MINUSTAH) as defendants. |
| March 6, 2014 | Attorney for a second group of plaintiffs filed suit in *Jean-Robert et al. v. United Nations et al.* in U.S. federal district court (Southern District of New York) naming UN, MINUSTAH, Ban Ki-Moon and Edmond Mulet as defendants.  |
| March 7, 2014 | U.S. Government filed statement of interest in *Georges* requesting dismissal of lawsuit on the basis of UN immunity. |
| March 11, 2014 | Attorneys for a third group of plaintiffs filed suit in *LaVenture et al. v. United Nations et al.* in U.S. federal district court (Eastern District of New York) naming the UN, MINUSTAH, Ban Ki-Moon, Edmond Mulet, Chandra Srivastava (former Chief Engineer for MINUSTAH), Paul Aghadjanian (Chief of Mission Support for MINUSTAH), Pedro Medrano (Assistant UN Secretary-General), Miguel De Serpa (Under Secretary for Legal Affairs) as defendants. |
| September 25, 2014 | UN Special Rapporteurs sent allegation letter to UN Secretary-General in which they “express concern that, allegedly, the United Nations failed to take reasonable precautions and act with due diligence to prevent the introduction and the outbreak of cholera in Haiti since 2010.” |
| November 25, 2014 | UN Senior Coordinator for Cholera Response sent response to allegation letter, discussing the UN response to the cholera epidemic in Haiti, including measures to ensure peacekeeper accountability and the UN response to cholera victims’ legal claims. |
| December 19, 2014 | 77 US Congresspersons sent letter to Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon urging UN authorities to ensure victims of the cholera epidemic have access to fair and impartial procedures for adjudication of their claims.  |
| January 9, 2015 | District Court Judge dismissed *Georges* for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. |
| January 26, 2015 | District Court Judge dismissed *Jean-Robert* for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.  |
| February 12, 2015 | Plaintiffs-Appellants filed notice of appeal to the Second Circuit in *Georges*. |
| March 24, 2015 | *LaVenture* case stayed in the Eastern District of New York pending Second Circuit decision in *Georges*. |
| May 27, 2015 | Plaintiffs-Appellants in *Georges* filed principal Appellate Brief with the Second Circuit. |
| June 3, 2015 | Six amicus briefs filed in support of Plaintiffs-Appellants in *Georges*, on behalf of international law, European law, and U.S. constitutional law scholars, as well as human rights groups, Haitian-American groups, and former UN officers. |
| June 30, 2015 | UN closed office of the Senior Coordinator for the Response to Cholera in Haiti. |
| July 9, 2015 | 154 Haitian-American Groups and Leaders sign letter expressing outrage and demanding the UN take accountability.  |
| August 26, 2015 | U.S. Government filed amicus brief with the Second Circuit *in* *Georges* in support of affirming dismissal. |
| September 25, 2015 | Plaintiffs-Appellants in *Georges* filed Reply Brief with the Second Circuit. |