

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 4573
OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Debt Relief for Earth-
3 quake Recovery in Haiti Act of 2010”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) On January 12, 2010, a 7.0 magnitude
7 earthquake struck the country of Haiti.

8 (2) Casualty estimates, still being compiled, as
9 well as infrastructure damage, including to roads,
10 ports, hospitals, and residential dwellings, place this
11 earthquake as the worst cataclysm to hit Haiti in
12 over two centuries.

13 (3) An estimated 3,000,000 people have been
14 directly affected by the disaster in Haiti, nearly one-
15 third of the country’s population, who are currently
16 at risk of long-term displacement and vulnerability.

17 (4) The destruction of infrastructure, particu-
18 larly to the port, airport, roads, and telecommuni-

1 cations, continues to hinder the immediate delivery
2 of humanitarian assistance in Haiti.

3 (5) Haiti is the poorest, least developed country
4 in the Western Hemisphere, and prior to the earth-
5 quake was ranked 149 out of 182 countries on the
6 United Nations Human Development Index.

7 (6) Prior to the earthquake, Haiti was still in
8 the process of recovering from a ruinous recent se-
9 ries of hurricanes and tropical storms, food short-
10 ages and rising commodity prices, and political in-
11 stability, but was showing encouraging signs of im-
12 provement.

13 (7) President Obama vowed the “unwavering
14 support” of the United States and pledged a “swift,
15 coordinated and aggressive effort to save lives and
16 support the recovery in Haiti”.

17 (8) The response to the tragedy from the global
18 community has been overwhelmingly positive.

19 (9) The initial emergency response of the men
20 and women of the United States Government, led by
21 the United States Agency for International Develop-
22 ment and United States Southern Command, has
23 been swift and resolute.

24 (10) Individuals, businesses, and philanthropic
25 organizations across the United States and through-

1 out the international community have responded in
2 support of Haiti and its populace during this time
3 of crisis.

4 (11) Throughout this terrible calamity, the Hai-
5 tian people continue to demonstrate unwavering re-
6 silience, dignity, and courage.

7 (12) Once proper surveys and assessments are
8 conducted, the initial and crucial emergency relief
9 response will likely move to a comprehensive mission
10 requiring sustained assistance from the United
11 States and the international community for recon-
12 struction and development efforts.

13 (13) The Government of Haiti cannot afford to
14 invest in reconstruction and development efforts
15 while making payments on debts owed to inter-
16 national financial institutions such as the Inter-
17 national Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank,
18 and the Inter-American Development Bank, and to
19 other international creditors.

20 (14) Prior to the earthquake, debt service pay-
21 ments to multilateral financial institutions and other
22 international creditors already were a tremendous
23 burden that interfered with the ability of the Gov-
24 ernment of Haiti to meet the needs of its people.

1 (15) On June 30, 2009, the World Bank an-
2 nounced that Haiti qualified for and received \$1,
3 200,000,000 in debt relief from the IMF, the World
4 Bank, and other multilateral financial institutions.

5 (16) In order to qualify for debt relief, the Gov-
6 ernment of Haiti successfully developed and imple-
7 mented a comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy
8 Paper, under the direction of the IMF and the
9 World Bank.

10 (17) According to the U.S. Department of the
11 Treasury, despite previous debt relief, Haiti owes a
12 total of \$828,000,000 to international financial in-
13 stitutions, including \$447,000,000 to the Inter-
14 American Development Bank, \$284,000,000 to the
15 IMF, \$39,000,000 to the World Bank Group's
16 International Development Association, and
17 \$58,000,000 to the International Fund for Agricul-
18 tural Development.

19 (18) According to the Department of the Treas-
20 ury, Haiti owes Venezuela \$295,000,000 and Tai-
21 wan \$92,000,000. On January 25, President Hugo
22 Chavez announced that Venezuela will forgive all of
23 Haiti's debt, and on January 28, President Ma
24 Ying-jeou said that Taiwan is analyzing what steps
25 are necessary to forgive Haiti's debt, as Taiwan does

1 not typically participate in debt reduction initiatives
2 and thus does not have standard mechanisms for
3 doing so.

4 (19) The cancellation of Haiti's debts to multi-
5 lateral financial institutions and other international
6 creditors will allow the Government of Haiti to use
7 its meager resources for essential reconstruction and
8 development efforts.

9 **SEC. 3. CANCELLATION OF HAITI'S DEBTS TO INTER-**
10 **NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

11 Title XVI of the International Financial Institutions
12 Act (22 U.S.C. 262p et seq.) is amended by adding at
13 the end the following:

14 **"SEC. 1628. CANCELLATION OF HAITI'S DEBTS TO INTER-**
15 **NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

16 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury
17 shall instruct the United States Executive Directors at the
18 International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for
19 Reconstruction and Development (World Bank), the Inter-
20 American Development Bank, the International Fund for
21 Agricultural Development, and other multilateral develop-
22 ment institutions (as defined in section 1701(c)(3)) to use
23 the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at each
24 such institution to seek to achieve—

1 “(1) the immediate and complete cancellation of
2 all debts owed by Haiti to such institutions;

3 “(2) the suspension of Haiti’s debt service pay-
4 ments to such institutions until such time as the
5 debts are canceled completely; and

6 “(3) the provision of additional assistance from
7 such institutions to Haiti in the form of grants or
8 other assistance such that Haiti does not accumulate
9 additional debts.

10 “(b) USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE TO
11 HAITI.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the
12 United States Executive Director of the International
13 Monetary Fund to advocate the use of some of the realized
14 windfall profits that exceed the required contribution to
15 the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (as referenced
16 in the IMF Reforms Financial Facilities for Low-Income
17 Countries Public Information Notice No. 09/94) from the
18 ongoing sale of 12,965,649 ounces of gold acquired since
19 the second Amendment of the Fund’s Article of Agree-
20 ment, to provide debt stock relief, debt service relief, and
21 grants for Haiti.”.

22 **SEC. 4. CANCELLATION OF HAITI’S DEBTS TO OTHER**
23 **CREDITORS.**

24 The Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of
25 State should use all appropriate diplomatic influence to

- 1 secure cancellation of any and all remaining bilateral, mul-
- 2 tilateral, and private creditor debt owed by Haiti.

