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The General Management of the Institute for the Protection of the National Heritage (ISPAN) and the General Management of the Centre National d'Équipement (C.N.E.) have signed a partnership agreement concerning the preservation of the built cultural heritage of the city of Port-au-Prince, which was severely affected by the earthquake of 12 January 2010.

This agreement covers the emergency measures that need to be put in place in view of the restoration of these buildings.

These so-called protective measures will consist of the removal of elements or parts of buildings deemed dangerous for the population, a manual cleaning of the premises, removal of rubble, sorting and storage of significant decorative and architectural elements, consolidation, shoring and securing of the collapsed buildings.

Under the agreement, the C.N.E. will be particularly responsible for handling heavy equipment, transportation and logistical expertise.

In view of this, a non-exhaustive list of affected historic buildings was compiled by ISPAN and communicated to the Director of the C.N.E., Mr. Jude Célestin.

This list includes:

The National Palace (1922), the Jean-Jacques Dessalines Barracks (1912), the Palace of Finances (1880), the Palace of Justice (1927), the Palace of Ministries (1881), the City Hall (1925 -1928) and a many places of worship: Notre Dame Cathedral (1912), the Church of the Sacred Heart of Turgeau (1908), the Church of Sainte-Anne du Morne à Tuff, the Church Saint-Louis King of France (1880), etc., (all bear witness to the establishment of the Catholic church in Haiti after the signing of the Concordat of 1860), the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, which houses the famous frescoes painted by the most famous Haitian artist in the 50s, etc..

The General Management of ISPAN and the C.N.E. welcome this laudable initiative which will allow, beyond the present misfortune, to preserve the memory of the Haitian people.

Daniel Elie
Director General

Institut de Sauvegarde du Patrimoine National
Angle des rues Chérier et Martin Luther King
HT1160 Port-au-Prince
Haiti
Telephone:
245-3118
245-3211
244-2801