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Groups ask for UN's help to end Haiti deportations

The Associated Press

The American Civil Liberties Union and more than 50 other human rights groups and immigration advocates are asking United Nations officials to urge the U.S. to stop deporting convicted criminals to Haiti.

The organizations issued a joint statement Thursday at a meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva. They say widespread cholera in Haiti and lingering devastation from a January 2010 earthquake make it inhumane for the deportations to continue.

The U.N. Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti has expressed concerns about the deportations. His recommendations urge a "flexible and generous attitude" toward Haitian nationals abroad.

The U.S. suspended all deportations to Haiti after the earthquake. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has deported 100 Haitians since deportations of convicted criminals resumed in January 2011.

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