PRESS RELEASE - January 12, 2018

The Haitian Medical Association Abroad (AMHE), a professional Haitian-American organization for 45 years, decries President Trump’s disparaging comments about Haiti and its nationals. Haiti, the first independent black republic in the world, has produced competent professionals in healthcare, education, entrepreneurs, lawmakers and in many other disciplines who have contributed their fair share to the economic empowerment of the United States of America since the first Haitian arrived in the US. Like other immigrants, Haitian-American communities have long contributed to making America the great country that it has become.

AMHE adds its voice to all those who have already condemned Mr. Trump’s scornful comments as we urge the Haitian and Haitian-American communities to stand against his divisive, disparaging rhetoric while they continue to maintain their dignity and self-respect.

Haiti has not just been the first black republic to earn independence in the world; it has been a beacon of hope and safe heaven to many who were persecuted when racism and bigotry ran supreme in the world. For this reason, we have been supremely punished. Let’s remember that Haiti also produced heroes that fought alongside the Americans in Savannah, helped liberate countries in South America; what to say of JeanBaptiste Pointe du Sable who founded the city of Chicago and of Pierre Toussaint, a former resident of New York City whose resting place is none other than St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York?

We, Haitians, and Haitian-Americans, are proud of our heritage and will continue to prove the US President wrong.