



RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOICE OF AMERICA'S CREOLE SERVICE

February 26, 2016

WHEREAS, the Voice of America's (VOA) Creole Service started as a five-minute news feed in the early 1980s with one broadcaster, and it became a regularly scheduled broadcast on February 7, 1986, when a popular uprising forced Haitian dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier into exile;

WHEREAS, VOA Creole remains one of the most reliable and trustworthy source of news and information for Creole speakers in Haiti with Research indicating 81.6% of weekly listeners trust the news and information they received from the Creole Service;

WHEREAS, for the past 30 years, the Creole Service has covered many stories of significance to the Haitian audience, including:

- The rise and fall of the first democratically-elected President of Haiti Jean-Bertrand Aristide,
- The January 2010 earthquake that killed hundreds of thousands and left more than a million homeless in Haiti, and
- The inauguration of Barack Obama as the first African-American President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in cooperation with other U.S. Government agencies such as the U.S. Department of State, VOA Creole Service provides training for Haitian journalists with more than a hundred journalists being trained in sessions in Washington and Haitian cities since 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Broadcasting Board of Governors that we celebrate and commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Voice of America's Creole Service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Broadcasting Board of Governors commends and congratulates both the current and former members of the Voice of America's Creole Service for their dedication in serving the Haitian community, and in implementing U.S. foreign policy goals through the open communication of information and ideas in the Creole language.