

## Sample Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

**[Insert opening sentence referring to an article or theme in the paper.]**

It is clear from reading **[headline of article in newspaper, date of publication, page number if available]** that much more could be done if the international community lives up to its promises in the Haiti recovery and rebuilding effort.

After the devastating magnitude-7.0 earthquake struck Haiti in January 2010, individuals, companies and countries opened their hearts and their wallets to support the immediate needs of earthquake survivors and to help them rebuild. As this already impoverished nation began their struggles, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and World Bank pledged their support with much fanfare by forgiving Haiti's debt and together approving over \$1.17 billion in grants.

Now, two years later, the IDB and the World Bank — the world's largest donors to Haiti — must honor their public pledges to assist Haiti. The IDB disbursements to date are only 28 percent of the nearly \$720 million it pledged, and World Bank disbursements are 15 percent of the \$450 million it approved for grants. These are exceedingly slow rates given Haiti's urgent needs.

**[Insert one sentence about your personal experiences and why this issue is important to you.]**

I am a member of Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, an international human-rights organization based in Cambridge, Mass., that has raised \$2.5 million to support grassroots organizations working to rebuild Haiti. I know the important work that UUSC and similar nonprofits are accomplishing on limited resources and how much more can be done — and done more quickly — with full funding from the major international development organizations.

I urge your readers who care about our friends and neighbors in Haiti to call upon the IDB and the World Bank to distribute all Haiti grants without further delay.

[Your name]

[Your hometown]

[Your daytime telephone number — will not be published; for media contact purposes only]