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PRESS RELEASE
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Statement following the NYT investigation into Haiti.

A series of investigations by *The New York Times* on the subject of Haiti and colonization have come to the attention of the management of CIC and its current parent company, Banque Fédérative du Crédit Mutuel. The investigations mention in particular alleged links at the end of the 19th century between the *National Bank of Haiti* and the then *Société générale de crédit industriel et commercial*, a bank created by Napoleon III.

Crédit Mutuel acquired Crédit Industriel et Commercial – a bank owned at the time by the French government – on the cusp of the 21st century, in 1998.

Because it is important to cast light on all aspects of the history of colonization, including in the 1870s, the mutual bank will fund independent academic research to shed light on this past.

A cooperative mutual bank founded in 1882 to combat usury, Crédit Mutuel has promoted the values of freedom, equality and fraternity since its foundation.

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