



**PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT BY

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**THEMATIC DEBATE ON *DISARMAMENT MACHINERY* AT THE
FIRST COMMITTEE FOR THE 80TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

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Chair,

Jamaica aligns itself with the statements delivered by Belize on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

We reaffirm our steadfast commitment to multilateralism and to the central role of the United Nations in advancing disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control. The effectiveness of the disarmament machinery — comprising this very Committee, the Conference on Disarmament, the Disarmament Commission and supporting entities — remains vital to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral system.

Yet, these bodies continue to face persistent challenges, which underscore the urgent need for the renewal of this machinery to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and reflective of today's global realities.

In this context, we continue to support the convening of the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament, which would provide a timely opportunity to assess the effectiveness of the existing machinery, strengthen implementation and chart a more responsive and inclusive global security agenda. We call for renewed political will, flexibility, and inclusive dialogue to support efforts towards this goal.

Chair,

Jamaica highlights the valuable role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC). Its technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives have strengthened regional implementation of small arms control measures and advanced the goals of disarmament and sustainable development. Its activities also contribute to the efforts to combat emerging security threats and transnational organized crime.

For these reasons, my delegation once again joins Member States of the Latin American and Caribbean region in co-sponsoring the draft resolution on this item.

The reality is that for small island developing States like Jamaica, the diversion of resources from development to armament represents a tangible cost to our people. Strengthening the disarmament machinery is not only a procedural necessity — it is a moral and developmental imperative.

Chair,

Jamaica welcomes the report of the 2024-2025 Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (ABDM) which focuses on identifying and analysing the impact on international peace and security trends emanating from advances in science and technology.

We note the consideration of how the Disarmament Machinery can proactively adapt to remain effective and inclusive in capturing the many benefits, while addressing risks through the development of principles to ensure that scientific and technological progress serves humanity—advancing peace, sustainable development, and global equity. We commend the leadership of our own Ambassador Shorna-Kay Richards, Ambassador of Jamaica to Japan, who served as Chair of the Advisory Board during its 2024-2025 program of work.

In conclusion, Jamaica remains committed to working with all partners to restore confidence in multilateral disarmament processes and to ensure that the machinery functions as a genuine instrument for peace, security, and sustainable progress.

Thank you.