

PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT BY

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ON

AGENDA ITEM 65: PEACEBUILDING AND SUSTAINING PEACE

AT THE

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON PEACEBUILDING AND SUSTAINING PEACE SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NAITONS ASSEMBLY

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Mr. President Excellences Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour for my delegation to participate in this High-Level Meeting. We wish to thank you, Mr. President, for having convened the meeting as well as the Secretary-General for his very useful report. Jamaica also wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), and to offer the following additional comments.

First, we would concur with the argument that the focus on peacebuilding and sustaining peace must be couched in the long-term focus on attaining the SDGs. Our efforts must be geared towards the greater good of ensuring that no one is left behind. The Government of Jamaica remains committed to playing its part in this regard and has, from the outset, implemented its own National Development Plan – Vision 2030, which is fully aligned with the SDGs. Sustaining peace is one of the core considerations in the pursuit of sustainable development.

Secondly, the case for greater coherence, both in terms of policy and operational coherence, cannot be overemphasized. It is important that at the level of the UN system, as well as at the national and regional levels, we continue to work to ensure that there is coherence, in order to ensure that peace is not only maintained and restored but also cultivated.

Thirdly, Jamaica believes in the value of partnerships amongst different networks and stakeholders in order to build and sustain peace. Efforts in this regard, however, will be meaningless without a simultaneous focus on identifying and responding to the root causes of conflict and the other factors that destabilize societies. Partnerships, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as the interaction with regional and sub-regional organizations, must inform collective action going forward.

Fourth and like other delegations, we also believe that the focus on youth as well as on the full participation of women in conflict prevention and peacebuilding are critical. We would encourage continued efforts in this regard.

Fifth and given the wide-ranging continuum of peace, Jamaica has long regarded peacekeeping as one of the key components of the United Nations' effort to promote international peace and security. To this end, we have contributed over the years to UN peacekeeping missions through the deployment of Police Officers as well as of civilian personnel.

From its inception, Jamaica has also been supportive of the work of the Peacebuilding Commission as one avenue through which the United Nations can promote a cohesive yet multidimensional response to post conflict situations and comprehensive strategies for peacebuilding, development and institutional building. In keeping with this longstanding position, I wish to reiterate my delegation's commitment to supporting efforts to reform the peace and security architecture to ensure that the United Nations is able to respond to the peace and security threats and challenges that confront us as an international community.

I thank you, Mr. President.