



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

STATEMENT BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

DURING THE

**GENERAL DEBATE ON
ALL DECOLONISATION AGENDA ITEMS**

**FOURTH COMMITTEE
SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, 13TH OCTOBER 2014

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Mr. Chairman,

From the outset, I take the opportunity to congratulate you and the other Members of the Bureau on your election to guide the work of the Fourth Committee and extend best wishes to you and your team, as you discharge your duties.

Jamaica associates itself with the Statements delivered earlier by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and Costa Rica on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. Chairman,

Jamaica recognises the outstanding contribution of the United Nations to the decolonisation of several countries across the globe. As a beneficiary of decolonisation, Jamaica firmly supports this important process. Much remains to be done as there are 17 countries that are still not able to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, in accordance with Resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14th December 1960 and 1541 (XV), of 15th December 1960, as well as other relevant Resolutions of the General Assembly. It is therefore clear that there is no room for complacency.

Jamaica calls on the pertinent Administering Powers to initiate the necessary internal reforms and adopt the requisite measures in order to facilitate the decolonization of each of the non-self-governing territories, taking into account their specific situations. We call upon the Secretary-General to renew his efforts to ensure that there is continued and consistent work towards the total elimination of colonialism and the achievement of independence and self-determination for all the peoples of the world.

In that regard, Jamaica also calls for a re-visit of the 2006 Plan of Implementation (POI) of the Decolonisation Mandate, including the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on Decolonisation to *inter alia*, analyse the current dependency arrangements. We appreciate the work of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and UN bodies such as the United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), in providing capacity building and other forms of support to the Non-Self Governing Territories.

Mr. Chairman,

Jamaica reiterates its strong support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, to achieve the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara. We support the Resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly in this regard and call for their full implementation. Every effort must be made to allow the people of Western Sahara to exercise full control over the territory. As such, we believe that the holding of the referendum is critical to determine the will of the people, and is in our view, key to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, consistent with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and the relevant Resolutions.

Mr. Chairman,

As a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Jamaica remains concerned about the situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and will continue to monitor the ongoing political crisis. Jamaica welcomes the appointment of the eight-member committee to review the Constitutional Order of the Non-self governing Territory in order to make recommendations for internal reforms. Jamaica is convinced that the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands must be allowed to determine their own future if they are to achieve inclusive, democratic governance and economic stability.

As we approach the mid-point of the Third International Decade for the eradication of Colonialism, we believe this is a good opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments, and more importantly, contemplate the steps that need to be taken in order to fulfil our mandate. We must renew our commitment to the Non-Self Governing Territories for self-government and self-determination. Thank you, Mr. Chairman