



PERMANENT MISSION OF  
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**STATEMENT BY**

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON**

**AGENDA ITEM 21 :  
*GLOBALIZATION AND INTERDEPENDENCE***

**IN THE**

**SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE  
68<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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*PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY*

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Fiji, on behalf of the Group of 77 & China, the statement delivered by the distinguished Permanent representative of The Bahamas on behalf of CARICOM and the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Cuba, on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). Allow me to provide some additional comments in my national capacity.

Jamaica welcomes the reports issued by the Secretary General on ***Agenda Item 21: Globalisation and interdependence***, including the reports on the Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalisation and interdependence', 'Development cooperation with Middle-Income Countries', 'Science and technology for development', as well as the report prepared by UNESCO on 'Culture and Development'. We thank the members of the panel for introducing the reports.

***The role of the UN in promoting development in the context of globalisation and interdependence***

Mr. Chairman,

Globalisation presents a range of opportunities and challenges for the multilateral system, particularly in terms of its role in advancing the development agenda. It has allowed for an unprecedented degree of interconnectedness, access and opportunities across borders. Economic globalisation in particular has served to advance development through the more rapid dissemination of technology and know-how and the increased movement of people and capital. However, globalisation has also proven capable of exacerbating inequalities, including through the uneven dissemination of technology and increasing vulnerability to exogenous economic shocks.

Despite the many challenges posed by our growing interdependence, the international community must take steps to harness the positive aspects of globalisation to create an international enabling environment wherein countries can advance national development plans, inclusive of poverty eradication strategies, geared towards the attainment of sustained economic growth and job creation. A reinvigorated global partnership for development and renewed commitment to multilateralism will be indispensable in this regard, particularly as we endeavor to advance our efforts to create a development agenda for the post-2015 period.

My delegation supports calls for a renewed global partnership for development; one that harnesses the potential of globalisation to positively contribute to the implementation of a multi-dimensional, inclusive and effective post-2015 development agenda that reinforced by robust financing, technology and capacity-building support structures.

We maintain that the United Nations, as the pre-eminent forum for global governance, must play a central role in creating the enabling environment required for this reenergised global partnership for development to materialise.

#### ***Development Cooperation with Middle-Income Countries***

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation welcomes the inclusion of development cooperation with Middle-Income Countries (MICs) on the agenda of this Committee and supports efforts to determine how best to design development strategies that focus on the particular needs of countries within this category. In this regard, we recognise the contribution that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), has made to broadening and deepening the debate on development cooperation with Middle-Income Countries including the CARICOM SIDS, most of which are also MIC's.

The debate on how to effectively address the development needs of Middle-Income Countries has been particularly challenging, due to the fact that the designation 'Middle-Income Country' is applied to a varied group of countries facing a wide range of socio-economic realities and that are at different points along the spectrum of development. In Latin America and the Caribbean, a region comprised primarily of MICs, our persistent development <sup>challenges</sup> ~~tends~~ not to receive the attention it deserves due to the practice of using per capita income as a proxy for assessing levels of development. This approach to measuring development serves to obscure the persistent, distinct and heterogeneous development challenges faced by MICs, including persistent poverty and large and expanding inequality. While the MDGs framework has been successful in many respects, the focus on an income distribution approach to allocating funds for development cooperation is one that warrants more explicit analysis. We therefore join with other CELAC Member States in emphasizing that it is imperative that the diverse development needs of MICs, based on their differentiated structural gaps, be fully taken into account in the development of the post-2015 development agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

It is the considered view of my delegation that we must adopt an approach to development that goes beyond viewing developmental challenges through the prism of per capita income levels. Development should be construed as a multifaceted concept that takes into account a range of variables including income distribution inequality, poverty levels and capacity deficits, as well as the structural challenges and gaps that MICs face in areas such as productivity and innovation, infrastructure, savings and investment, education, gender and the protection of the environment.

For the post-2015 development agenda to truly be effective, the international community will have to put in place the means of implementation – financing, technology transfer and capacity building - that allow for the development needs of vulnerable populations to be addressed, irrespective of wherever they reside.

## ***Culture and Development***

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to turn my attention to the issue of Culture and Development. Jamaica is of the view that culture has a significant role to play in sustainable development. In fact, culture as a cross-cutting issue can and does make an impact both in contributing to development and in advancing development and affects all dimensions of sustainable development. While culture cannot and ought not to be invoked as an excuse to infringe upon one's human rights and fundamental freedoms, we recognise that cultural diversity will result in different paths to development as culture presents specific contexts within which development policies and programmes are to be implemented.

My delegation is of the view that the cultural and creative industries have been vastly undervalued in terms of their contribution to economic development and individual economic empowerment and well-being. These sectors of the economy generate employment, investments and an accessible route out of poverty for persons in vulnerable situations. Full consideration must also be given to the instrumental role of culture in fostering inclusive economic development, bearing in mind the nexus between the tourism, sports and entertainment industries.

Given that culture is both an enabler and a driver of sustainable development, and considering its influence on social development, peace and security, and environmental sustainability, Jamaica is supportive of the call to integrate culture within the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to close by acknowledging that we have a monumental task before us - determining how to create a development agenda for the post-2015 development period that harnesses the

extraordinary potential of globalisation to strengthen multilateral cooperation and coordination that in turn creates the enabling environment for countries to achieve sustainable development.

I thank you.