



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

STATEMENT BY

**MR. AINSLEY HENRY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
FORESTRY DEPARTMENT**

**MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND JOB CREATION (MEGJC)**

AT THE

19TH SESSION OF UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS

**AGENDA ITEM 6: HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT ROUNDTABLE ON:
“FOREST BASED SOLUTIONS TO THE TRIPLE PLANETARY CRISES: A
FOCUS ON PEOPLE, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND FINANCE.”**

NEW YORK

9th MAY 2024

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Mr. Chair

Distinguished Delegates, International Observers

Ladies and Gentlemen

Jamaica thanks the UNFF Secretariat, the delegates and the co-chairs for the work done to present a consensus document at this meeting. The country acknowledges the achievements of the various partners work in forestry and welcomes the continued commitments to driving the implementation of the UNSPF and strengthening contributions to the International Arrangements on Forests including the CPF.

Jamaica supports the call to maintain and increase the momentum of mobilizing new and additional resources from all sources to support the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of all types of forests, particularly by strengthening the existing multilateral funding mechanisms to support developing countries. We note that the effective realization of the GFGs, particularly in developing countries, will only happen through the promotion and development of financial mechanisms, including payments for ecosystem services, blended finance, and others.

The call to foster cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology in the forest sector, and engage sectors beyond the forest sector to unlock sustained finance and align financial flows to help support forest conservation, restoration and sustainable use and management goals is also supported.

Accordingly, Jamaica is proud to announce the following:

1. Jamaica has secured the approval of the Forest Stewardship Council of Interim National Standards as of 01 March this year. These standards represent a significant step forward as we seek to effectively implement forest-related legislation, strengthen forest law enforcement and promote good governance at all levels, to advance sustainable forest management, including forest conservation, in a manner supportive of local livelihoods. These standards will help to provide increased opportunities for market access and hence improved incomes from forest related activities/products.
2. With more than 46% forest cover, Jamaica not only recognizes the importance of protecting our forests but has elevated them to being a critical part of our Nationally Determined Contributions given their importance in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation. This recognition reinforces our efforts to build capacity on means of

implementation, monitoring, assessment and reporting, to facilitate our participation in global forest reporting.

3. Further, Jamaica continues to promote a “No Net Loss” programme, as stipulated in our Forest Policy (2017). Consequently, the Forestry Department has developed a guideline document for the implementation of tree planting in Urban and Peri-Urban landscapes and a National Mangrove and Swamp Forest Management Plan to enhance our activities in building the climate resilience of our country. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID 19 pandemic and climate change induced weather events such as extended dry seasons with extreme heat, Jamaica has enumerated the planting of more than 2.8 million trees over the last 4 years towards our announced commitment to target the planting of 3 million trees.

I thank you