



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

STATEMENT BY

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS***

**ON AGENDA ITEM 2: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MAJOR ISSUES AND
PRIORITIES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE GROUP OF 77 DURING 2022**

**AT THE MEETING OF THE GROUP OF 77
(AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL)**

NEW YORK

TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY 2022

FINAL TEXT

Mr. Chair,

At the outset I convey my delegation's congratulations to you on Pakistan's assumption to the Chair of the G77 for 2022.

Mr. Chair,

Jamaica, as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), has to contend with a combination of inherent vulnerabilities and external factors which constrain our efforts to fully realize our development potential. In this vein, we align with the statement delivered by Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of AOSIS. I, however, will provide some national perspectives on a few priority areas for Jamaica, for which the continued longstanding support of the Group remains imperative.

Mr. Chair,

In this decade of action, Jamaica continues to strengthen its national sustainable development framework, Vision 2030 Jamaica, with the aim of increasing coherence between SDG monitoring and implementation and that of the SAMOA Pathway. Furthermore, we remain convinced that the SDGs provides a framework for response to crises such as COVID-19.

As the Global South remains disproportionately affected by the devastating socio-economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical that we work towards inclusive recovery that puts us back on a path towards achieving the SDGs and other

important developmental objectives. We should use this crisis to press for better global economic structures that better suit our needs.

It is also important to build coherence in our strategic approach especially for the major events on the horizon, including the High-Level Meeting on the NUA¹, ECOSOC HLPF², ECOSOC FFD³ Forum, the 7th Global Platform on DRR⁴ in Indonesia, and COP 27⁵ in Egypt.

Mr. Chair,

Jamaica will be placing great emphasis on addressing racism and the legacies of colonialism and slavery. The call for global recognition of the need for reparatory justice and to ramp up action to eliminate racism and discrimination is one that looks to meet the objectives of the International Decade for People of African Descent. Our aim is for a level playing field that will allow our peoples to fully enjoy their human rights and achieve their aspirations for socio-economic development and well-being.

Mr. Chair,

In the area of the Ocean and Seas, Jamaica looks forward to the successful conclusion of the BBNJ Negotiations and to the convening of the Ocean Conference later this year. We will continue to advocate for the sustainable use and protection of the marine

¹ NUA – New Urban Agenda

² HLPF – High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

³ FFD – Financing for Development

⁴ DRR – Disaster Risk Reduction

⁵ COP 27 – 27th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

environment, which is not only crucial for our development, but also our very survival as a SIDS.

Mr. Chair,

With reference to the Note Verbale NV/10 that was circulated recently, my delegation supports the request to have a discussion on the Group's working methods. This must be an inclusive process that aims to improve the strength and unity of the Group. As you may also appreciate, this issue is not new. As the Group has evolved over the years, it is natural that we routinely examine the manner in which we operate - to ensure that the synergies of the Group remain aligned and so that our common objectives are effectively achieved.

Recalling that the G77 embarked on an exercise parallel to the revitalization of the work of the 2nd Committee to revitalize its own operations within the Committee, we can consider building on the work undertaken in that context as a starting point.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation reiterates its commitment to collaborating with other delegations and supporting the Chair to ensure that our Group remains strong, cohesive and successful in promoting and defending the interests of the developing world.

Thank you.