



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

STATEMENT BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE ON THE REGULAR
PROCESS FOR GLOBAL REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE
OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING SOCIOECONOMIC
ASPECTS**

28th FEBRUARY 2018

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

Madam Co-Chair,

Please accept my delegation's appreciation for your hardwork in steering our deliberations to date. We are indebted to you, the Joint Coordinators, the Experts and DOALOS, for the sterling contribution in support of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Regular Process.

We believe that the work done as part of the Regular Process is in keeping with the important focus on the Ocean, which we have witnessed, most notably in the context of the 2017 Ocean Conference. Jamaica, therefore, welcomes and continues to value the work being done in preparation for the Second World Ocean Assessment Report (WOA II). As a small island developing state whose development is integrally linked to the ocean, we attach tremendous importance to the Regular Process and the conservation and sustainable use of the marine resources.

Against this background, my delegation wishes to place on record its appreciation for the regional consultations that were conducted in 2017. They were especially useful in fostering the exchange of views and so we look forward to the follow-up meetings to be held in 2018. My delegation takes this opportunity to once again underscore the importance of ensuring that peculiarities within and across regions are duly taken into account in preparing WOA II.

Madam Co-Chair,

Let me close by reiterating my delegation's wish that you will shortly be joined by a supporting Co-Chair. We believe that this will be critical to advancing our work on the Regular Process.

I thank you.