



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

**STATEMENT BY**

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**AT THE**

**FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS STATISTICAL  
COMMISSION**

***AGENDA ITEM 4 (A): TOURISM STATISTICS***

**NEW YORK**

**28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**FINAL TEXT**



Distinguished Chair,

Jamaica and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) acknowledge and appreciate the efforts spearheaded by UNWTO, in collaboration with leading Member States, supported by esteemed organizations such as the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the International Labour Organization (ILO), Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), among others, to develop the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (SF-MST).

We recognize the immense value of the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (SF-MST), particularly for small island developing states (SIDS) like Jamaica, where tourism is deeply woven into the fabric of our economies and societies. We view the SF-MST as a crucial instrument for fostering a more sustainable approach to tourism management.

Since 2002, Jamaica through our Ministry of Tourism has been pursuing policies and strategies to bolster resilience and place the tourism sector on a path of sustainability. Our Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development, 2002 states that ***“the success of tourism must be measured not only by the amount of GDP, foreign exchange and jobs it provides, but more importantly by the extent to which the industry serves as a vehicle for providing economic and social opportunities for the Jamaican people”***.



We are heartened by the development of the SF-MST, as it broadens the statistical framework to encompass not just economic, but also environmental and social considerations.

We are encouraged by the collaborative and consultative approach employed in the development of this framework. We acknowledge the additional developmental work, including the compilers guide and other work streams. We urge the group to continue the work around creating the enabling environment for the implementation of the SF-MST in all countries including small island developing states. Providing adequate technical and financial support will be critical in attaining successful implementation on a global level.