



GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA

STATEMENT BY

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**ON THE OCCASION OF THE
PREPARATORY MINISTERIAL MEETING FOR THE SUMMIT OF THE
FUTURE**

**78TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH-
LEVEL WEEK**

21ST SEPTEMBER 2023

**TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL CHAMBER, UNHQ
NEW YORK**

Excellencies, Distinguished Colleagues and Guests,

As we gather today to lay the foundation for the Summit of the Future next year, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment in history. Multilateralism itself faces extraordinary challenges. The Summit of the Future presents an opportunity to enhance cooperation on challenges and gaps in global governance, as we seek to advance a multilateral system that is better positioned to impact the lives of all our peoples up to and beyond 2030.

It was an honour for Jamaica to contribute to this process during the 77th Session of the General Assembly, having succeeded the Republic of Fiji in co-facilitating the intergovernmental process for the Declaration on Future Generations, along with the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Excellencies,

Knowing that our decisions, action and inaction, today have an intergenerational multiplier effect, we must work harder to give life to the commitments made to achieve the 2030 Agenda. Indeed, the commitments made in the context of the SDG Summit earlier this week and the high ambitions set by individual Member States for the implementation of the goals and targets, serve as a strong foundation on which to rebuild societies that are more equal, more resilient and more sustainable.

Excellencies,

The vigorous pursuit of progress today and the achievement of prosperity in the century to come are not mutually exclusive endeavours. It is with this in mind that we continue to employ data and science to ensure that no-one is left behind; to bridge the digital divide; to promote a healthy, natural environment; and to create a world that is safe and secure.

But as we work to meet the difficult challenges of today, it is our solemn duty to also design a future for our youth and succeeding generations that is just, sustainable and equitable. We must solve the problems we created in a way that empowers them to become the masters of their own destiny. To do so, we must commit to thinking and acting in the interests of future generations in all our current decision making.

We therefore look forward to engaging robustly in the negotiation of a Declaration on Future Generations, a Global Digital Compact and, ultimately, a Pact for the Future in the coming months and to a successful and impactful Summit of the Future in 2024.

Thank you.