



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

STATEMENT BY

HIS EXCELLENCY MR. BRIAN WALLACE

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING
THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY - SIXTH SESSION OF THE**

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MONDAY, 4TH OCTOBER 2021

NEW YORK

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to congratulate you and Members of the Bureau on your appointment to serve during this 76th Session of the UN at the helm of this vital Committee. Jamaica is committed to supporting you throughout this session, and we wish you all the very best as you undertake your responsibilities. We also thank the Chair of the 75th Session, Ambassador Carlos Amorín, as well as his bureau for their service during the last session.

The Secretariat of the Fifth Committee is also to be commended for their able stewardship of the Committee during the last sessions, and in particular, during the First and Second Resumed sessions, which required much virtual coordination and continued adaptation to the evolving circumstances.

Mr. Chair,

The delegation of Jamaica aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Distinguished Representative of the Republic of Guinea on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on this agenda item.

Mr. Chair,

The ravages of the COVID–19 pandemic, has made evident the increased need for the international community to work in concert to remediate the diverse challenges which, in one way or another, fundamentally impede the development of our countries.

For Small Island Developing States like Jamaica, the UN’s vision of sustainable development is one with which our own development imperatives are aligned. The idea that international cooperation, particularly in a multilateral framework, is the ultimate vehicle to achieve this goal is therefore fully supported by the Government of Jamaica. However, if the UN, the ultimate multilateral framework, is to function at its fullest capacity, we – the Member States - must ensure that it is properly equipped with the necessary resources. As we are all aware, the United Nations continues to grapple with a regular budget liquidity crisis, resulting from late and non-payment of assessed contributions by Member States of the Organization. Despite the best efforts of Member States to pay their contributions in full and on time, this challenge still persists. This situation has been further exacerbated by the ongoing implications of COVID – 19.

The Government of Jamaica joins with the international community in urging all Member States to make every effort to reduce their arrears to the UN regular and peacekeeping budgets.

Mr. Chair,

This session will see critical negotiations undertaken on the Scale of Assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, among other important items. Jamaica reiterates the importance of these discussions, given their direct implication on the work of the organization across all its mandates. I would use this platform, also, to reaffirm Jamaica's support for the longstanding position of the G-77 and China on this matter.

Mr. Chair,

As we seek to advance deliberations on key issues of interest over the coming weeks, let us commit to being constructive and transparent, bearing in mind that all budget proposals that we will make and eventually approve must be in line with the mandates accorded to the Committee by the General Assembly.

The delegation of Jamaica reaffirms its commitment to actively collaborating with the Bureau and all Member States, to ensure the timely conclusion of the work of the Fifth Committee.

I thank you.