



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

STATEMENT BY

**MRS. DIEDRE MILLS
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

ON

**AGENDA ITEM 9: INFORMATION REPORTED BY THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY**

AT THE

**TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE
UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA**

**11TH JUNE 2018
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

Mr. President,

I wish to begin by congratulating you and your Bureau on your election to preside over the 28th meeting of States Parties to the UN Convention on the Law. Let me also thank and acknowledge the efforts of your predecessor for the work undertaken in guiding our work to this point.

My delegation also wishes to thank the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority for his very comprehensive and useful report. We are especially pleased to note the progress made with respect to the Review of Article 154 and the development of the Strategic Plan. We welcome the efforts to ensure consistency and to ensure a linkage with the SDGs. The proposed areas of emphases are noted and welcomed.

My delegation also welcomes updates concerning the status of the Voluntary Trust Fund and, while noting the progress in attracting funding, would join the Secretary-General in encouraging continued financial support in order to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the work of the Authority.

Jamaica would also wish to acknowledge the efforts of the Authority to have robust environmental regulations and management plans. We believe that this augurs well for the Authority's leadership role in this regard.

We also look forward to the forthcoming BBNJ IGC and envisage a role for the Authority as we look to develop the substantive elements of the treaty.

Finally, Mr. President, let me close by thanking Secretary-General Michael Lodge for his kind words towards the Government of Jamaica and to assure delegations of our continued support as host of the Authority. We join the Secretary-General in inviting all members to attend the meetings of the Authority and stand ready to welcome you in Kingston.