



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

STATEMENT BY

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**ITEM: 112: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANISATION**

**SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**8TH OCTOBER 2018
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

Madam President,

My delegation thanks the Secretary-General for his report on the work of the Organisation, which we commend for both its quality and contents. It provides useful summaries and data, as well as insightful information on the achievements of the UN over the past year. We appreciate its level of detail and wish to use the opportunity to highlight some points that are of particular interest to us.

First, we find the report to be of particular utility in its cross-cutting focus on several key issues, most notably the SDGs. As we look to the 2019 high level review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the SDGs and continue to share national experiences via the voluntary national reviews (VNRs), it is imperative that we pay greater attention to the interlinkages across the work of the Organisation. These systemic connections support implementation of the SDGs, promote sustained economic growth and policy coherence, and advance our efforts to achieve sustainable development. As the mobilization of financing for the SDGs will be at the core of ensuring the success of our collective endeavour, we laud the establishment of the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda and will continue to advocate, including through the Group of Friends on SDG financing, efforts aimed at advancing this objective.

Second, it is commendable that the report highlights the particular challenge associated with climate change. We share the Secretary-General's frank but grim assessment "that climate change is moving faster than we are" and that "countries need to turn pledges into national climate action." We join him in his quest to ensure that climate change remains at the forefront of our deliberations, with the convening in 2019 of a special climate change summit.

Third, we are pleased to hear of the strides that have been made by the Secretary-General in addressing gender equality across the UN system. This bodes well for the Organisation and we recommend even greater efforts in this regard.

Fourth, my delegation has paid keen attention to the section of the Secretary-General's report devoted to the maintenance of international peace and security. Indeed, the report cites some pointed and tangible results of which the Organization can be proud, most notably related to the successful conclusion of the UN Missions in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, as well as the transition to the UN Mission for Justice Support in Haiti. Like the Secretary-General, however, we share the concern that despite such successes, peacekeeping missions operate amidst worsening security conditions and security risks. It is for this reason that we are especially supportive of the Secretary-General's focus on conflict prevention and look forward to further

updates on the tools being adapted to address new types of conflicts, characterized by asymmetric threats within complex environments.

Fifth, we are optimistic about the Secretary-General's efforts to re-energize the disarmament discourse. We deem it to be both fitting and timely that we should turn our attention, as an international community, to how we can ensure that our actions inspire hope and peace, rather than fuel strife and discontent. Jamaica, therefore, stands ready to play its part in supporting the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda.

Sixth, and given their link to the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, my delegation will continue to be actively engaged in the discussions on drug control and crime prevention, as evidenced by our active interest in the work of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Finally, we would have hoped, as obtained last year, that there would have been a specific reference to the challenges faced by MICs. It is our expectation that this will be firmly addressed in the High-Level Meeting on MICs scheduled to be held here at UN Headquarters in early December.

Madam President,

As we look to another year of work, we take comfort in our achievements to date, but do not rest on our laurels in terms of what still needs to be done. We owe it not only to ourselves, but to the countless peoples around the world who continue to look to the United Nations for support and for hope. We cannot afford to let them down.

I thank you.