



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

STATEMENT BY

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ON AGENDA ITEM 19: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE
76TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

MONDAY, 11th OCTOBER 2021

NEW YORK

FINAL TEXT

Madam Chair,

1. My delegation welcomes the opportunity to speak on this important agenda item - sustainable development.
2. Jamaica, as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), has to contend with a combination of inherent vulnerabilities and external factors which constrain our efforts to fully realize our development potential.
3. In this vein, we align with the statements delivered by Guinea on behalf of the G77 and China, St. Kitts and Nevis on behalf of CARICOM, and Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of AOSIS.

Madam Chair,

4. Jamaica continues to strengthen its national sustainable development framework, Vision 2030 Jamaica, with the aim of increasing coherence between SDG monitoring and implementation and that of the SAMOA Pathway. We are convinced that the SAMOA Pathway is an effective framework for engendering genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS.
5. Along those lines, Jamaica continues to call for the United Nations system to reinforce the SAMOA Pathway through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Therefore, the objectives of the SAMOA Pathway should be complemented by the robust framework of the 2030 Agenda.

6. Prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jamaica in its pursuit of Vision 2030 Jamaica had experienced mixed results over the first 11 years of plan implementation, with performance steadily advancing in some areas while slipping or remaining the same in others. Gains were made in human capital development, macroeconomic stability, and governance, among other areas; while challenges were experienced in such areas as security and safety, environmental sustainability, and the rate of non-communicable diseases.

7. Jamaica's commitment to Vision 2030 Jamaica and the SDGs provides a framework for response to crises such as COVID-19. We are therefore currently reviewing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on national SDG implementation as we determine the way forward to 2030.

8. Thus, the real challenge in Jamaica is not about landing the 2030 Agenda, but about implementing policies that trigger fast and sustained progress towards the goals in a context of limited fiscal space. In this context, we are placing significant focus on key areas including:
 - Strengthening our Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) and systems for evidence-and-results-based management (ERBM) which includes strengthening the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework.
 - Developing national capacity for Innovative Financing as well as Results-Based Budgeting in this context.
 - Strengthening the national statistics system through the establishment of a coordinated National Statistics System (NSS) including the development of a Statistics Master Plan.
 - Ongoing SDGs communication and public engagement at the national and local levels.

9. In light of this experience, Jamaica will present its second Voluntary National Review at the 2022 HLPF under the auspices of the ECOSOC.

Madam Chair,

10. Jamaica continues to prioritize reducing vulnerability and building resilience. As such the objectives of the Sendai Framework are integrated into Vision 2030 Jamaica, in particular our national outcome 14 – hazard risk reduction and adaptation to climate change.

11. In the context of midterm review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework, Jamaica will be hosting the Seventh Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean (RP21) under the theme "Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean" from 1st to 4th November 2021. The RP21 will explore how the COVID-19 crisis can be turned into an opportunity for the necessary radical transformation needed to achieve the goal and targets of the Sendai Framework, as an essential part of the acceleration towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Madam Chair,

12. Jamaica continues our call on the members of the international community to ensure that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is supported in its entirety and that the means of implementation becomes the primary vehicle for States' interaction.

I thank you Madam Chair.