



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

STATEMENT BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY E. COURTENAY RATTRAY
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE TO NEGOTIATE A LEGALLY-BINDING
INSTRUMENT TO PROHIBIT NUCLEAR WEAPONS, LEADING TOWARDS
THEIR TOTAL ELIMINATION**

**TOPIC 2: CORE PROHIBITIONS: EFFECTIVE LEGAL MEASURES,
LEGAL PROVISIONS AND NORMS**

**UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK
29th MARCH 2017**

Madam President,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of CARICOM States.

My delegation takes the floor to highlight issues which we believe should be taken into account in today's consideration of **Core Prohibitions, Effective Legal Measures and Legal Provisions and Norms.**

We view the scope as the foundation on which we will seek to develop a robust treaty. Indeed, our approach to the core prohibitions will have a strong bearing on the normative framework of the treaty and its ability to effectively establish a universal norm against the possession and use of nuclear weapons. This will serve to stigmatize such weapons and discourage their horizontal and vertical proliferation.

In terms of core prohibitions, Jamaica advocates a broad scope for the treaty. For my delegation, it is therefore imperative that the core prohibitions of this treaty not be limited to the use/ threat of use of nuclear weapons. Instead, the treaty should also prohibit the possession/retention, development, production, testing, acquisition, stockpiling, transit/transfer/transshipment, stationing/deployment and financing of nuclear weapons. Other core prohibitions that should be addressed in the treaty includes the prohibition on assistance in the commission of prohibited acts and encouragement or inducement to pursue prohibited activities.

As my delegation said yesterday, one of the key objectives of the treaty is to close the legal gap and address the ambiguity in nuclear governance. This requires that we build on the prohibitions contained in existing instruments. In this connection, the elements for a comprehensive prohibition of nuclear weapons could be drawn from the nuclear weapon- free-zone treaties and the Biological and Chemical Weapons Convention. In this regard, we note the very useful working paper submitted by the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANL) to OWEG in May 2016.

A further point for consideration is that the prohibitions in the treaty should apply to states parties, their nationals, and any individuals subject to their jurisdiction. Finally, Madam President, we also support the recognition of victim's rights.