



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

**STATEMENT BY**

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

**AT THE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD  
OF UNDP, UNFPA AND UNOPS**

***ADOPTION OF JAMAICA'S UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMME  
DOCUMENT FOR 2017 - 2021***

**AT THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

**ON**

**THURSDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

*Please check against delivery*

Mr. President  
Madame Administrator  
Executive Board Members  
Excellencies and Colleagues,

Let me at the outset express my appreciation for the presentation just made on the Country Programme Document (CPD) for Jamaica for the period 2017-2021. The development of the CPD benefitted from extensive consultations between the authorities in capital and the UNDP Country Team. This is an important criteria for Jamaica, as a key consideration for us has been the relationship and compatibility between the desired outcomes of UN agencies and the goals and objectives reflected in our Medium Term Framework under Jamaica's National Development Plan - Vision 2030.

In this regard, I am advised by my colleagues in capital that the CPD being presented to the Executive Board for adoption at this session, reflects feedback received from the GoJ and as such is a text that we can support.

Having said so however, I would be remiss if I did not make some general observations in line with the premise that development cooperation is indeed country-led and national ownership must be paramount. The following is therefore intended to strengthen the engagement between countries and the UN development system as it supports us in building strong and sustainable societies that are able to deliver for our citizenry.

It is our observation that the programmes to be undertaken are somewhat ambitious in comparison to the funding indicated, given the typically low resource base of the UN agencies in general in countries such as Jamaica. Consequently, outcomes will need to be understood in terms of what aspects are achievable, including the UN's own capacity to deliver. Emphasis needs to be placed on limiting the range and variety of interventions and concentrating resources on fewer projects with broader and deeper reach, thereby giving the UN agencies the opportunity to realize greater impact from the support being provided.

A final point I would wish to make and one that my delegation has espoused in other fora at the UN, is the strong need to shift the focus of UN development support towards greater upstream policy advice. It goes without saying that the complexity of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require significantly higher levels of technical advice based on enhanced analytical capacity for integrated policy formulation. While support of this type has been traditionally sourced largely externally, the presence of more specialized technical expertise in UN offices will be required to render real-time policy and technical advice to complement national expertise. This is not to suggest that the UN system support for project-based activities should be discontinued. Rather, traditional UN operations will need to be maintained, but elaborated and implemented within the new SDGs policy framework on the basis of country realities that are guided by evidence from local communities.

UNDP, in particular, as an example of this kind of engagement, has given support for the development of skills associated with Monitoring and Evaluation. This needs to be scaled up as part of the management arrangement for programs and projects. In this regard, attention to capacity development for data management, as well as systems for tracking and measuring progress is an important underpinning of programme management.

In concluding, let me reiterate my appreciation for the presentation of Jamaica's CPD for 2017-2021 and assure you of the importance Jamaica attaches to the work of the UNDP and the UN agencies in general in Jamaica and the region. We look forward to the continued collaboration in support of the region's efforts to address its development challenges. My country is confident that with strong and durable partnerships, public and private, bilateral and international, we will be able to deliver on our ambitious undertaking.

I thank you.