



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

REMARKS BY

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

AT

**THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION
OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 5 (a)
COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENTS**

**14TH SEPTEMBER 2016
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

Please check against delivery

Mr. President,

Thank you for giving me the floor. My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered earlier by Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of CARICOM and by the Dominican Republic on behalf of CELAC.

I thank Executive Director Lake for his report and also express our gratitude to Regional Director Perceval for her presentation of the country programmes for Latin America and the Caribbean including for my own country Jamaica.

We recognise that these programmes have been developed in full consultation with each Member State. The Government of Jamaica wholeheartedly welcomes the adoption of our UNICEF country programme document for 2017-2021. It will provide the guidance for the scope of activities that UNICEF will undertake to support the work that my Government is pursuing to safeguard and promote the rights of children and ensure their well-being.

The focus areas of the country programmes align with the priorities that Jamaica has espoused in its commitment to improving children's welfare and development outcomes. We have, for example, signed on to the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children in furtherance of our plans for implementation of the child-related SDGs. Our commitments are entailed not only in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development but also encapsulated within our broader development commitments and legal obligations.

We remain confident in, and look forward to, UNICEF's continued support and collaboration in the years ahead.

I thank you.