



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

STATEMENT BY

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAMAICA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AT THE

**GENERAL DEBATE OF THE
2015 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (C34)**

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Please check against delivery

Co-Facilitators,

As this is the first time I am taking the floor in this process in my national capacity, allow me to convey my delegation's appreciation for your efforts to date, and its confidence in your ability to lead us to a successful outcome of this process.

Jamaica aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of South Africa, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and the distinguished representatives of Belize, the Maldives and Ecuador, on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). I wish to make some additional remarks in my national capacity.

The elements paper that you have circulated provides a good basis for a focused discussion of how to frame the Declaration to ensure that it is appropriate for adoption by our Heads of State and Government at the Summit in September. The main means of determining its appropriateness will be the extent to which it conveys a strong commitment to deliver on the aspirations embodied in the sustainable development goals (SDGs), through the full and effective implementation of the agenda as a whole.

Co-Facilitators,

As we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations, the adoption of the post 2015 development agenda will stand as a testament to the aspirations of the international community to work together, at all levels, to secure a sustainable future, on a viable planet, for generations to come. The agenda will certainly be for us, but more so for those who have put their trust in us, and in our capacity to mobilise the will and the resources, to lay the foundation to make that sustainable future possible. The agenda will have to be animated by a renewed commitment to collective action in the form of a revitalised global partnership for development.

The declaration must convey the essence of the post-2015 development agenda in a manner that inspires action to ensure its implementation. It should reflect the agenda the fact that the agenda is an integrated one. As the G77&China has indicated, the declaration could provide leaders with an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to *human rights, and to strengthen our commitment to the right to development.*

To respond to the aspirations of our fellow citizens, the declaration adopted by Heads in September must be visionary, ambitious, focused and action-oriented. It should also entail a robust call to action by Heads to spare no effort to fully address the major development challenges of the current period, in all their complexity. It should provide a clear statement of political will to implement the post-2015 development agenda and, in so doing, put us on a path to achieve poverty eradication, environmental sustainability, sustained and inclusive economic growth and social inclusion.

The declaration must entail an affirmation that the SDGs are at the heart of the agenda, and commit to fully implement undertakings made in the context of a clear and well-integrated framework on the means of implementation. It should also affirm the importance of carrying out a robust and integrated review and follow-up of *all* commitments made in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

Indeed, our collective vision for the world in 2030 must be one wherein we have made significant progress in our efforts to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality, improve the health and well-being of our citizens, increase access to and the quality of education, and adopt sustainable patterns of consumption and production, through the removal of all structural and systemic impediments to the fulfillment of these and other development goals. It should lead to a world transformed in fundamental ways by our efforts to implement the post-2015 development agenda that have sustainability at their core. A world in which we have attained the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

Co-Facilitators,

The MDG agenda was significant for having rallied the international community behind a shared vision and agenda, in which implementation was aimed at supporting developing countries in their efforts to achieve development. The post-2015 development must *build upon and effectively address the unfinished business* of the MDGs agenda. Our leaders should acknowledge this in the declaration through a clear statement of political commitment. The universal nature of the post-2015 agenda will constitute a sea change in our approach to development, one that will increase the likelihood that we will indeed 'leave no one behind'. To ensure that no one is left behind, we will need to take fully into account the particular challenges of countries in special situations, such as LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and African countries. The statements by my colleagues from Belize and the Maldives have set out clearly the challenges faced by SIDS in particular.

Finally, Co-Facilitators, the declaration must entail a clear expression of political will to implement fully the ambitious SDGs, to mobilise a similarly ambitious level of resources to enable the effective implementation and to put in place a framework for review and follow-up that allows us to keep track of our progress advancing a universal sustainable development agenda. In sum, it should articulate a bold vision, to accompany the ambitious action plan that we will build together in the weeks and months to come.

My delegation looks forward to contributing to a successful outcome of this process in the weeks and months ahead.

I thank you.