

Statement by Jamaica during CSD-16
Water and Sanitation Review, 13th May 2008

Mr. Chairman,

- Jamaica fully associates itself with the Statement delivered by Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
- The Government of Jamaica is pleased to have hosted in Kingston in April of this year, the Caribbean Sanitation Workshop (“CARIBSAN 2008”). The regional workshop brought together sixteen (16) countries within the Caribbean region to discuss issues related to sanitation, primarily the integration of Sanitation policies in National Development Plans.
- The Minister of Health and Environment as well the Minister of Water and Housing of Jamaica participated while senior officials from the region made national presentations on sanitation issues. The perspectives of international agencies (e.g. PAHO and UNEP), the private sector as well as lessons learned from community initiatives contributed to fruitful discussions as we sought practical solutions to the challenges facing the region and identified strategies for more effective collaboration at the national, regional and global levels to address an issue which is generally hidden from public gaze.
- The two-day workshop culminated in the *Kingston Recommendations* which constitute agreed actions that the region as a whole and individual countries within the region will take in order to address critical sanitation issues.
- Furthermore, it symbolizes the firm commitment of Caribbean countries to formulate and implement sanitation policies and strategies in recognition of the importance that is being accorded to this issue as we commemorate the International Year of Sanitation. The *Kingston Recommendations* will be made available to the Commission in due course.
- In concluding Mr. Chairman, my delegation takes this opportunity to convey our heartfelt appreciation to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), the Water and Sanitation Programme - World Bank, the Global Water Partnership - Caribbean and other partners for co-sponsoring and organising this important event.
- I thank you Mr. Chairman.