

Intervention by Jamaica**3 May 2006****Regional Discussions of Latin America and the Caribbean**

- Jamaica shares the concern of the rest of the Caribbean Delegations on the report's treatment of the issues relating to SIDS in the region especially the section dealing with climate change. A lot of work has been done to advance the SIDS agenda. The extreme vulnerability of SIDS to the adverse effects of climate change and sea level rise is well acknowledged by the international community and this must be recognised as a priority for the region because these effects are already being felt with the Caribbean experiencing more active than normal hurricane seasons, occurrence of flooding, coastal erosion, drought etc. In addition, the treatment of the crosscutting issues relating to the thematic cluster needs to note the social and economic dislocation as a result of natural disasters
- As a priority, Jamaica believes that urgent actions are required to support SIDS in adaptation including the investigation of appropriate coastal defence structures. For us as well, access to GEF Climate Change Adaptation Funds is important and the ease of access to these funds by the countries in the region is critical.
- As mentioned in the review we are encouraging international investment in SIDS under the CDM of the Kyoto Protocol so that there can be an advancement in the transfer of renewable energy technologies in the region. Jamaica is pleased to note the successful trading of CERs under the CDM with the commissioning of a 20MW windfarm (the first in the English Speaking Caribbean) which supplies electricity to the national grid. There are prospects for expansion of the windfarm.