GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA / UNITED NATIONS JAMAICA

JOINT NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS MULTI COUNTRY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK 2017-2012

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.0 Background and Purpose

Over the period 2017-2021, the **UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF)** will guide the programme activities of the United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes in 18 Englishand Dutch-speaking countries and territories of the Caribbean: Barbados and the Member States of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), as well as Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

Derived from the traditional United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), the multicountry approach reflects the acknowledgment that, in order to maximize development impact in the region, an integrated sustainable-development approach requires addressing common and inter-related issues at both regional and national levels. The undertaking of a **harmonized approach to UN programming** in the selected countries was based on a thorough analysis of the value added of the UN and how it can deliver more optimally together in the region, especially considering the common challenges, development priorities and regional frameworks (*viz.* S.A.M.O.A Pathway, Strategic Plan for the Caribbean Community 2015 – 2019: Repositioning CARICOM, and the OECS Growth and Development Strategy Action Plan).

The MSDF defines how the United Nations will achieve results jointly with participating national governments. While recognizing particular national priorities of each participating country, the joined-up approach of the MSDF takes into account the similarities of each country's development challenges that demand a coherent and coordinated response by the United Nations.

The goal of the UN MSDF is to enhance development results and impact by **bringing together the comparative advantages of the UN system** within a single strategic development framework. This framework builds on the areas of intervention of resident and regionally-based United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and provides a mechanism through which the components of the UN system, working jointly, bring increased benefits to governments through a coordinated approach.

<u>At the multi-country level</u>, strategic oversight of MSDF implementation falls to a **virtual MSDF Steering Committee** consisting of the respective UN Resident Coordinators and a select group of UN Agency Representatives. Each year, one meeting of the MSDF Steering Committee expands into a physical **Stakeholders Meeting** with the participation of representatives from all 18 countries and territories.

<u>At the national level</u>, oversight of the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) and national Country Implementation Plan (CIP) falls to a **Joint National/United Nations Steering Committee which is established at a strategic level** under the leadership of the Government of Jamaica,

through the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the United Nations in Jamaica through the United Nations Resident Coordinator. For the sake of effectiveness, transparency and accountability, its membership includes Heads of UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, major national counterparts as well as representatives from selected national institutions, civil society organisations and Jamaica's international development partners.

2.0 Role of the Joint Steering Committee

The Joint Steering Committee will:

- Provide strategic guidance and oversight during implementation in Jamaica of the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF), through the related Country Implementation Plan (CIP) for Jamaica;
- Provide oversight for the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) in Jamaica, through the related Country Implementation Plan (CIP) for Jamaica;
- Oversee the work of the MSDF Jamaica Results Groups, ensuring they perform within their mandate:
- Ensure that funding gaps and evolving programming priorities are addressed through CIP revisions;
- Contribute to **resource-mobilization** efforts to address funding gaps in the CIP;
- Inform the position of the national representatives to the Caribbean-level Steering Committee of the MSDF, in particular its Annual Stakeholders' Meeting;
- Contribute to **reporting on the 2015-2017 Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF)** and play a key role in the preparation of the 2018-2021 MTF.

3.0 Leadership and Accountability

- The Joint Steering Committee is guided by the present terms of reference developed in consultation with the Government of Jamaica and mutually agreed upon.
- The Joint Steering Committee is co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Director General of the PIOJ, as the respective coordinating entities of the UN System and the Government.

4.0 Membership and Frequency of Meetings

The Joint Steering Committee will:

- Remain operational throughout the implementation phase of the UN MSDF and CIP;
- Include representation from key government entities relevant to the UN MSDF, members of the UN Country Team (UNCT), the co-chairs of the MSDF Results Groups as well as representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs). Representatives of international donor partners may be invited as observers;
- Meet twice annually, at mid- and end-year, to perform the aforementioned key functions. Additional ad hoc meetings may be called as needed;

Special meetings of the Thematic Working Groups / Results Groups to monitor the implementation of the CIP will be aligned with the meeting schedule of the Joint Steering Committee.

5.0 Communication

An email distribution list shall be created to facilitate communication with, and dissemination of relevant information to the members of the Joint Steering Committee. The Joint Steering Committee will receive and consider reports from the TWGs pertinent to the UN programme, as well as other relevant information.

6.0 Secretariat

The UN Resident Coordinator's Office will provide secretariat support to the Joint Steering Committee. Minutes of each Steering Committee meeting will be circulated to the members soon after each meeting. The co-chairs will consult to determine an agenda for each meeting.

7.0 Review of Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference may be reviewed and revised if and when the Joint Steering Committee deems it necessary.

ANNEX 1: MEMBERS OF THE JOINT NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATI ON	ADDRESS1	ADDRESS2	EMAIL
Wayne Henry, PhD	Director General	Planning Institute of Jamaica	16 Oxford Road	Kingston 5	dg@pioj.gov.jm nadine_thompson@pioj.gov.j m
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Ms. Elizabeth Emanuel	Programme Director	Vision 2030 Jamaica Secretariat	16 Oxford Road	Kingston 5	liz.emanuel@gmail.com
Ambassador the Hon. Douglas Saunders, OJ, CD, JP	The Cabinet Secretary	Office of the Cabinet	1 Devon Road	Kington 10	cabsec@cabinet.gov.jm
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Ms. Darlene Morrison	Deputy Financial Secretary, Economic Management Division	Ministry of Finance & Planning	30 National Heroes Circle	Kingston 4	

NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATI ON	ADDRESS1	ADDRESS2	EMAIL
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Ms. Dianne McIntosh	Chair, UN MSDF Results Group – A safe, cohesive and just Caribbean	Ministry of National Security	NCB North Tower 2 Oxford Road	Kingston 5	dianne.mcintosh@mns.gov.j m
Mr. Dean-Roy Bernard	Chair, UN MSDF Results Group – An inclusive, equitable and prosperous Caribbean	Ministry of Education, Youth and Information	National Heroes Circle	Kingston 4	dean- roy.bernard@moey.gov.jm
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Dr. Karen Webster	Chair, UN MSDF Results Group – A Healthy Caribbean	Ministry of Health	10-16 Grenada Way	Kingston 5	websterk@moh.gov.jm
Mr. Peter Knight	Chair, UN MSDF Results Group – A Sustainable and resilient Caribbean	National Environment and Planning Agency	10-11 Caledonia Avenue	Kingston 5	Peter.knight@nepa.gov.jm
Mr. Richard Thompson	Chair, UN MSDF Results Group – A Sustainable and	Office of Disaster Preparedness and	2-4 Haining Road	Kingston 5	Richard_Thompson/ODPEM @ODPEM.ORG.JM

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ANNEX 2: OBSERVERS OF THE JOINT NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

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