

JAMAICA

Jamaica has taken various steps to improve its legislative and policy framework with a view to preventing and punishing corruption. I would like to mention, in particular, the following three matters:

1. Jamaica has enacted the Corruption (Prevention) Act, which addresses most of the provisions of the Convention. This Act requires certain public officials to submit declarations of assets and it creates the offence of unlawful enrichment.

An independent Commission chaired by a retired Supreme Court Judge has been established, and this Commission will receive and investigate complaints under the Act.

Regulations under the Act have been drafted and are being discussed.

2. Jamaica recognizes that an important way to fight corruption is to provide for greater openness and transparency. To this end, an Access to Information Act has been drafted and is now being debated by a Committee of Parliament. It is hoped that this Act will be passed by July.
3. The Government has also recently promulgated an improved Public Sector Procurement Policy. This Policy seeks to ensure transparency and integrity in the purchase of goods and services by public sector entities.

Jamaica appreciates that this is an ongoing process and that there are other steps to be taken, and we will continue to work with the Committee and other States Parties in the fight against corruption.