

17th session of the Working Group on the UPR

(17 October to 1 November 2013)

Consideration of the National Report
of the Government of Malaysia

Statement by Delegation of Jamaica

MISS TRESHA TURNER

Thank you Mr. President,

The delegation of Jamaica welcomes the delegation of Malaysia, led by Her Excellency Madame Ho May Yong, Deputy Secretary General in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

My delegation thanks the Government of Malaysia for the national report which seeks to provide comprehensive updates on the 62 recommendations accepted during the first cycle of the Universal Periodic Review in 2009, as well as inform on recent developments undertaken by the Government to promote and protect universal human rights for its citizens.

We are pleased to note the achievements highlighted in the national report including the abolition of all fees for primary and secondary students, in 2012, to increase access to education (**Paragraph 17**); and attaining the Millennium Development Goals target in relation to poverty reduction (**Paragraph 25**).

My delegation recommends that the Government of Malaysia continue in its efforts to ensure an inclusive education system, particularly with respect to students with special educational needs

and for those students most in need of financial assistance
(Paragraphs 21 and 22).

We look forward to hearing the recommendations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee regarding accession to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) as well as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) **(Paragraphs 43 and 44)**. My delegation would encourage the Government of Malaysia to continue to give careful consideration to acceding to or ratifying the other core international human rights instruments to which the Government is not a State Party.

Mr. President,

We appreciate the efforts and resources required for a successful review and wish the delegation of Malaysia all the best in the process.

Thank you.