**Statement by Jamaica**

**Universal Periodic Review of St. Kitts and Nevis**

**19 January 2021**

Thank you [Madame President] / [Madame/Mr. Vice-President],

Jamaica warmly welcomes the CARICOM sister state of St. Kitts and Nevis to this 3rd Cycle Review.

Jamaica notes, with appreciation, the very positive National Report presented which highlights the many steps which have been taken by the Government to further advance and protect human rights since its last Review, despite challenges caused by various climate-related events. In particular, Jamaica congratulates the country for the establishment of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) in 2018, as well as its ratification, in 2019, of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

In a spirit of constructive engagement, Jamaica wishes to offer to St. Kitts and Nevis the following recommendations:

1. Intensify ongoing action towards the completion of a national Gender Policy;
2. Strengthen measures to reduce domestic and gender-based violence, including against women and girls;
3. Continue to make use of technical assistance provided by the OHCHR and the international community to fulfil its human rights obligations.

In closing, Jamaica conveys its best wishes for a successful review.

Thank you.