**Statement by Jamaica**

**Universal Periodic Review of St. Lucia**

**20 January 2021**

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

Jamaica extends a warm fraternal welcome to our sister state of St. Lucia and thanks the delegation for the presentation of its National Report.

We congratulate the Government of St. Lucia for its continuing efforts to bolster the national architecture for the promotion and protection of human rights, including through the ratification, in 2020, of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and accession to its Optional Protocol, as well as through the passage of the Child Justice and Children Care, Protection and Adoption Bills in 2018, among others. These strides are particularly commendable in the context of the capacity constraints which St. Lucia faces as a small island developing state.

Jamaica recommends that St. Lucia consider the following:

1. strengthen its domestic legislation to further advance the rights of women and enhance accessibility for persons with disabilities;
2. implement additional measures to improve its criminal justice procedures;

1. continue its engagement with the OHCHR and other international partners to secure technical assistance for the promotion of human rights;

In closing, Jamaica wishes St. Lucia every success in this third Universal Periodic Review. Thank you.