



PERMANENT MISSION OF
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT BY

**THE MOST HONOURABLE
P.J. PATTERSON, ON, PC, QC, MP
PRIME MINISTER OF JAMAICA**

**TO THE HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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Mr. President,

Five years ago we adopted a Declaration revealing our vision for the shaping of international society in the new millennium. The record shows that the results have fallen far short of our expectations.

We have failed to meet the targets we set; poverty and infectious disease remain rampant; tensions from war and terrorism are straining the fabric of international security; the proliferation of weapons of all kinds generates fear and threatens domestic peace.

The world has become more insecure. There is still too much instability and conflict. There is still too much hardship and suffering. Too many are being left behind in the march towards the Millennium Development Goals.

This Summit must send a message of hope to millions who are still living in misery.

For this to happen, three things are paramount.

First, we must strengthen the global partnership. The principles are well established. Shared responsibility and mutual accountability constitute the basic foundation. But we must get the partnership to work and show concrete results. Commitments solemnly given must be implemented. An adequate and predictable flow of resources and their effective utilization is the essence of the partnership between donors and recipients, based on the discharge of mutual obligations and accountability. It should be carried out without burdensome policy conditionalities and with institutional safeguards for good governance.

Second, this process should be complemented by action to eliminate inequities in the global system through positive adjustments in global economic policies which will give developing countries a better chance to benefit from access to markets, capital flows and more favourable terms in the transfer of technology.

Third, reform in global economic governance can no longer be postponed. Reform should not just be confined to this Organization but should be undertaken in all institutions within the system, particularly those involved in economic policy-making. The basic prescription for progress is equity, inclusiveness, accountability and democratic participation. The Bretton Woods Institutions whose decisions have such a profound impact on our lives should be among the first candidates for reform. It is long overdue.

The Summit document placed before us sets out a framework. It falls short of what we sought to provide for a more substantive development agenda, but it will have to serve as a starting point and demands early implementation.

Mr. President,

There is no doubt that a reform of the UN institutions is necessary but it is important that what we decide on is carefully designed to remedy the real deficiencies and strengthen multilateralism.

The result should not be to entrench the world power structure for the UN to become its instrument. The system must work for all of us. The Security Council should be reformed in its structure and procedures to become more representative and to inspire greater confidence in its decisions. ESOSOC should be strengthened and empowered to participate in global economic policy-making and enabled to provide effective coordination and to promote coherence. Reform should bring an end to the excessive politicization and adversarial approaches which have discredited the operations of the Human Rights Commission.

Disarmament and arms control should remain a priority.

The outcome document from this Summit is far from ideal, yet it represents a workable basis for a stronger United Nations. It is really up to us. For the most important reform is not in the institutions and structures. It is the policies and actions of Member States which determine our success or failure. It requires renunciation of inequitable and discriminatory policies and the politics of intolerance and domination. It requires a commitment to co-operation, mutual respect and more effort to achieve the common interests of us all.

To this end, Jamaica is always ready to play its part.

Thank you Mr. President.