

Jamaica at the United Nations, 1968

I have the honour to lay on the Table of this Honourable House for the information of Members a report entitled "Jamaica at the United Nations, 1968", which has been prepared by our Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

H. L. SHEARER
Prime Minister and
Minister of External Affairs
May 30, 1969

The Assembly established a permanent 42-member Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-bed and Ocean floor. The Latin American Group has seven members, one-third of whom will be on a two-year rotation basis.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The question of the seating of the People's Republic of China at the United Nations was again before the General Assembly. Three resolutions were put to the vote:

- (a) a resolution which affirmed the Assembly's previous decision that any proposal to change the representation of China was an important question requiring a two-thirds majority vote under the terms of Article 18 of the United Nations Charter;

The vote on this resolution was 73 in favour (including Jamaica), 47 against and 5 abstentions;

- (b) a resolution to seat the People's Republic of China and to expel the representatives of "the Chiang Kai Shek clique".

The vote was 44 in favour, 58 against and 23 abstentions (including Jamaica);

- (c) a resolution calling for the establishment of a committee to study the situation and make recommendations.

The vote was 30 in favour (including Jamaica), 67 against and 37 abstentions.

There has been a steady decrease over the past four years in the number of states supporting the seating of the People's Republic of China. The figures show that in 1965 there were 47 states supporting, 46 in 1966, 45 in 1967 and 44 in 1968.

This question will undoubtedly appear on the agenda of the next session of the General Assembly.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Mission on the 26th August 1968, transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations a note on behalf of the Government of Jamaica protesting the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops, in violation of the United Nations Charter and the accepted rights of any State to territorial integrity and political independence.

There was an inconclusive debate on this question in the Security Council in September. The major powers, however, seemed to

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have reached tacit agreement that the Czechoslovak situation should not be raised in the General Assembly and it was not raised as a separate item. The Czech Government also officially indicated that it did not want the matter discussed.

THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA

The Honourable E. L. Allen, Minister of Education, outlining Jamaica's policy in a speech at the XXIII session of the General Assembly, referred to the civil war in Nigeria and called upon the international community to rally to that country's assistance with all the help which could be given towards the relief of its protracted suffering. Jamaica, he said, had already offered a contribution of £10,000 to the people of Nigeria through the International Red Cross. The Minister also said that "Jamaica would have this Assembly call upon both sides in Nigeria to put an immediate cease fire into effect. At the same time this Assembly should call upon all Member States of the United Nations to cease supplying arms to either side in this conflict".

INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

The General Assembly celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the International Law Commission on the 4th November 1968, and Mr. Laurel Francis, the representative of Jamaica in the Sixth Committee was selected by the Latin American Group to speak on their behalf.

MAURITIUS

The Permanent Representative was present in the General Assembly at its meeting on 12th March 1968, to welcome Mauritius to the family of nations. Jamaica co-sponsored, along with 27 other Member States, a resolution which sought to admit Mauritius to membership of the United Nations, bringing the total membership then to 124.

B. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL

In recent years there has been growing recognition in the international community that economic and social development are inextricably related and that both are essential for the full enjoyment of human rights. Further, it is affirmed each year in stronger terms by the developing countries that the United Nations' formal commitment to promoting human rights constitutes a moral obligation on its developed member states to contribute more of their resources to international development programmes in order that the developing countries may enjoy wider economic and social rights.

This inter-relation has always been inherent in the structure of the United Nations Organization where economic, social and

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human rights questions come under the purview of the Economic and Social Council. It is, however, only recently that the acknowledged inter-relation has begun to have practical results. As an example, the entire effort in the field of social development is currently being examined and reconstructed so that it will meet the needs and concerns of the developing countries and that it will provide, instead of studies and statistics, practical assistance benefits to Member States in that sector. The impetus for this change of focus has come from the United Nations human rights commitment; ultimately it must be incorporated into more balanced and more practical general programmes to be undertaken in the Second Development Decade.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD

A number of resolutions containing implications for economic development were adopted by the XXIII session of the General Assembly. Among those which Jamaica supported were:

- (a) Multilateral Food Aid: This resolution emphasized the importance of multilateral food aid to countries with a food deficit and the necessity for developing countries to increase production in the agricultural sector with a view to overcoming such shortages.
- (b) International Development Strategy: The most important aspect of this resolution is the proposed establishment of a Preparatory Committee (the enlargement of the Economic Committee of the Economic and Social Council) to formulate the international strategy for the forthcoming Second Development Decade.
- (c) U.N. Capital Development Fund: This resolution requested the United Nations Development Programme to identify specific projects which can benefit from investment out of the existing resources of the Fund. The resolution stressed the urgency of the commencement of operation of the Fund to aid in the economic development of under-developed countries.
- (d) International Education Year: This resolution designated 1970 as International Education Year and requested Member States and organizations of the United Nations system to plan their education policies and programmes for the Second Development Decade based on the "objective and themes of the International Education Year" as formulated by UNESCO in 1968.
- (e) External Financing of Economic Development: This resolution endorsed the recommendation of UNCTAD that each economically advanced country should endeavour to provide annually to developing countries a financial resources transfer of a minimum net amount of one per cent of its Gross National Product at market prices in terms of actual disbursements and that 1972 should be the target year for achieving this goal.

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During the debate, the representative of Jamaica made a plea for the provision of loans to developing countries which did not qualify for International Development Association (IDA) loans, at interest rates between the IDA rates and the World Bank rates, that is, between three and four per cent. This proposal will most likely be further pursued at the forthcoming session in other United Nations bodies.

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Economic and Social Council is the highest organ in its field in the hierarchy of the United Nations; it concerns itself specifically with the formulation of principles and recommendations for the adoption of programmes of various aspects of international economic policy. The Council uses parallel methods in the social field, where it is supplied with preliminary work done by its many subsidiary organs, among them the Functional Commissions on Human Rights, Social Development and Population.

Jamaica can contribute in several areas to the work of this Council. The practical benefits to be derived from membership are significant to a developing country such as ours. Attempts have been made by the Mission over the past four years to gain a seat for Jamaica on the Council. Success was achieved on the 19th November 1968, when at a meeting of the General Assembly, Jamaica was elected for a three-year term to the Economic and Social Council, beginning on the 1st January 1969. A total of 109 votes was received from 116 states present and voting which included the full support of the Latin American Group.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The 37-member Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provides general policy guidance for the UNDP and the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation, and has also responsibility for the approval of Technical Assistance Projects and the administration of the Capital Development Fund. The UNDP is dedicated to one objective - increasing the development power of low-income countries. As a member of the Governing Council for the three-year period 1966 to 1968, Jamaica participated in the Fifth and Sixth sessions of that body during 1968. The Fifth Session was held at United Nations Headquarters, January 9 - 24 and the Sixth Session took place in Vienna from June 11 to 28. At both sessions of the Council Mr. Probyn W. Aitken attended as Jamaica's representative and was elected Rapporteur for both sessions.

Jamaica's project for the provision of a Food Crops Development and Marketing Feasibility Survey was approved at the Fifth

Session - the sum of \$110,400 to be borne by the UNDP and Jamaica contributing the equivalent in pounds of \$137,000. Negotiations undertaken by the Permanent Representative, on behalf of the Government with representatives of the UNDP facilitated the extension of the UNDP Project for Groundwater Investigation in Jamaica by 12 months to August 1969. This negotiation also helped to ensure the retention for one year of two specialists in Irrigation Engineering and Hydrogeology, respectively, whose participation is vital for the success of the irrigation and underground water investigation programmes in specific areas of the Island.

OTHER U.N. ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA

Emergency Food Assistance

As a result of the drought conditions affecting Jamaica last year, the Honourable Minister of Finance and Planning made a request for emergency food assistance through the UN/FAO/World Food Programme. On the 11th June 1968, the Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs met with U.N. Secretary-General U Thant and discussed certain United Nations matters including Technical Assistance in the field of training and Jamaica's application to the World Food Programme. The Permanent Representative was informed by the Secretary-General shortly after the Prime Minister's visit that the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization had approved a total of 2,280 metric tons in food assistance to Jamaica. This food was subsequently shipped to Jamaica and distributed to people in the drought stricken areas.

Small Craft Industry Project

On the request of the Honourable Minister of Finance and Planning the Mission explored the possibility of securing assistance from UNIDO and the Special Fund to facilitate the expansion and development of the Craft Industry in Jamaica. This resulted in the proposal that a formal application should be made through the UNDP Representative in Jamaica for assistance in the designing of Phase II of the existing craft work programme.

JAMAICA'S CONTRIBUTION TO 1968 U.N. REGULAR BUDGET AND OTHER VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Jamaica's scale of assessment for the year 1968 was 0.05% of the United Nations Regular Budget which amounted to \$57,792.00.

In addition the following voluntary contributions were made:

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| (a) | United Nations Development Programme | .. | \$65,000.00 |
| (b) | United Nations Capital Development Fund | . | 3,000.00 |
| (c) | United Nations Peace-keeping Force in
in Cyprus | .. | 4,800.00 |
| (d) | United Nations Consolidated Educational
Training Programme for South Africa | .. | 840.00 |

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The Government of Jamaica in keeping with the spirit of a United Nations resolution which, among other things, called upon all States to "provide the necessary moral and material assistance to the Namibian people in their legitimate struggle for independence", offered to provide training to two Namibians in Jamaica.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The year 1968 marked the 20th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and was observed throughout the world as the International Year for Human Rights. Jamaica participated fully in activities both at the national level and at the United Nations. On the Third Committee of the General Assembly, for example, Miss Enid Bennett, M.P. made a valuable contribution to the advancement of the deliberations in the social, cultural and humanitarian fields. The work of the Commission on Human Rights, the International Conference on Human Rights, the Third Committee of the General Assembly and the many national and non-governmental efforts and observances were all aimed at promoting a wider acceptance of the provisions of the Universal Declaration by Member States, and were all part of the United Nations' work towards achieving universal respect for the principles of human rights.

The Commission

The Commission on Human Rights met in New York in one session during 1968 from 5th February to 12th March. At this session Ambassador Keith Johnson was elected Vice-President.

The Commission devoted the greater part of its session to questions of apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa and adopted four major resolutions on this item. Jamaica co-sponsored one of these resolutions, (adopted unanimously) which is based on the report on prison conditions in the Republic of South Africa. The resolution listed a number of specific abuses in this area identified by a group of legal experts appointed for the purpose, and called upon the Government of South Africa to rectify them.

Later in the session, Jamaica was instrumental in securing a resolution on slavery (there are estimated to be between two and four million people still living in slavery or involuntary servitude). This proposal, the first concrete measure to be adopted by the U.N. in this field in several years, aimed at setting up machinery to give assistance, without publicity, to those states where there is still residual slavery and whose governments wish U.N. advice and assistance in eradicating it. During its session the Commission also took decisions on such questions as the change of size and composition of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of

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Minorities on the rights of civilian populations in the occupied territories of the Middle East and on the promotion of economic and social rights.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The International Conference on Human Rights was held in Tehran, Iran, from 22nd April to 13th May 1968, and was attended by 84 states including Jamaica, three United Nations bodies, four Specialized Agencies, four regional inter-governmental organizations and 48 non-governmental organizations. Jamaica was represented at the Conference by:

Mr. A. H. W. Williams, M.P.	Head of the Delegation
H.E. Sir Egerton Richardson, Ambassador to the United States	
H.E. Mr. Keith Johnson, Permanent Representative to the U.N.	
Mr. J. M. Lloyd, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs	
Mr. Noel P. Silvera, M.P.	
Mr. L. B. Francis, Legal Adviser to the Ministry of External Affairs	
Mrs. Joyce Robinson, Director of the Jamaica Library Services	
Miss Marcella Martinez, Attache, Permanent Mission to the U.N.	

Presiding over the Conference was the Princess Ashraf Pahlavi of Iran. Jamaica was appointed a Vice-President. During his delivery of Jamaica's general statement on the opening day, Mr. Arthur Williams, M.P. conveyed to the Conference the greetings of the Honourable Prime Minister and the good wishes of the Government and people of Jamaica, as well as his own personal greetings. On a subsequent occasion Mr. Williams made a moving speech on apartheid in which he called for new approaches by the U.N. to the problem aimed at drawing on the tremendous recent advances in the information media in order to bring people everywhere to a fuller realisation of the human tragedy and waste resulting from this policy of apartheid.

Mr. Noel Silvera, M.P. played a prominent role in piloting a resolution which Jamaica co-sponsored with several delegations, advocating the establishment or enlargement by governments of systems of legal aid for those who needed it.

The Conference considered a wide range of subjects with human rights implications such as discrimination and colonialism (especially in southern Africa), the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights, disarmament, a long-term programme for the

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advancement of women, the rights of children and youth, refugee problems, family planning, the need for legal aid, and the protection of human rights in modern armed conflicts. At its conclusion the Conference unanimously adopted the Proclamation of Teheran which sets forth a consensus on the major human rights problems, in particular the obligation of the international community to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as defined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights irrespective of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions. It must be stressed, as was said by the Permanent Representative in his address to the Third Committee on December 2, 1968, on the International Year for Human Rights, that "the Proclamation is not simply a restatement of the Universal Declaration. It is a contemporary statement of the realities confronting the world today, breaking new ground with a number of quite remarkable pronouncements. It introduces a new principle into international development by calling for individual national effort from all nations to help close the gap between rich and poor. It is the first international statement which, at the highest level, demands an appropriate share for youth in the shaping of mankind's future. It recognizes as legitimate the continuing struggle against apartheid. It takes a positive stand on the question of population growth. It calls our attention to the human rights problems inherent in the very technology of which mankind is so proud. It lays claim to the resources released by disarmament, not only for economic development as in the past, but for the promotion of human rights. It correctly identifies the eradication of racial discrimination as "a most urgent task of mankind". It is, in fact, the Ambassador concluded, "a challenge to all, and a stirring invitation to ensure that its pronouncements are invested with the importance and the influence they deserve".

The adoption of the Report of the Conference (Final Act) was agreed to by the General Assembly at its XXIII session.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

At a special meeting organized by the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of South Africa, the 21st of March 1968, was observed as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Ninety-six representatives of Member States and members of the Human Rights Commission attended, and a minute of silence was observed in memory of victims of racism everywhere. Statements were made by the Secretary-General and representatives including Ambassador Keith Johnson in his capacity as Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights. The Ambassador stated, inter alia, that the "international community could not allow racial

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discrimination among men, for only in a world where human beings were equally valued irrespective of race, would the goals of the United Nations Organization have any hope of attainment".

MARCUS GARVEY PRIZE

The Government, in 1966, decided that one of the ways in which Jamaica would mark the International Year was by the award of a Prize for Human Rights. The Prize would be named after one of Jamaica's national heroes - Marcus Garvey - would carry a cash award of £5,000, and would be awarded for outstanding contribution in the field of race relations. The Government through the Mission circulated the governments of Member States and Observer Missions as well as the Specialized Agencies and the Non-Governmental Organizations, details of the Code of Procedure agreed upon, and requested their nominations. Following announcement of the award of the Prize to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, the Mission notified all the Governments and Organizations of the award.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

The Twentieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was observed on the 9th December at a special meeting of the General Assembly. Among those addressing the gathering were Princess Ashraf Pahlavi of Iran, President of the International Conference on Human Rights, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Mr. Manuel Perez Guerrero of Venezuela, the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, Mr. Ibrahima Boye of Senegal and the Chairman of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mr. Pierre Juvigny of France. At this meeting the six prizes for Human Rights were awarded to Manuel Bianchi (Chile), Mrs. Mehranguiz Manoutchehrian (Iran), Peter Emelyanovich Nedbailo (Ukraine), Rene Cassin (France) and posthumously to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt (U.S.A.) and Chief Albert Luthuli (South Africa).

A number of countries, including Jamaica, sent messages commemorating the 20th Anniversary. The Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs of Jamaica's message noted that during the International Year "Nations, organizations and individuals all around the world have seized the opportunity to measure and assess the progress made over the past two decades towards the realization of the ideals embodied in the Declaration, and, at the same time, to take stock of all that yet remains to be done" "As a member of the United Nations, Jamaica can feel a certain justifiable pride in the achievements which have been secured by that Organization in certain areas, but we are also sharply aware that, in other areas, progress has been negligible. The world has, in fact, a long way to go before it can be said to have attained the happy state in which the "inherent
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dignity -- the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family -- enjoy universal respect."

JAMAICA LAUDED AT THE U.N.

The Jamaican initiative which resulted in the designation by the U.N. of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights received high praise from a number of member nations in the various statements made before the General Assembly's Third Committee.

The United Kingdom's representative, Lady Gaitskell, in her statement on the International Year, began by paying tribute to the Government of Jamaica, "on whose initiative 1968 was designated as Human Rights Year". Lady Gaitskell continued: "The Jamaican delegation deserves its reputation as a watchdog for Human Rights ..."

Attorney General Ramphal of Guyana made the following comment before the General Assembly: "This is the International Year for Human Rights - a Year I am happy to recall, initiated on a proposal by a fellow Caribbean State, Jamaica - and I cannot leave this area of my remarks without placing on record the admiration of my Government for the efforts of this organization and of the many non-governmental organizations associated with it in the area of Human Rights. We believe that the dedicated work which has been done in advancing the cause of Human Rights throughout the world has already served to awaken the consciences of millions to the injustices which exist, to the urgency of the need for change and, perhaps most important of all, to the righteousness and the legitimacy of change ..."

New Zealand's representative included in her statement before the Third Committee the comment that her "delegation was impressed with the national Human Rights programmes undertaken by Member States during 1968", and, in specific reference to Jamaica, she spoke in the following terms: "if I may single out one [programme] in particular, it might be that of Jamaica, to whom we owe the idea for this International Year and whose Government and people have demonstrated that they are ready to give thorough and practical expression to the goals they are so ably promoting on the international level".

CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE

All Member States of the United Nations and its related agencies were invited by the Secretary-General to participate in an International Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Welfare which was held at the United Nations Headquarters from September 3 to September 12, 1968.

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JAMAICA AT THE UNITED NATIONS, 1968

Part I: The United Nations in 1968

The United Nations is a sensitive barometer of the situation in the world at large. In a year when the balance of power is threatened, when future policies of the great powers are in doubt, when the small powers are forced to entertain serious doubts about the value of the role they have attempted to play, the United Nations as such, cannot move significantly forward. At such a time it must take the opportunity instead to examine where it stands at the moment, to make adjustments in its policies and programmes which will more accurately reflect the realities of international conflicts and, if possible, to strengthen, expand and clarify the bases on which its current activities rest. 1968 was such a year. Great power activities in South-East Asia, Central Europe and the Middle East, the uncertainty of the future course of policy owing to factors such as the American Presidential elections and the general monetary crisis, civil convulsions in the developed world, all contributed to a fluid state of alliances at the United Nations and therefore militated against the Organization's taking any significant new steps. There was, at the same time, an increased tendency within the United Nations to examine the nature and value of its work. Delegations, aware of the growing credibility gap between the United Nations and the Public at large, were constrained in several areas to take a searching look at the kinds of action the United Nations had so far taken to solve its most pressing problems. Were these sufficiently adequate and timely? Or, were alternative measures required? One heard repeated calls for "new approaches" - in solving growing economic problems, in reducing the danger of political confrontations, in opposing the policies of apartheid.

At the XXIII Session of the General Assembly there was no new proposal as imaginative as the 1967 Maltese proposal for the "Examination of the Question of the Reservation Exclusively for Peaceful Purposes of the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor, and the Sub-soil Thereof, Underlying the High Seas Beyond the Limits of Present National Jurisdiction, and the Uses of Their Resources in the Interests of Mankind". However, that proposal which had been debated during the XXII Session resulted in the formation of an ad hoc committee which reported to the XXIII Session of the General Assembly. The debate on the report of the ad hoc committee led to the formation of a Permanent Committee which would study legal principles and norms and the economic and technical aspects of the entire proposal. This Committee is expected to spend a long time on its work.

The meetings of the Security Council were dominated, for the most part, by discussions on the Middle East and on the question

The Conference was called by the Economic and Social Council for the purpose of examining the role of social welfare programmes in national development and to make recommendations for further United Nations action in this field.

Jamaica's representatives to the Conference were:

The Hon. Allan Douglas	
Minister of Youth and Community Development	- Leader of Delegation
Mr. Hector Gibson	
Chairman, Social Development Commission	- Representative
Mrs. Winnifred Hewitt	
Chief Children's Officer	- Representative
Miss Marcella Martinez	
Attache, Permanent Mission to the United Nations	- Adviser.

In an address to the Conference on the 6th September, the Honourable Allan Douglas spoke of Jamaica's experience in the field of social welfare, its achievements, and recognition of the need for further social and economic development which would involve particularly the youth of the country. He referred to the problems of the mentally and physically handicapped in the national development because of the lack of trained personnel in this field. This, he said, was one of the areas in which assistance may have to be requested by Jamaica from the international organizations.

Mrs. Hewitt was appointed to serve on one of the four Technical Commissions set up by the Conference and was unanimously elected its Rapporteur.

C. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, MEMBERSHIP, ETC.

CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

Jamaica became a party to the following Conventions and Agreements during the year:

- (a) The Instrument of Accession to the 1930 Protocol relating to a certain Case of Statelessness was deposited on June 12, 1968.
- (b) The 1968 International Coffee Agreement was signed on 17th September 1968.
- (c) The Instrument of Accession to the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide was deposited on 23rd September 1968.
- (d) The International Sugar Agreement was signed on 27th December 1968.

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MEMBERSHIP ON U.N. BODIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Jamaica held membership on the following United Nations Commissions, Committees and Boards during 1968:

- Committee on Conferences
- Committee on Manufactures of UNCTAD
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- Commission on Human Rights
- Population Commission
- Economic Commission for Latin America
- Trade and Development Board
- Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme.

Meetings of the Committee on Conferences, the Commission on Human Rights and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme were attended by representatives of the Mission.

Specialized Agencies

The following are the Specialized Agencies on which Jamaica has permanent membership:

- International Labour Organization
- Food and Agricultural Organization
(Jamaica has been elected to the World Food Programme for the period 1968-1970)
- United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
- World Health Organization
(Membership on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization for 1968/69 - 1970/71)
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- International Finance Corporation
- International Civil Aviation Organization
- Universal Postal Union
- International Telecommunication Union
- World Meteorological Organization.

Other Agencies

- International Atomic Energy Agency
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

The headquarters of many of the abovementioned Specialized Agencies are located in Europe. Jamaica's interests on these bodies are met by the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the European Office and to the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations in Geneva. The Mission in New York is required to perform complementary liaising functions, primarily on aspects of the programmes of the Specialized Agencies in which the United Nations Headquarters is more or less directly involved.

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Part III: Administration

Members of the staff of the Mission - diplomatic and non-diplomatic - performed their duties well, displaying loyalty, willingness and devotion to duty all of which contributed to the smooth and effective functioning of the Mission.

LECTURES

Civic organisations and educational institutions in the New York area and as far afield as Los Angeles, California, displayed a keen interest in Jamaica, her role at the United Nations, particularly in the field of human rights. Members of the diplomatic staff were often requested to participate in seminars and forums on international issues and to deliver addresses on Jamaica's policy at home and abroad. In the case of Los Angeles, the Permanent Representative, at the invitation of the Los Angeles County Optometric Society, visited that city and addressed the annual meeting of the Society on the 20th June 1968. On that occasion the Ambassador had the opportunity of meeting with several members of the Jamaican and West Indian community.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Diplomatic and Consular relations were formally established between Jamaica and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the 11th of October 1968, by an Exchange of Notes at the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the U.N. between Ambassador Keith Johnson and Ambassador Anton Vratusa, Permanent Representative of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations.

As a gesture of goodwill, Ambassador Vratusa held a Reception at his Mission on Friday, 15th November, for the members of the Jamaican delegation to the XXIII General Assembly session and of the Mission. Members of the Yugoslavian delegation and Mission staff were present and acted as hosts.

RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES

The Mission maintained cordial relations with, and worked closely with the Caribbean States Members of the United Nations and the Latin American States.

Particularly on economic questions of common concern the Mission has maintained close working relationship with the Group of 77.

Jamaica's participation as a member of ECOSOC and of the Preparatory Committee for the Second Development Decade will facilitate the strengthening of the bonds between the developing countries as they accelerate their quest for those approaches that will lead to the attainment of urgently needed economic and social goals - the key to peace and security.

of Rhodesia. In the case of Rhodesia, a resolution was unanimously adopted agreeing to impose more effective sanctions against the illegal racist regime of Ian Smith.

The XXIII Session of the General Assembly was convened at Headquarters on 24th September and adjourned three months later on 21st December. In the General Debate, Member States devoted more attention to the social and economic problems, making less detailed reference to current world problems such as Viet Nam. The invasion of Czechoslovakia by the USSR and the deteriorating conditions in Nigeria/Biafra were only mentioned briefly. It was, however, plainly perceptible that events in the Middle East and Czechoslovakia had contributed to a serious setback of the detente in East/West relations. This worsening of relations was emphasized by the halt in ratifications of the Non-Proliferation Treaty - one of the greatest achievements of the United Nations in its efforts to stem the spread of nuclear weapons - by the great powers.

There emerged also, in some cases for the first time, references to a large number of disputes: Guyana/Venezuela; the Philippines/Malaysia over Sabah; Pakistan/Afghanistan over Padhtunistan; Argentina/United Kingdom over the Malvinas; Guatemala's claim to Belice; and the United Kingdom/Spain dispute over Gibraltar.

The Economic and Social Council took the necessary steps to expedite the preliminary work and to intensify national and international efforts to formulate a dynamic international policy for the second United Nations Development Decade. The United Nations must indeed advance its relentless efforts to improve the social and economic conditions throughout the world and to maintain international peace and security.

Consequent on the decrease in the number of trust territories under its administration, the Trusteeship Council was faced with the inevitable decision to review its composition and its role. This matter is still under consideration. The most recent trust territory to be brought to independence by the Council in January of 1968 was Nauru.

Considerable credit must be given to Secretary-General U Thant, for his unstinting efforts to promote peace and international goodwill. The recourse to quiet diplomatic initiatives on his part and through his representatives - Gunnar Jarring in the Middle East and Nils-Goran Gussing in Nigeria - are a manifestation of his valuable services to the world community.

Of parallel importance during 1968 was the convening of four major United Nations Conferences -

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- (a) The International Conference on Human Rights;
- (b) The Conference on Non-Nuclear Weapon States;
- (c) The Conference on the Law of Treaties; and
- (d) The United Nations Sugar Conference.

The International Conference on Human Rights which met in Tehran, Iran, in April/May, emphasized the need for a dynamic and better-planned approach by States to the problems of human rights. Embodied in its final Proclamation are the hopes and aspirations of 84 participating States for world-wide promotion and acceptance of human rights and fundamental freedom.

The Conference of Non-Nuclear Weapon States held in Geneva, August/September, has been regarded not only by the smaller nations but also by the four great powers which attended as observers, as having contributed to a wider understanding of the problems of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, disarmament and the control of nuclear weapons. The United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties met in Vienna from March 26 to May 24, 1968, and reviewed a draft Convention which lays down rules of law governing conclusion, interpretation, validity and termination of treaties between States. The Conference will hold its second session in 1969, at which time conclusion and ratification of the Convention is anticipated.

The United Nations Sugar Conference convened on April 17 to June 1 and met again from September 23 to October 24, under the chairmanship of the Honourable Robert Lightbourne, Minister of Trade and Industry of Jamaica. At its conclusion the Conference adopted the text of an International Sugar Agreement which was submitted to Governments for consideration. The Agreement was open for signature at United Nations Headquarters from 3rd to 24th December and the deposit of ratification or notification thereof was required by 31st December 1968, to enable the Agreement to come into force on 1st January 1969. This was achieved. The Agreement is designed to bring world production and consumption of sugar into closer balance at prices above present low levels. It aims at maintaining a stable price for sugar and at discouraging expansion of production by developed countries in order to benefit the developing countries which depend largely on the export of this commodity.

Membership of the United Nations rose in 1968 to 126 with the admittance of Mauritius, Equatorial Guinea, Swaziland and the Southern Yemen.

Part II: Jamaica at the United Nations in 1968.

Throughout the year 1968, the Mission continued to benefit from sustained consultations with the Ministry of External Affairs and from the policy guidelines set forth by the Ministry. The Permanent Representative and other members of the Mission engaged in a considerable amount of research, study, and liaison with the United Nations Secretariat and diplomatic personnel of other Missions, in order to prepare briefs and documentation for the Ministry of External Affairs and to effectively participate in the work of the United Nations. A summary follows of the SECURITY AND POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS, in which the Mission took a keen interest.

A. SECURITY AND POLITICAL

THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Southern Rhodesia

In a Note to the President of the Security Council dated 16th March 1968, the Permanent Representative on behalf of Jamaica, supported the request of 36 African States that the Security Council convene a meeting to consider the situation in Southern Rhodesia, specifically the execution of 33 black Rhodesians after the Queen had granted a reprieve. This meeting took place on the 20th March 1968, and Ambassador Johnson in his statement to the Council, deplored "the permissiveness of Governments which support the Smith regime by refusing to enforce sanctions against Rhodesia". He informed the Council that the people of Jamaica through Parliament had unanimously adopted a resolution which took note of the "utter failure of the sanctions so far imposed on Southern Rhodesia". The Government of Jamaica in this resolution supported the use of force to overthrow the illegal regime of Ian Smith. At a later session held in May the question of Rhodesia was again discussed and a resolution calling for the imposition of mandatory sanctions on Rhodesia was unanimously adopted.

Complaint by the Republic of Haiti

The Security Council met to consider a complaint by the Republic of Haiti that it had been the victim of aggression. In a letter to the Secretary-General, the Permanent Representative of Haiti had stated that Port-au-Prince had been bombed by a pirate plane, the target being the private apartments of the Head of State. The letter went on to say that the territories from which the aircraft were most likely to have operated were the United States, Cuba, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic or the Bahamas. The Representative of Haiti in his address to the Council did not mention Jamaica and there was no debate.

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The President of the Council read into the records letters from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica and the Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic. The Jamaican letter stated that Jamaica had already informed the Haitian Consul in Kingston that Jamaica was not a base from which any aircraft had operated to bomb the Republic of Haiti. The Dominican Republic's letter also denied any infringement of Haiti's sovereignty.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rhodesia

The Mission participated in deliberations in the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly's XXIII session on the question of Rhodesia. Jamaica's stand had already been made known in earlier statements in the United Nations and was again stated by Mr. Hugh Bonnick, the representative of Jamaica in the Fourth Committee, in debate on October 16. The salient points of his address were -

- (1) It might be of value to consider effective ways and means of applying restrictions on communication facilities - postal, air, and sea - despite the inherent difficulties.
- (2) The co-operation of the major powers was needed to implement any meaningful resolution on Rhodesia.
- (3) Since comprehensive sanctions appeared doomed to failure, the United Kingdom should employ whatever force was needed to ensure the fundamental rights of the majority population.
- (4) The Jamaican Government felt that any settlement would need to take into account the No Independence Before Majority African Rule (NIBMAR) pledge which was made to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers in 1966, and such settlement would need to be on the basis of Universal Adult Suffrage.
- (5) All Member States should withhold recognition of Rhodesia as an independent state if NIBMAR and Universal Adult Suffrage were not included in any settlement that was reached.

In the Committee, the majority of Commonwealth countries condemned the United Kingdom for inaction in settling the Rhodesian problem. Apart from certain Nordic countries and a few others the consensus was -

/ (a) ...

- (a) that the United Kingdom should not grant independence to Southern Rhodesia unless it is preceded by the establishment of a government based on free elections by universal adult suffrage, and on majority rule;
- (b) no State should recognize any form of independence in Rhodesia without the prior establishment of a government based on majority rule.

These provisions which originated in Jamaica's policy speech, formed the basis of the text of a draft resolution which was approved by the General Assembly.

APARTHEID

In the general debate of the Fourth Committee at the XXIII session of the General Assembly, on the question of decolonization, Dr. Neville Gallimore, M.P. spoke on the question of apartheid, with particular emphasis on how the activities of foreign economic interests were undergirding the status quo in South Africa, Rhodesia, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau and Angola, thereby impeding the decolonization process.

NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Jamaica took a keen interest in deliberations in the First Committee on a Treaty which would prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons. Ambassador Johnson in a statement before that Committee on the 31st May 1968, at the resumed XXII session of the General Assembly, elaborated on the possibilities for economic and technical development that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy offer. Jamaica was among the 96 Member States of the United Nations which supported the resolution commending the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons adopted on June 12, 1968. The General Assembly requested the Depository Governments - U.S.S.R., United Kingdom and the United States - to open the Instrument for Signature and Ratification as early as possible. Adoption of this resolution by the Assembly was one of the greatest achievements by the United Nations during the year.

CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES

In compliance with a resolution adopted at the XXII session of the General Assembly, members of the United Nations and of the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency were invited to participate in a Conference of Non-Nuclear Weapon States which was held at Geneva from 29th August to 28th September 1968. Representatives of 96 countries attended including four nuclear power states - France, U.S.A., the United Kingdom and the U.S.S.R. - who went as observers. Jamaica was represented by -

/H.E. ...

H.E. Mr. K. B. Scott, Permanent Representative to the European Office and to the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. L. M. H. Barnett
First Secretary, Jamaica Mission to the United Nations,
New York

Mr. A. H. Thompson
Second Secretary, Jamaica Mission to the United Nations,
Geneva.

The Conference was convened to consider -

- (a) How can the security of the non-nuclear states best be assured?
- (b) How many non-nuclear Powers co-operate among themselves in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons?
- (c) How can nuclear devices be used for peaceful purposes exclusively?

The Foreign Minister of Pakistan was elected President of the Conference. Jamaica was appointed by the President as a member of the Credentials Committee along with Australia, Bulgaria, Ceylon, Costa Rica, Ireland, Japan, Madagascar and Morocco.

The Conference adopted a Declaration which inter alia-reaffirmed the responsibility and obligation of states to guarantee peace and security by such means as -

- (a) the observation of the United Nations Charter and the compliance with international law governing relations among states.
- (b) Immediate cessation of the arms race, and acceleration of the process of nuclear and general disarmament under effective international control.
- (c) International assistance, including financing, to enable increased application of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Jamaica was particularly concerned with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and co-sponsored and supported various resolutions which dealt among other things with -

- (i) Consideration to establish a Nuclear Technology Research and Development Programme within the United Nations Development Programme for the benefit of developing countries.
- (ii) Consideration by the Board of Governors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and

Development of the establishment of a "Programme for the use of Nuclear Energy in Economic Development Projects" for the benefit of developing countries.

In addition, Jamaica supported the move to change the structure of the International Atomic Energy Agency because of its newly implied duties in the Non-Proliferation Treaty. The General Assembly at its 23rd session considered the report of the Conference and adopted resolutions dealing with various aspects of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. These resolutions were all supported by Jamaica.

THE SEA-BED

The Maltese delegation had introduced at the XXII session of the General Assembly the item entitled "Question of the reservation exclusively for peaceful purposes of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction, and the use of their resources in the interests of mankind".

Explorations have indicated considerable mineral resources on the ocean floor and in its subsoil. Scientific and technological developments have made exploitation of some of these resources possible within the next decade. The result would be a competitive scramble for sovereign rights over the ocean floor, escalation of the arms race, a widening of the gap between rich and poor countries and the danger of permanent damage to the marine environment through pollution.

Following a year's study by an Ad Hoc Committee, the sea-bed item was discussed at the XXIII session of the General Assembly. In the general debate on the item, Ambassador Johnson spoke of the need to ensure that the interests of the developing countries were protected in the exploitation of the resources of the sea. He suggested:

- (a) the early convening of an international conference on the Law of the Sea to review the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the Law of the Sea;
- (b) the need for a generally acceptable set of principles which would include reservation of the sea-bed and ocean floor exclusively for non-military purposes;
- (c) the need for the establishment of an International Agency to regulate and supervise the exploration and exploitation of the resources of the sea-bed and ocean floor.

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