



Jamaican Justice System Reform

Together for Justice with Civil Participation

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April 20, 2007

Dear Colleague,

The Jamaican Justice System Reform Task Force (JJSRTF) cordially invites you to participate in its two-day ***National Jamaica Justice Reform Summit*** under the theme ***“Setting the Agenda for Action”***. This National Justice Summit will be held at the Jamaica Conference Centre on Thursday May 10 and Friday May 11, 2007. The Opening Ceremony for this Summit will be held at the Jamaica Conference Centre on Thursday May 10, 2007 commencing at 9:00 a.m. where Prime Minister, The Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller will deliver the keynote address.

The JJSRTF Preliminary Report and draft recommendations for reform of the justice system will be presented at this Justice Reform Summit. The Summit will also bring together key justice sector stakeholders and representatives of the public to work collaboratively toward confirming the priorities for modernisation and reform of the justice system and building the consensus needed for their implementation. This dialogue will make an important contribution to the Government’s Justice System Modernisation Plan.

The key objectives of the National Justice Summit are:

- To share what the JJSR has learned through its research and consultation programmes
- To verify the priority reform issues that have been identified
- To develop a common vision of principles, values and strategies to guide justice system reform and
- To examine barriers to reform and ways to overcome these barriers in order to implement needed reforms.

April 20, 2007

Re: National Jamaica Justice Reform Summit

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The comprehensive reform of the Jamaican Justice System is an initiative of the Government of Jamaica working through the Ministry of Justice and the Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU) of the Cabinet Office under the Modernisation Vision and Strategy Programme (Ministry Paper #56). The review phase of this reform process is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Government of Jamaica. The Canadian Bar Association has been engaged to conduct this comprehensive review process.

The JJSRTF is a Task Force comprising stakeholders from a wide cross section of society including the private sector, civil society, the judiciary, the legal profession, and public sector personnel and decision-makers. In fulfilling its mandate to develop strategies and mechanisms to facilitate the modernisation of the justice system, the Task Force has undertaken a broad research, consultation and communication programme. The aim has been to stimulate individual and collective engagement in the developing the vision of a modern justice system and reforms that will make it more efficient, accessible, accountable, fair and able to deliver timely results in a cost-effective manner.

We strongly encourage you and/or your representative to attend and participate fully in the National Justice Summit. The Summit has important implications for the future of Jamaica and it is critical to that all sectors of the Jamaican community are well-represented at this event.

Enclosed please see the registration form with instructions for response by **Monday April 30, 2007**. You may also contact Ms. Yvonne Dixon or Ms. Tracey Brown at 906-3850 for more information. The final Summit Programme and materials, including the Task Force's Preliminary Report will be available on the JJSR website www.moj.gov.jm in early May and will be handed out at the Summit.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Barry Chavannes
Chairman