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## Statements made by State under review at the HRC under item 6 after the adoption of the UPR report

**Country:** Jamaica (First Cycle, 2010)

- **Date of the statement:** 23rd HRC session - 10 June 2013

"The Government of Jamaica ratified the Optional Protocol to the (CRC) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography on 26th August 2011. The establishment of a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles is still under consideration, with the establishment of a Human Rights Unit within the Ministry of Justice, as a first step. The Cabinet has endorsed the National Action Plan (2012-2015) to combat trafficking in persons and a dedicated human trafficking shelter is now operational.

Jamaica's reports under the ICESCR, CEDAW and ICCPR were considered by the relevant Committees in May 2013, July 2012 and October 2011 respectively. Jamaica's report to the ICERD will be considered by the Committee in August 2013. The Government awaits consideration of its report to the CRC which was submitted in 2011. A Steering Committee has been established to prepare for and review the outcomes of the constructive dialogues related to the reporting obligations for each treaty body. With regard to gender equality, the Government has adopted, in 2011, the National Policy for Gender Equality (NPGE).

Funds have been allocated in the 2013/2014 national budget to specifically address the issue of separation of adults and children in custody, in all 5 police divisions. The Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) has received an increase in its budget and staff complement.

On 6th May 2013, the Cabinet noted the interim report on the operations in West Kinston during the State of Emergency, prepared by the Public Defender, and was of the view that a Commission of Enquiry should be held. The Cabinet will further consider the report and frame appropriate Terms of Reference for the Commission."