



UNITED NATIONS
**HUMAN RIGHTS
TREATY BODIES**

HAUT-COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND
www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: ohchr-registry@un.org

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

REFERENCE: BN/follow-up/86/Jamaica/92

24 February 2026

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on follow-up to concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the eighth periodic report of Jamaica, at the Committee's eighty-sixth session, held in October 2023. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/JAM/CO/8](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 49 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Jamaica to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 23 (b) and (c), 31 (b) and 33 (a) of the concluding observations, namely:

23 (b): "Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, and in line with target 5.2 under the Sustainable Developments Goals, which is to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, the Committee recommends that the State party expedite the adoption of the agreed amendments to the Domestic Violence Act."

23 (c): "Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, and in line with target 5.2 under the Sustainable Developments Goals, which is to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, the Committee recommends that the State party revise the Sexual Offences Act to criminalize marital rape in all circumstances."

31 (b): "The Committee draws attention to target 8.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which is by 2030, to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value, and recommends that the State party finalize the review of the Equal Pay for Men and Women Act (1975) and amend it to include the principle of equal remuneration of women and men for work of equal value and to explicitly prohibit gender-based discrimination in recruitment, career development and vocational training and in relation to job security."

H.E. Mr. Richard Brown
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Email: info@jamaicamission.ch



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33 (a): “In line with its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health and targets 3.1 and 3.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which are, respectively, by 2030, to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births and also by 2030, to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes, the Committee recommends that the State party legalize abortion at least in cases of rape, incest, threats to the life or health of the pregnant woman and severe foetal impairment and decriminalize it in all other cases.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in November 2025, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government’s response on the matters.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Jamaica on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder **within one month of the date of this correspondence**.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **3,150 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. Please also send a **Word electronic version** of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to ohchr-cedaw@un.org.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jelena Pia-Comeita'.

Jelena Pia-Comeita

Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women