

**Intervention by H.E. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica, at
the Informal briefing by the Deputy Secretary-General on the United Nations' New
Approach to Cholera in Haiti
14 June 2017**

Mr. President,

My delegation thanks you for organizing this briefing and thanks the Deputy Secretary-General for her presentation elaborating on the details provided in the Report of the Secretary-General on the New Approach to Cholera in Haiti.

I align myself with the statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of Grenada on behalf of CARICOM.

Let me first of all reiterate Jamaica's strong support for urgent action to be taken by the international community to address the health and humanitarian situation caused by the introduction and presence of cholera in our sister nation of Haiti. We recognise that there is no simple solution and appreciate the deliberate steps being taken by the United Nations and other partners to address the devastating effects of cholera in Haiti. We support the 2 Track approach, especially as it pertains to making the necessary investments to enhance the health infrastructure and upgrade the water and sanitation systems in order to treat, contain and prevent further outbreaks.

Mr. President,

We recognise and thank those Member States that have made commitment to the Trust Fund and welcome the contributions made by UN staff and private organisations. We also thank Canada and Japan for the financial support for the cholera response. We are concerned however about the woefully inadequate funding of the New Approach. The significant deficit in funding hinders our ability to deliver on the hopes of the Haitian people and to advance the New Approach, including directing the critical resources to where it is most needed.

Securing funding from all feasible sources, whether great or small, is an essential start that will send a message to the people of Haiti that we, the United Nations, have not abandoned our collective commitment and responsibility to adequately respond to the cholera crisis. We therefore support the proposal for Member States to voluntarily waive the return of unencumbered balances and credits from MINUSTAH and redirect them to the cholera response by means of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

As MINUSTAH transitions out of Haiti, and the UN presence in Haiti evolves, it is important that we do not lose the momentum generated by the apology of the former Secretary-General made on behalf of the United Nations as well as from the elaboration of this New Approach. The good name of the United Nations is best restored and protected through an open and transparent approach that delivers on commitments and sustains meaningful engagement with the Government and people of Haiti, in particular the victims and survivors of this grave catastrophe for which we bear collective responsibility.