

FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ (MESECVI) Fourteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts (CEVI) November 27-28, 2017 Panamá City, Panamá



OEA/Ser.L/II.7.10 MESECVI/CEVI/doc. ./17 November 21, 2017 Original: English

JAMAICA
COUNTRY REPORT
THIRD ROUND

I. Introduction

- 1. This is a report to analyze the inputs made by Jamaica to the progress indicators for measuring the implementation of the Belem do Para Convention under the headings hereafter following.
- 2. The analysis provided below is based on a comparison of the current state of implementation in Jamaica as against the last report dated the 26th March 2012 taking into account the specific recommendations made therein.
- 3. The sections below is expected to analyze and comment on whether Jamaica has provide more recent information; has improved its efforts in advancing its legislative agenda and national plans in relation to living a life free of violence; has the ability to and capacity to generate structures of social participation in the design, execution and evaluation of public policies through education prevention and communication strategies challenging the identifiable stereotypes
- 4. The report, in seeking to provide the information on the progress of rights of women and girls in Jamaica to live without violence, will be examined under the headings Legislation; National Plans; Access to justice; Information and Statistics; Diversity. Under each heading, an attempt will be made, based on the information provided, to examine the reception of the right, the basic financial context and budgetary compromises and the state capacity to act and enforce and provide the infrastructural support required in order to implement the Belem do Para Convention.
- 5. The CEVI applauds Jamaica for completing, to the best of their ability, the progress indicators for measuring the implementation of the inter-American Convention on the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women (Belem Do Para Convention)

II. Analysis of the progress made in the realization of women's right to live a life free of violence

LEGISLATION Articles 1, 2, 3, 7c, e & g

RECEPTION OF THE RIGHT Structural:

6. In addition to the passage of new legislation and the amendment of some existing legislation as stated in the report on the second multilateral evaluation round, the creation of the following polices have been submitted by Jamaica based on Recommendation 1,2 and 3:

- a. Approval and implementation of a sexual harassment policy
- b. The tabling of a Sexual Harassment Bill tabled in 2015 and debated by the Jamaica Parliament in 2016
- c. The Draft national Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy which establishes a framework for the Jamaica Government to address the long standing problem of sexual harassment in the workplace
- d. The National Disabilities Act (2014) provides a platform to advocate more effectively on behalf of other vulnerable groups such as women and girls.
- e. The creation of a national family planning board offers training and information on various sexual and reproductive health issues through trainings and workshops
- f. Public Education Campaigns launched to change the persistent patriarchal beliefs and social norms
- g. The Abortion Policy Advisory which was established in 2005; draft bill and report submitted in 2008 and now there is a new joint select committee appointed in 2014
- 7. Jamaica has not addressed the issues as it pertains to Femicide and it may safe to assume that the position as reported in the second evaluation round has remained the same.
- 8. The Evidence (Special Measures) Act and Evidence (Special Measures) Video Recorded Evidence) (Criminal Proceedings Regulations were passed in July 2015. They seek to protect vulnerable witnesses particularly women and children in making provision for video recorded evidence and live video links in trials so that vulnerable witnesses do not have to appear in Court.
- 9. Amendments to the Trafficking in Persons(Prevention Suppression and Punishment) Act passed in 2013 to increase the penalty from 10 years to 20 years for offences involving sexual assault and it also expanded the definition of exploitation to include carnal abuse and rape among other things

- 10. The Evidence (Special Measures) Act and Evidence (Special Measures) Video Recorded Evidence) (Criminal Proceedings Regulations were passed in July 2015
- 11. Amendments to the Trafficking in Persons(Prevention Suppression and Punishment) Act passed in 2013

- 12. The UN Protocol to Prevent Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons was signed by Jamaica
- 13. Training on Child Exploitation/Forced Child Labour
- 14. School Tours conducted to identify and prevent trafficking in persons
- 15. Training in Human Trafficking to public servants including Judges and Magistrates
- 16. A review of Legislation by a joint select committee comprising of senior legal experts
- 17. The Centre for Investigation of Sexual Offences and Child Abuse, the Bureau of Gender Affairs and the Victims Services Division, were the named state offices/agencies specializing in violence against women.
- 18. Other training and sensitizing sessions are reported by Jamaica having collaborated with a number of agencies, organizations and associations both state and civil society

Results:

- 19. The National Taskforce Against Trafficking in Persons through the Jamaica Constabulary Force conducted over 260 raids with over 400 persons interviewed in relation to the trafficking of persons which was aimed at identifying major players in a massage and sex trade
- 20. During the above mentioned operation over 4,501 persons were sensitized on the topic of human trafficking inclusive of police officers(128), students(3557) and other persons from civic society
- 21. Bill Boards were erected and other public education materials were printed with the assistance of the US Army's Military Information Support Team. 50 persons from Government Agencies were trained in Child Exploitation/Forced Child Labour
- 22. In 2014- 2015 a total of 127 Judges, Magistrates and other public servants were trained in human trafficking

- 23. Sensitivity training for over 300 Police Officers and front line responders under a Domestic, Sexual and Gender based Violence Project launched by the British High Commission and the United States Embassy in Kingston aimed at equipping the participants to effectively recognize, deal with, and respond to victims of rape, sexual harassment and domestic violence
- 24. The Bureau had a sensitize session with the Nursing Association of Jamaica (99 female and 1 male nurse) on sexual harassment in the workplace, gender mainstreaming and reducing gender based violence

QUALITATIVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS

Structural:

25. This was not addressed by Jamaica. Jamaica is encouraged to revisit this topic with a view of providing to the CEVI information that can assessed in relation to the existing institution and mechanisms employed to identify the signs of progress

Process:

26. This aspect was not addressed by Jamaica in their report. It is recommended that it be addressed and submitted to the CEVI for consideration.

Results:

27. No results were recorded and noted by Jamaica in their report.

BASIC FINANCIAL CONTEXT AND BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS Structural:

- 28. Jamaica notes under this heading that approximately \$209.9Mwas allocated to the Office of the Prime Minister for women's welfare. The Bureau was allocated \$58.6 M for its programmes and operations as well as an additional \$4.8M as grants to its Non-Governmental Organizations
- 29. No information was provided as it pertains to any specific law that exists or sections of a particular that deals with budgetary allocations in relation to enforcement of legislation and policy

30. Jamaica notes that the Government Annual Budgetary Report is the publication that is prepared to determine and identify budgetary allocations. Apart from identifying the name of the Report no other information was provided by Jamaica in particular method of disbursements and allocation of the money stated in the Report. More information is required from Jamaica in relation to this.

Results:

31. No report was given by Jamaica as it pertains to any results of funds allocated to the Bureau of Gender Affairs or the Non-Governmental Organizations.

STATE CAPACITIES

Structural:

- 32. Jamaica fails to report as to whether there are in existence any protocols for ensuring the enforcement of provisions enacted in the various pieces of legislation.
- 33. No report was presented as to the infrastructure, equipment and specialized personal services provided.
- 34. Jamaica is encouraged to revisit this section in light of what currently exist and the need to improve or create services

Process:

35. No information was provided by Jamaica in accordance with the recommendations as identified in relation to the process entailed in the drafting and dissemination of any required protocols

Results:

- 36. Jamaica does not record in this report any reports and the outcomes of monitoring and evaluation done of any protocols or customs that may be in place to enforce the legislation that currently exist.
- 37. Jamaica is encouraged to create a monitoring and evaluation mechanism so that the effectiveness and the usefulness of the legislation can be measured and the necessary amendments made to ensure that enforcement can be a reality.

NATIONAL PLANS Article 1, 2, 8(c), 8 (d) & 8 (f)

RECEPTION OF THE RIGHT

Structural:

- 38. The Jamaican Government has developed a Draft National Action Plan to Eliminate Gender Based violence which has a multi sectorial approach in its delivery with its goal to eliminate gender based violence in Jamaica with particular emphasis on violence against women and girls.
 - 39. The priority areas include prevention, protection, investigation, prosecution and enforcement of Orders and victim's rights
 - 40. It is important to note that the Action Plan is noted as being in draft format and the reporting on the structure of the said Action plan appears to futuristic. From the report nothing appears to be in place and being carried out in the present.
 - 41. The report from Jamaica notes that the plan "will improve" and "will employ" to provide awareness and information in relation to Gender based violence
 - 42. The report does not address the incorporation of any of the strategies being implemented so as to be measurable as to its effectiveness
 - 43. The Action Plan appears to very vague and the State is encouraged to provide more information on the strategies of the Action Plan and the execution methodology of same.
 - 44. Jamaica also reports on the launch of a social media campaign under the theme #nomoresilence#silencenomre. The State must be applauded for this initiative in finding innovative strategies that will reach a large portion of their target market.
 - 45. The campaign is a 5 month campaign which was started in 2015 which was the phase 1 aspect of it. Phase 2 has commenced on March 1.
 - 46. The campaign allowed them to promote, sensitize and raise awareness on the draft action plan and created an inclusive platform to engage a wide cross section of stakeholders from the public and private sector. It also engaged men and boys as advocates and agents of change to challenge the harmful social cultural norms and gender stereo types among other objectives

Process:

47. The process of the materializing of the Draft Action plan as stated by Jamaica is as follows:

- a. Collaboration with several international partners to sensitize persons on the conventions treaties and agreements as to its importance
- b. Focus by Jamaica's Social Welfare and Vulnerable Groups Sector Plan is on strategies to improve the situation of groups vulnerable to decrease their human risk such as human trafficking and prostitution.
- c. The social protection program as executed by the Government of Jamaica to maintain a strong and coordinated package of services for the most vulnerable households.
- d. The Comprehensive Social Protection Strategy aimed at alleviating poverty in Jamaica
- 48. It was expected that outlined here would be the strategies, the methods to be pursued. The process by which the Government of Jamaica through the Bureau of Gender Affairs intends to implement the strategies in the Draft Action Plan to Eliminate Gender Based Violence is what should be outlined here.
- 49. The steps needed to give effect to the objectives of the launch of the social media campaign was anticipated here.
- 50. To get the results anticipated for the national plan to eliminate and eradicate violence against women through the draft action plan required an outline of the steps to be taken in greater detail

Results:

- 51. Notwithstanding that Jamaica has a draft Action Plan to eradicate Violence against women and girls, eradicating gender based violence, and there are a number of campaigns, programs and strategies highlighted to address a number of the issues to be dealt with, Jamaica has not presented any data or information that is a result of the monitoring and evaluation of the programs.
- 52. No information regarding impact of the policies of the national plans, actions, strategies on any level provided.

QUALITATIVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS Structural

53. No information is provided by Jamaica as to the civil society organizations that may be involved in the promotion and protection of the right to a life free in accordance to R20

Process

- 54. Jamaica lists a number of institutions, organizations and agencies that currently exist at the local level that provide support, emergency care and follow up to women who are victims of gender based violence.
- 55. Eight (8) such agencies were listed, namely: Women Inc & Crisis Centre; Bureau of Gender Affairs; Deaconess House; Sisters United for Prayer, Healing Empowerment and Restoration; Missonaries of the Poor (Jacob's Well); Association for the Control of Sexual Diseases; Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA); Jamaica Constabulary Force

Results

56. No results are listed or noted by Jamaica in this section

BASIC FINANCIAL CONTEXT AND BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS Structural

57. Jamaica does not present any information as it relates to public spending and its allocation on the different plans and programmes highlighted above.

Process

- 58. No particular process was identified in how public funds are allocated spent and monitored. Jamaica does state under this heading that under the National Development plan effective social protection is one of the 15 national outcomes of vision 2030 for forward planning for vulnerable groups.
- 59. It further indicates that the Social Protection Project \$40M US was utilized in the first phase to support the development of a system for assisting work age beneficiaries of a project that seeks to develop a holistic social protection strategy including pension reform and employment retention.

Results

60. Jamaica has not recorded in this report any results as a result of public spending allocation for prgrammes in relation to dealing with gender based violence

STATE CAPACITIES:

Structural:

- 61. Jamaica listed its Women's Inc. & Crisis Centre as it main shelter for homes for victims of violence that are perpetuated against women and girls
- 62. In accordance to R23 and R30 Jamaica sites the legal Aid Counsel as the public and state supported legal services agency specializing in women affected by violence.
- 63. The Victim Services Division in Jamaica provided counselling, emotional support, court support and various programmes of therapeutic intervention amongst other technical services in accordance R23 and R30
- 64. The Jamaica Constabulary Force has a helpline that deal with incidents of abuse
- 65. No report was submitted by Jamaica on psychological counselling services neither on public health program for women.

Process

- 66. Apart from listing the services and organizations that provide services as part of Jamaica's national plan, the process used to access these services were not detailed in this report.
- 67. It is suggested that an examination of the services would assist in providing recommendations for improvement.

Results

68. In relation to the Legal Aid Counsel, Jamaica has reported that there are 530 Attorneys assigned to the Counsel, 226 persons received complete representation through the system. 847 Cases were completed in the Gun Court and 365 were completed in the circuit Court and 21 cases went to the Court of Appeal. 2614 persons who were in Police Custody obtained legal representation

- 69. The Victim Services Division served 12,617 clients within the reporting period. 5,416 were new clients and the remaining 7201 were follow-up clientele. 72.5% of the new clients were females, with 39% between the ages of 12-18 years of age with 21.3% being between the ages of 30-44
- 70. The most common type of offences were that of sexual intercourse with persons below the age of 16 (11.8%); Rape and Behavioral problems (9.3%) and Domestic Violence (10.8%)
- 71. The report on the Jamaica Constabulary Force helpline did not present any data on the calls received and this information should be made available for analysis

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

RECEPTION OF THE RIGHT Structural

- 72. Jamaica records no legislation that explicitly bans the use of methods as reconciliation, mediation, suspended sentences, probation, application of the opportunity, commutation of sentences and others intended to resolve cases of violence against women extra judicially
- 73. Jamaica fails to state its position on judicial proceedings that provide mechanisms for enforcing protective measures and guarantee the safety of women victims of violence their children and their witnesses. No mechanism has been stated here and as such an analysis becomes challenging
- 74. No response was obtained from Jamaica in relation to specific mechanisms, supervisory offices, competent Ministries that are equipped to receive complaints
- 75. Jamaica failed to address an procedural guarantees provided in the judicial process in relation to violence from the independence of the Court to appeals to higher Courts
- 76. Jamaica did not address the issue of investigation protocols that either do or don't exist in dealing with crimes that involve violence against women

- 77. No processes were discussed by Jamaica and no information was offered in this section as it pertains to any existing or proposed policies to train persons within the justice system, existence of database registers or any research paper on the impact of gender stereotypes in judicial investigations and prosecutions.
- 78. It is somewhat difficult for any analysis to be conducted and an assessment done to effectively determine how accessible the justice system in Jamaica is for persons affected by violence
- 79. The legislation as discussed prior appears to be the only source of information as it pertains to provisions for the access to justice. The methodology and the process appear to be lacking.

Results

- 80. No results have been provided by Jamaica in terms of numbers, percentages, judgments, rulings, generated reports as evidence of the effectiveness of protection orders, effective use of mechanisms and measures to access justice
- 81. There appears to be no data on the number of reported cases, the number of investigations carried out, number of hearings in the Courts, types of violence perpetrated and its prevalence in being provided with a hearing

QUALITATIVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS Structural

82. There appears to be no report from Jamaica in this report in relation to this sub heading. The number of civil society organizations that are involved are not recorded

Process

83. No process was reported by Jamaica

Results

84. There appears to be no record of any results by Jamaica to this.

BASIC FINANCIAL CONTEXT AND BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS

Structural

85. Based on the fact that Jamaica did not report on this aspect of the Access to Justice topic, it is difficult and almost impossible to comment on any funding provided, whether by state subsidies or otherwise, or the provision of any free legal representation offered to women who have suffered from different forms of violence

Process

- 86. No periodic reports are noted by Jamaica to provide accountability for the financial management of any resources provided for the access to justice for women who are victims of violence.
- 87. With no evidence or information provided as the budgetary allowances for access to justice for women who are victims of violence no reporting is anticipating.
- 88. Jamaica needs to be provide information as to its budgetary allocation so that an assessment can be made as to whether adequate funding is being provided so as to subsidize the cost of applications to be made to the Court.

Results

89. No information is provided by Jamaica in this regard

STATE CAPACITIES:

Structural

90. No report is provided by Jamaica in relation to the existence of agencies, administrative or otherwise, legal representation services, whether public or private, or any other facility such as toll free calling that would assist women who are victims of violence to readily and easily be able to access some form of recourse.

Process

91. The process of identifying any training programs for persons involved in the justice system so as to determine whether or not they are equipped and empowered with the skills required to effectively deal with women who need to lodge complaints where investigations would be carried out or assist with the paper work in the judicial process has not been reported on by Jamaica

92. It is left either to conclude or assume that Jamaica appears to have no process in place supported or run by the State to assist person in need of accessing the justice system in order to live a life free of violence.

Results

93. No information, statistics, in relation to prosecutions, convictions or other types of cases are recorded and/or reported in this report by Jamaica.

INFORMATION AND STATISTICS (Article 8h)

RECEPTION OF THE RIGHT Structural

- 94. Jamaica's report did not address the existence of any regulations in relation to its obligations to conduct regular surveys on the different manifestations of violence against women and girls. The report neither addressed whether there are any regulations covering regular research and studies to monitor and assess policies programmes, plans, strategies and actions
- 95. There appears to be no regulations on Jamaica's obligations to keep administrative records on different cases of violence as none was stated in this report or the appointment of a component authority for coordinating efforts to ensure complete administrative records
- 96. There also appears to be no record for regulations to provide free access to information of statistical failure generated by public sector institutions
- 97. The above is in contrast to Jamaica's previous report where some information was provided on the intentions of the Government of Jamaica. That report stated that there was an ECLAC funded initiative which was supposed to enhance the production of statistical data and indicators of gender based violence in Jamaica. In addition that report noted that several initiatives have been undertaken, mainly externally funded projects such as UNTF funded violence reduction project and the UNIFEM funded Strengthening State Accountability and Community Action for Ending Gender-based Violence in the Caribbean
- 98. Jamaica's last response indicated steps being made towards the establishment of a mechanism to draw up and compile national statistics to improve the compilation of date on violence against women where the Statistical Institute of Jamaica held a public Sector Consultation Workshop supported by UNDP.

No mention was made in this report as any outcome of the development of this mechanism.

Process

- 99. With no information provided as it pertains to any regulations covering the Jamaica's obligations to provide and/or conduct surveys, research, studies, assess and/or monitor the manifestations of violence against women and girls and the obligation to keep accurate administrative records, there is no record of any process.
- 100. Based on the lack of an information, it may be safe to conclude that there is no provision of any statistical, qualitative or parallel reports on violence against women or interpretation and contextualizing of such information

Results

- 101. Without any report on the structure and process of information and statistics on the manifestations of violence against women and girls and the keeping of administrative records no results were recorded for the purpose of reporting.
- 102. Even though it is noted that Jamaica has several pieces of legislation that addresses either directly or indirectly the punishment of violence against women and girls there appears to be no record or cover public access to information gathered through surveys and administrative records.
- 103. No record or evidence of legislation dealing with regular or periodic publications of statistics and/or surveys on violence against women and girls has been reported by Jamaica

QUALITATIIVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS Structural

104. Jamaica fails to identify here what structures are in place to measure the signs of progress. Mentioned is made on the process to measure the signs of progress of an Information System. The opinion is that such a system should have been listed as a structure that can be measured based on the outcome of the process to be implemented

- 105. Jamaica notes their establishment of Crime Observatory Integrated Crime and Violence Information System as the process where they measure the qualitative signs of progress.
- 106. It the opinion of the Expert that the evidence of this Information System is mistakenly misplaced as it should be placed as a structural indicator of the development of information and statistics.
- 107. It would be expected that the use of the information system and how it can be used to address the issues of a violence free life for women and girls.

Results

108. No results were recorded by Jamaica.

BASIC FINANCIAL CONTEXT AND BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS Structural

- 109. Jamaica's report fails to provide any information as it to any laws that includes budgetary allocations for meeting information production obligations
- 110. No information was provided as it pertains to national budget allocations with earmark for meeting information production obligations
- 111. There is no record of the number and characteristics of civil society organizations involved in budget oversight initiatives and budget executions
- 112. Based on the inability or the unavailability of such information there is no structure to report on the allocation for budgetary commitments

Process

- 113. No report is given by Jamaica as to any publications, reports or any other information as it pertains to budget allocations, percentages of public spending assigned to the development of data bases
- 114. There is no process of budgetary allocations and commitments to report on

Results

115. There appears to be no record and no report on percentages of the execution of the budget allocated for programs, plans and institutions related to different forms of violence

- 116. In response to questions on the percentage of national budget allocated to programmes to combat violence against women in Jamaica's response to second multilateral evaluation round Jamaica stated that "although large sums are allocated for these programmes and entities, this information is unavailable as budget is not gender sensitive"
- 117. The lack of any response to this report and the response to the second multilateral questionnaire round in relation to budget allocation suggests that there is need by Jamaica to address budgetary issues in relation to programmes to address violence against women and girls.

STATE CAPACITIES Structural

- 118. Jamaica does not provide any information in this report on the State's capacity to currently enter into agreements between national women's mechanisms such as the Bureau of Women's Affairs and the national agency responsible for the official statistics such as Statistical Institute of Jamaica and/or whether such agreements have been entered into or being contemplated.
- 119. The only response comes out of the second multilateral responses where it was noted that training was done by the institute to create a mechanism that will among other things encourage inter agency collaboration to ensure that data quality is enhanced, to improve data sharing and the creation of user friendly websites that are easily accessible to multi users
- 120. There is no report of the establishment and/or recognition of any office or support services specialized in the providing of information, studies or statistics.
- 121. Jamaica fails to identify and state whether there is in existence any studies and opinion on stereotypes, prejudices and myths on cases of women being victims of violence.
- 122. Jamaica fails to provide a response in identifying whether reports and specialized studies exist that contains information in relation to stereotypes, myths, customs and prejudices on violence against women and femicide with statistics

- 123. No process has been stated for the establishment of agreements or the existence of offices or support infrastructure to provide for the production of information and statistics.
- 124. Jamaica needs to work on the establishment of a mechanism, a process to make readily available databases and other sources of information on different forms of violence against women and girls
- 125. Notwithstanding the above, Jamaica reports that a Crime Observatory Integrated Crime and Violence Information System was established in 2011 as part of the Government's strategic drive for evidence based approach in reducing crime as relating in 2030 Vision.
- 126. The website collects and compiles comprehensive data on homicides, sexual assault, traffic fatalities and domestic violence
- 127. From the report it noted that this website brings together all primary data sources to improve the quality of crime and violence statistics designed to influence strategies and policies.

Results

- 128. Notwithstanding the reporting of the creation of website as part of the National Development Plan and the Jamaica National Crime Prevention and Community Safety Strategy by the Government of Jamaica, there appears to no report on the success of the use of the website to deal with issues pertaining to violence against women and girls
- 129. No information is provided as to how this website specifically collates data on specific types of violence specifically against women and girls, neither is there any information as it pertains to the collection of the data from the website for the purpose of creating reports, studies and opinions
- 130. There is a need to provide evidence of the effectiveness of the website as to identifying the types of violence against women and girls

DIVERSITY Article 9

RECEPTION OF THE RIGHT Structural

- 131. This part deals specifically with an examination of areas that deal with ethnic diversity, that is, indigenous, aboriginal peoples, rural and Afrodescendants. It also extended to include the right to gender, sexual identity and diversity. An attempt to accept the laws and national policies of Jamaica that deals with the issue of diversity as defined in Article 9 of the Convention
- 132. In addressing this topic, Jamaica focuses mainly on the gender equality aspect of the article in dealing with the long term systemic discrimination against women and overcoming the limitations to the empowerment of women and men.
- 133. Jamaica addresses this by enacting a national policy to ensure the principle of equality between women and men with specific provisions prohibiting discrimination against women
- 134. Four guiding principles that governs the Jamaica's National Policy on Gender Equality are Gender Equality and Social Justice; Political Leadership and commitment; multi sectorial approach and partnership approach
- 135. The main areas of focus according to the Jamaica report, under gender and development remains building awareness and sensitivity to gender issues, reducing the incidence and prevalence of gender based violence, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women.
- 136. Jamaica's report fails to address other areas of diversity as stated in Article 9 and focuses only on the issue of gender equality. There is a need to address any other aspects of diversity that applies to Jamaica or address the fact that they don't apply to the Jamaica landscape

- 137. Jamaica fails to address any process pertaining to the National Policy on Gender Equality. No other aspect of diversity was addressed.
- 138. Jamaica did not indicate that there were any laws and/or bills in addressing issues pertaining to diversity which guarantees a life without violence for women faced with these issues.
- 139. Jamaica appears to already have in existence a national policy so there appears to no requirement at this stage for the passing of a policy.

140. What Jamaica has failed to indicate in this report is how it plans to roll out the policy and what monitoring mechanisms are put in place to assess the effectiveness of the policy objectives.

Results

- 141. With only an existing policy and no information as to application of the policy in ensuring that women who are vulnerable due to issues surrounding diversity are living without violence, there appears to be no results on the outcome of the existing policy
- 142. The areas of particular vulnerability of women in Jamaica has not been specifically identified and addressed in this report and as a result the effect of women facing vulnerabilities are unable to be quantified so as to analyze the effectiveness of the existing policy

QUALITATIVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS Structural

143. This aspect of the section under diversity was not addressed by Jamaica in this report

Process

144. No process or methodology of assessing the signs of progress has been mentioned by Jamaica

Results

145. No results were recorded by Jamaica that requires an analysis

BASIC FINANCIAL CONTEXT AND BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS Structural

146. This aspect of the topic has not been addressed at all by Jamaica. There needs to be information as to how Jamaica plans to unfold their policy so as to ensure that the gender equality issues are adequately provided for and would be able to create the impact required.

147. There was no process suggested by Jamaica. There needs to be a mechanism and/or a protocol in place for allocation of the required resources.

Results

148. No results were recorded by Jamaica. It would naturally follow from an opportunity to analyze the structure and process in place had they been addressed

STATE CAPACITIES

Structural

- 149. Jamaica has not responded to this indicator in part or at all. This seems to suggest that in that jurisdiction there appears not to exist any protocols for the comprehensive attention to cases of violence against women.
- 150. Jamaica does not indicate here whether there is any mechanism for the incorporation of the principles and process outlined in the Gender Equality Policy

Process

- 151. Apart from dealing with the issue of Gender Equality, Jamaica has not addressed any other issues of vulnerability that are caused as a result of diversity
- 152. Jamaica has not addressed the process of Jamaica's capacity as it pertains to gender equality issues

Results

153. No results have been recorded by Jamaica in this report. Jamaica's capacity to put in effect it's national policy and as such a proper analysis of the application and effectiveness of Jamaica's national policy cannot be done.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 154. There are too many sections/topics left unanswered or addressed. As a result it is difficult for a proper and a true assessment of the implementation of the Belem do Para Convention
- 155. In areas where the answers are given, at times it appears to be vague and information is lacking form the responses. The State party is encouraged to

provide the pertinent information in areas where they are requested so that a true and proper assessment as to progress in the implementation of the Convention can be done.

- 156. Under no topic was an adequate response to budgetary allocations given. The State party is required to provide the relevant information as to the allocations provided for the various programs and policies so that a proper assessment can be made of the use of the resources allocated
- 157. Based on the responses from the report or a lack thereof, it appears that there is no monitoring and evaluation being done in any aspect of the work required in the implementation of the Convention. The state party is encouraged to urgently put in place mechanisms that would monitor the work being done and carry out proper evaluations so that improvements can be made to the access of justice for women and girls who are victims of violence.
- 158. There is need for amendments to the legislation or the passing of new laws that address the areas highlighted in this third evaluation round. A proper assessment was not done by the State party to give a proper picture of any deficiency or loop holes that may exist in the legislation that already exist.
- 159. The state party is encouraged to move from having a draft national action plan to eliminate gender based violence to an actual national plan where the strategies contained therein can be put into good use and effect.
- 160. The state party still needs to provide disaggregated information and existing quantitative information from their administrative records. In very few areas was this address at all or adequately

III. CONCLUSION

- 161. The CEVI thanks Jamaica for the answers provided to the questions asked in this round of evaluation. It has been noted that in comparison with the last multilateral evaluation round Jamaica continues to make attempt to create an environment and state supported infrastructure to ensure that Jamaican women and girls live a life free of violence and that they are not subject to any form of violence especially those that are gender based.
- 162. Throughout this report recommendations were stated based on observation on the information provided or a lack thereof. Without the requisite

information provided making recommendations become a challenge as the CEVI is unable to ascertain whether there is any information at all on any given topic where there were omissions or whether the particular topic is not provided for or considered.

- 163. In light of the above, we recommend that Jamaica attempts to answer all the questions and areas where no answers were given so that a determination can be made as to the status of the State in relation to the implementation of the Belem do Para Convention.
- 164. Noteworthy advances for Jamaica are as follows:
 - a. The tabling of a Sexual Harassment Bill
 - b. The existence of a Draft National Action Plan to Eliminate Gender based violence
 - c. The Creation of a helpline by the Jamaica Constabulary Force
 - d. The creation of a Special Select Committee comprised of legal experts to address loopholes in various pieces of legislation