

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

WFW – COFO 26th Session OF THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY, FAO



Jamaica's Intervention for Item 6: Agriculture and forestry linkages

Thank you, Mr. Chair

Good afternoon

Distinguished Delegates, International Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen

Jamaica also welcomes and registers its support to a strong linkage between agriculture and forestry.

Recognising the significant impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, Jamaica has sought to strategically partner with various private and public sector stakeholders to boost food security through sustainable agroforestry practices and adopting climate smart farming technologies.

This supports recent efforts to increase alternative livelihoods especially within forest dependent communities. Jamaica intends to increase our promotion of agroforestry given its many and varied benefits to reduce agricultural food imports, to satisfy domestic demands, increase food production and export and improve the state of our biodiversity and environment. It is also one of the pillars of our REDD+ strategy in Jamaica.

We have already taken steps to compliment this venture by securing training and technical assistance capacity enhancements in areas such as permaculture which will in turn assist in reducing food waste and shortages. We strongly urge the FAO and partners to seek to facilitate capacity building in the agroforestry and silvopastoral arenas globally especially for emerging economies and SIDS. This especially as we seek to bolster local economic development especially among women and youth in this period of recovery from the woes of COVID-19 pandemic and more frequent extraordinary weather events.

These initiatives are indeed aligned with and will seek to actualize our contribution to the Strategic Framework of the 37th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean with special focus on the regional priority areas of the regional initiatives as follows:

- RI 1: Sustainable agrifood systems for healthy diets for all
- RI 2: Prosperous and inclusive rural societies
- RI 3: Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture

I thank you, Mr. Chair.