**RESPONSES TO HRC 22/3 ‘Work and Employment of PWDs’**

The following are provided as responses to the questions asked in the document titled,

Human Rights Council 22/3 – “The work and employment of persons with disabilities.

**Question 1**

There is nothing in the law that restricts person with disabilities to gain access in regular schools at any level.

**Question 2**

Most of it is under the control of Ministry of Education. Some institutions are privately owned and operated.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security has under its purview the Early Stimulation Programme which provides diagnosis and early intervention support to children with disabilities and their parents. Currently over 1000 children are served in three (3) parishes – Kingston & St Andrew; Portmore, St Catherine and Portland. This programme also receives budgetary support from the Ministry of Education.

**Question 3**

1. To some extent – Some budgets are merged to facilitate the establishment and maintenance of units, resource rooms, and special education satellites. Some budgets are also merged to facilitate teacher and parent training.
2. Yes to some extent.
3. Personnel are trained to serve in the different sector of the system
4. Done on a limited basis
5. Provision made on a limited basis
6. Examination accommodation granted where needed. School to work transition provided by some certifying agencies.
7. In-service and pre-service training conducted at different levels.
8. Consideration given and some action taken to address these issues
9. Yes. Students who are currently in mainstream are provided with the necessary sign language support
10. Addressed when requested.
11. Agencies and individuals supporting persons with disabilities included in training to build capacities.

4. There are currently no one organization with such responsibility however to some extent, the Ministry of Education and the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities along with other advocacy agencies responds to issues reported by persons with disabilities, their care givers or parents.

5. Disaggregated data is available for special schools (see information attached)

***Information received from the Ministry of Education and the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities (JCPD*)** – *September 2013*