Information requested from State Parties in relation to education in schools and universities on anti-corruption (art. 13, para. 1 (c))

At the early childhood, primary and secondary school level the Government of Jamaica plans to re-introduce the course Civics. The course was previously taught in schools, however aspects of it are now taught in other courses such as Social Studies. The course Civics educates students about their rights and duties as citizens, the structure of the government and how the government operates among other things.

For tertiary level education, the University of the West Indies provides courses related to anti-corruption such as 'Ethics in Government', 'Good Governance and Global Corruption' and 'Politics in the Caribbean'. Ethics in Government teaches students ethical issues in government in order to raise their knowledge regarding ethical conduct in the process of effective governing. Its objective is to help students see the positive correlation between ethical actions and processes and developmental objectives. It provides students with the tools to recognize ethical problems or dilemmas; analyze issues using ethical theories taking into account the complex multidimensional nature of problems in the public realm and propose mechanisms to resolve these problems. Good Governance and Global Corruption teaches students about corruption research and policy and the necessary tools to address corruption. It also explores strategies to prevent corruption. The course Politics in the Caribbean compares and contrasts different political systems in the Caribbean whilst teaching students about the levels of corruption that has existed in politics in the Caribbean.
In addition to the above, the Office of the Contractor General ("OCG"), an independent anti-corruption commission of the Jamaican Parliament, has launched a youth programme in collaboration with the Department for International Development. The programme encompassed a number of visits to secondary schools through which young persons have been exposed to anti-corruption measures and general material about anti-corruption. In 2016, the OCG also held a youth symposium on International Anti-Corruption Day which included 256 students and 32 teachers. As part of its education initiative, the OCG in the past year has also attended high school fairs and expositions through which anti-corruption information was distributed to students.

The foregoing represents the information in the possession of the Chambers. We have requested further information from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and are in the process of seeking further assistance from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information and the Ministry of Security. As soon as we receive further information we will transmit same to the MFAPT. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Jermaine Case or Chantal Bennett at 906-2414 or jcage@agc.gov.jm or cbennett@agc.gov.jm.
ARTICLE 13 UNCAC

AWARENESS-RAISING MEASURES AND EDUCATION

JAMAICA (SEVENTH MEETING)

Article 13(1)(c)-Non-Tolerance of corruption and public education programmes

The OCG has engaged in several public education campaigns in order to inform the public about non-tolerance of corruption. The OCG has done this largely through partnership with its stakeholders (local, international, governmental, non-governmental and community based organizations), participation in activities which commemorate International activities such as Anti-Corruption Day.

The OCG has utilized its website and social media avenues for disseminating information to the public. It has also utilized Bill Boards to promote anti-corruption and non-tolerance of corruption messages.

The OCG is unaware of the use of ICT in university courses or modules that have been introduced in primary or secondary schools that include components of corruption specifically. Generally, there are courses available which speak to issues of governance and ethics, however, the OCG is unable to indicate the use of ICT in this regard.