



DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

PRESS RELEASE

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EU Director for Development in Caribbean and Latin America has high level meetings in Jamaica

The EU's Director for Latin America and Caribbean for Development and Cooperation Jolita Butkeviciene is currently visiting Jamaica for two days.

Today, she and her team will be convening an internal workshop with representatives from EU missions within the Caribbean region. This evening, a reception will take place at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel in honour of the 40 year partnership between the EU and Jamaica.

Mrs. Butkeviciene said **"I am delighted to be back in Jamaica, the perfect host country for our regional seminar. To be present in Jamaica during the 40th Anniversary of EU- Jamaica relations is particularly significant, and underlines the importance of this longstanding relationship."**

This relationship has borne tangible results in sectors ranging from Justice, to Education, Agriculture and Health. Tomorrow (November 17), she will take part in a handover ceremony with Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller to celebrate the transfer of EU budget support funds in 2015. The payments aim at Debt Reduction, as well as the sugar sector, amounting to a total of €17.7 million or \$2.3 billion Jamaican Dollars.

During her visit, Mrs. Butkeviciene will make courtesy calls to Prime Minister the Hon. Portia Simpson Miller, and hold several high level meetings with the Minister of Finance and Planning. Also present for the regional seminar, is the new head of the Caribbean and Central America Division, Aldo dell'Ariceia, who will meet with senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, in addition to the Commissioner of Police.

Head of the EU Delegation to Jamaica, Ambassador Paola Amadei, welcomed the important visit of Mrs. Butkeviciene, and said: **"Her presence here, which will include meetings with both the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister, again demonstrates the importance of the EU Jamaica partnership – and that of the EU's wider relations with the Caribbean."**

Contact

**Delegation of the European Union to Jamaica,
Belize, Turks and Caicos Islands, Bahamas and the Cayman Islands
Tel: 1 876 924 6333**