



## DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION PRESS RELEASE

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### EU Screens Award Winning Human Rights film at Fort Augusta

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Delegation of the European Union in Jamaica facilitated a screening of the award winning documentary *Songs of Redemption* at the Fort Augusta Adult Correctional Centre. The screening, which saw the female inmates also feted with lunch, is part of an ongoing series being held at correctional facilities to carry the serious but hopeful message of the documentary.

The film, produced by Spanish national Fernando Garcia-Guereta, documents through the experience of a group of inmates of the Tower Street Adult Correctional facility, the circumstances that brought them in conflict with the law, the challenges they face daily but also the hope that the EU supported rehabilitation programme is nurturing, by allowing them to get training and express themselves through music and lyrics. The film has been making waves locally and overseas and has already collected an award for best feature length documentary at the Pan African Film Festival in California, USA.

On December 10<sup>th</sup> in recognition of International Human Rights Day and of the award to the European Union of 2012 Nobel Peace Prize, the Delegation of the European Union in Jamaica supported the first public screening of the documentary, 'Songs of Redemption' at the Tower Street Adult Correctional Facility (General penitentiary – GP). Three public viewings were also held, free of cost in Kingston at the Courtleigh Auditorium.

At this morning's screening, Chargé d' Affaires of the EU Delegation, Jesús Orús Báguena spoke of the importance of the message of the film and the critical need for a greater emphasis on rehabilitation in Jamaica's correctional facilities.

Mr Orús Báguena, urging the audience to take inspiration from the hard work and musical talent on display in the documentary added "**This is what the men have done; I want to challenge you ladies, let us see what you can do, because I hear the talent here is even better**".

For more information:

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