Excellency,

I have the pleasure to write to you on the outcome of the open, informal consultations held on 15th January 2016 as part of the preparations of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (BMS6) to be convened from 6th – 10th June 2016 in New York.

I wish to share with you the salient points which I believe emerged from this second informal consultation focusing on the methods of work, the possible agenda items, as well as the timeline for further informal consultations leading up to the BMS6.

**Working Methods**

There has been an overwhelming preference for adopting the same working methods that were successfully employed in past Programme of Action (PoA) meetings. This includes the established practice of going directly into substantive discussions without a general debate or high-level segment; the early circulation of a ‘zero-draft’ outcome document after informal agreement on the agenda items with ample possibility for open, transparent consultations in the lead-up to the meeting itself; and encouraging States to consider their national reports as their contribution of views on the general implementation of the PoA.

I propose we conclude herewith our discussion on working methods, and thank you for your inputs.

**Proposed BMS6 Agenda Items**

At the consultations, I took note of the constructive views expressed by States on the proposed agenda for BMS6. Solely on the basis of inputs received, I have revised the initial list of suggested agenda items. It continues to reflect the broad mandate on the agenda, which all States agreed on earlier (A/RES/70/49). The proposal represents a compromise in which I took particular care not to disregard the position of any delegation that contributed to the discussion.
Proposed Agenda Item 1

Consideration of the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, at the national level, the regional level - including the role of regional and sub-regional organizations - and at the global level, and in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development target 16.4.

Proposed Agenda Item 2

Consideration of the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, including recent developments in small arms and light weapons technology and their implications for the International Tracing Instrument.

Proposed Agenda Item 3

Consideration of international cooperation and assistance for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, including capacity-building:

a) Ways to strengthen the implementation of the PoA and ITI through the provision of training, equipment and the transfer of technology;

b) Ways to ensure the sustainability of assistance for the implementation of the PoA and the ITI.

Proposed Agenda Item 4

Other issues and topics of relevance for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

I trust the revised agenda reflects the proposals made by Member States and that it will garner agreement at our upcoming informal consultations on the draft substantive agenda items for BMS6. It is my intention to start work on the ‘zero draft’ outcome document after our next informal consultations.
Timeline for Informal Consultations

Monday, 22nd February
Wednesday, 2nd March in Geneva
Week of 14th March
Week of 18th April
Week of 9th May
Week of 23rd May (if required)
Thursday, 2nd June

Accordingly, the next informal consultations to which you are hereby invited will be held on **Monday, 22nd February 2016 from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM in Conference Room 2.**

I look forward to the further active participation of your delegation while we prepare for BMS6.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signature]

E. Courtenay Rattray
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of Jamaica to the United Nations

To: All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York