

## Dear Members of the Jamaican Diaspora,

As we gather with our loved ones to celebrate the holiday season, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the vital role that our Jamaican family overseas plays in the ongoing development and growth of our beloved country Jamaica.

The Jamaican Diaspora is integral to the destiny of our nation. I therefore support your active involvement in our nation's advancement and am committed to finding effective ways of including the Diaspora in our national development and governance.

We should find the bipartisan will to expand the Senate to include Diaspora representation so that our democracy benefits from the wealth of knowledge, skills, and experience you will bring to the Parliament. I am also keen on involving members of the Diaspora on public boards where your expertise will contribute significantly to the much-needed strengthening of the governance of public institutions.

I am aware that many of you face tedious and costly bureaucratic hurdles when attempting to undertake philanthropic support for Jamaica. Time come to cut through the red tape to make it easier for you to make positive contributions to our society at home.

I wish to pursue the establishment of a Jamaican Diaspora Development Fund to serve as a catalyst for financing new economic opportunities in Jamaica. With a robust and transparent governance structure, the Fund will enable you to participate in investments to support positive change and sustainable development here at home.

As we approach the end of the year, I extend warm wishes to you and your families that this holiday season brings joy and peace in the company of your loved ones, and for the coming year to be filled with blessings and new opportunities.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes!

Sincerely,

Mark Golding Leader of the Opposition

