



Government of Jamaica

ACTION PLAN

NATIONAL FOREIGN TRADE POLICY (2017-2022): Positioning Jamaica to Increase Foreign Trade

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

October 2017

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ACRONYMS

AGC	Attorney General's Chambers
AfT	Aid-for-Trade
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
CET	Common External Tariff
COTED	Council for Trade and Economic Development
CPC	Chief Parliamentary Counsel
CSME	CARICOM Single Market and Economy
EU	European Union
EX-IM Bank	National Export-Import Bank of Jamaica
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
FTC	Fair Trading Commission
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITES	Information Technology-enabled Services
JAMPRO	Jamaica Promotions Corporation
JANAAC	Jamaica National Agency for Accreditation
JBDC	Jamaica Business Development Corporation
JCA	Jamaica Customs Agency
JCSI	Jamaica Coalition of Services Industries
JIPO	Jamaica Intellectual Property Office
JIS	Jamaica Information Service
JPC	Jamaica Productivity Centre
JTB	Jamaica Tourist Board
MCGES	Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MSET	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology
MEGJC	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation
MEGJC-LECC	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (Land, Environment and Climate Change)
MFA&FT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
MICAF	Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries

MLSS	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MLGCD	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development
MOEYI	Ministry of Education, Youth and Information
MOFPSS	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOT	Ministry of Tourism
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise
MTM	Ministry of Transport and Mining
DBJ	Development Bank of Jamaica
NES2	Revised National Export Strategy
NQI	National Quality Infrastructure
NTB	Non-Tariff Barrier
NTM	Non-Tariff Measure
ODCs	Other Duties and Charges
ODPEM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
OSC	Office of the Services Commission
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
PO	Procedural Obstacle
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
RoO	Rules of Origin
RQI	Regional Quality Infrastructure
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
SRC	Scientific Research Council
RTC	Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas
TBL	Trade Board Limited
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
WTO	World Trade Organisation

The Action Plan outlined below accompanies Jamaica's 2017 Foreign Trade Policy, setting out the activities, responsible entities and timelines for the implementation of the Foreign Trade Policy's strategies and related activities.

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.6.GENERAL CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES					
2.6.1.	Managing and Mainstreaming Trade and Achieving Policy Coherence				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to ensure that trade is mainstreamed into national development policies, strategies, plans and programmes, as well as to accord high priority to foreign trade, to achieve policy coherence. This is supported by the longstanding international requirement that trade be mainstreamed into national development plans, policies and strategies to ensure that provision is made for trade in national budgets.				
	Strengthen linkages and further integrate trade into the national development policies, strategies, plans, programmes, and budgets using a "whole-of-government" approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist MDAs, undertaking their corporate planning, to ensure that trade issues are taken into account in annual business plans. 	The Cabinet Office, PIOJ and MFA&FT	MIND and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical input on trade issues for the formulation of national development policies, strategies, plans and programmes. 	MFA&FT, PIOJ and MOFPS		2017-22
Ensure inclusiveness and the adequacy of the institutional coordination framework to guarantee effective policy management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical input at the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) and other relevant processes to ensure that national and regional linkages are made and that national development policies, strategies and plans take into account regional trade commitments. 	MFA&FT, MEGJC and MICAF	MICAF, MICAF and other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
2.6.2	Strengthening the CARICOM Single Market to Enhance Trade and Investment				
	Policy Issue(s): Jamaica's foreign trade policy objectives influence, and are influenced by, regional trade policy as outlined in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC) which establishes the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). A challenging regional trade environment, therefore, affects Jamaica. Additionally, implementation of the CSME has been lagging. There is a need to accelerate implementation of the Treaty and to consolidate the CSME so that CARICOM becomes a seamless space and an extension of Jamaica's domestic market. It is also necessary to find ways to support businesses in maximizing the production and market integration opportunities afforded by CARICOM.				
	Ensure alignment of Jamaica's foreign trade policy, strategy and actions with the requirements of the RTC and the CSME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor commitments under the RTC and the CSME and advise trade-related MDAs of requirements and regulations. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
Promote and secure Jamaica's interests within the relevant organs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for the effective implementation of the CSME and CARICOM decisions among Member States and ensure the 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	of CARICOM, specifically, the COTED.	incorporation of these decisions into Jamaica's government policy and actions.			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide national position papers and other technical inputs for COTED and other relevant institutions to ensure that Jamaican interests are taken into account at the regional level and reflected in the provisions of the CSME. 	MFA&FT, MICAF, MEGJC and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Provide effective leadership in CARICOM on trade policy and negotiations as the Chair of the CARICOM Prime Ministerial Committee on Trade Negotiations with a view to ensuring that CARICOM is fully prepared to negotiate and gets the best deals possible in new negotiations as well as with respect to the review of existing agreements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult, conduct missions to, share information with and use various fora to build relations with other CARICOM Member States and third countries. 	MFA&FT, OPM, and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate linkages and exchanges at the institutional level between States. 		2017-22			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold regular briefings and exchanges between MFA&FT and the OPM on developments in the regional and international trade agenda and coordinate with CARICOM to define policy positions as needed to ensure the best results are achieved in trade negotiations and dialogue with Third Parties. 		2017-22			
	Promote intra- and extra-regional bilateral trading relations by the Member States of CARICOM, and trade policy and strategy coordination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate improved working relationship between CARICOM Member States and institutions and Jamaica's public and private sectors. 	MFA&FT, MICAF and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Encourage and support the development of an efficient regional transportation system to facilitate trade within CARICOM and between CARICOM and third countries of strategic interest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively engage with Member States in developing the regional transport system through the Regional Transport Commission; and Take a proactive role in pursuing regional transportation projects/programmes. 	MTM and MEGJC	MICAF, PIOJ, MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Improve and promote intra-regional production linkages as a means of more effectively utilizing regional resources to increase the production and export of goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an enabling environment for private sector engagement in regional production integration by reviewing and revising relevant policies and legislation as well as promote the strengthening of mechanisms for regional private sector interaction and consultation with governments. 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and AGC	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-15

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	and services to third countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intra-regional consultation and coordination to arrive at common regional positions. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for the establishment of a special COTED on industrial development, including Services. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-18
	Promote information sharing and capacity-building in both the public and private sectors to take advantage of the Single Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise training and information exchange activities using available national and AfT resources to build Jamaica's capacity to take advantage of the CSME. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Increase national public awareness of the provisions and commitments made under the Treaty of Chaguaramas, progress in the establishment of the CSME, and the implications for Jamaican business growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using formal and social media, seminars and conferences among others, provide public education/ outreach to build awareness of CSME issues nationally. 	MFA&FT	MEGJC (JAMPRO) and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.6.3.	Wider Regional Integration				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to promote and facilitate trade linkages within Latin America and the Caribbean.				
	Enhance trade linkages between Latin America and the Caribbean in accordance with the aims and objectives of CARICOM, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and the Association of the Caribbean States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult and coordinate with key stakeholders in order to strengthen regional linkages, ensure trade diversification, maximize advantages of geographical proximity, and enhance regional integration and resilience. Remain in ongoing dialogue with the Jamaican private sector on new trade and investment possibilities in relation to the market access provided by these agreements and their medium- to-long term strategic interests. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	MEGJC (JAMPRO) and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
			MFA&FT, MEGJC and MICAF	JAMPRO and other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.6.4	Market Access				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to increase penetration into existing markets, acquire new markets and fully utilize market access. That is, the need to address existing challenges and to promote the export of goods and services in sectors and industries of interest which have comparative advantages in regional and global markets.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the utilization by the private sector of market access agreements with traditional trading partners Strengthen the communication and response mechanisms in respect of constraints to competitiveness and market access identified by the private sector Develop new markets, including niche markets, as outlined in the National Export Strategy (NES) and guided by the private sector Focus on enhancing trade in goods and services with Latin America and the Caribbean, to ensure trade diversification, maximize advantages of geographical proximity, and enhance regional integration and resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize diplomatic and legal means to address and resolve non-tariff barriers (NTBs) to trade in the markets of trading partners. 	MFA&FT, MICAF and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	MOFPS and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to create and improve accessible, interactive mechanisms to promote market opportunities for the private sector. 	MEGJC(JAMPRO), MICAF and MFA&FT.	MOFPS and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSJ in collaboration with NCBJ to work with regional and international standards development organizations to develop and implement standards and management systems (e.g. food safety, quality, environment) which reflect Jamaican policy positions and interests and enhance trade in Jamaican products 	BSJ, NCBJ and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and maintain databases in order to make relevant market intelligence and up-to-date information on market access requirements of Jamaica's trading partners accessible to local exporters. 	MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MFA&FT	MICAF and other MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devise and use regularly, mechanisms for public-private dialogue to improve the government's understanding of supply-side and market constraints. 	MICAF and MEGJC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using mentoring, training and suitable incentives, support and facilitate the production and delivery of competitive, high quality Jamaican goods and services for regional and international markets including promoting more efficient supply-chain management, production methodologies and transfer of technology. 		MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), MFA&FT and MSET	MOFPS and other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the “Single Window” (including the Port Community System) to provide, more efficiently, relevant information to exporters private sector in developing new and niche markets. 	MICAF, TBL, MOFPS, PAJ and JCA	MEGJC (JAMPRO), MLSS, JPC MSET and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.6.5.	<p>Existing Trade Agreements</p> <p>Policy Issue(s): The need to effectively implement existing trade agreements. Jamaica requires additional financing, technical assistance, institutional strengthening, and capacity building to implement these agreements and to overcome existing supply-side constraints in order to make effective use of trade agreements/arrangements.</p>				
	Encourage and build national capacity to stimulate export supply from the private sector to exploit existing market access agreements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and coordinate the functioning of the agreements 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the basis of close inter-ministerial collaboration, create a package of fiscal incentives, promotion and other strategies, in partnership with the private sector, which will build an enabling environment to increase production, competitiveness and export capacity. 	MOFPS, MSET, MEGJC and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore creative means of sourcing financing, including AfT resources, for capacity-building. 	MOFPS, PIOJ and MFA&FT	EXIM Bank, DBJ and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate and coordinate capacity building initiatives among trade actors to understand and implement the existing trade agreements. 	MFA&FT, MICAF, TBL	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodically review trade agreements to determine relevance, impact and ensure compliance. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Enhance and streamline, as necessary, the institutional support services available for existing and potential exporters, especially SMEs, with a view to building national capacity to exploit existing trade agreements, making maximum use of market access opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and streamline the functioning of business support institutions with a view to strengthening their support and mentoring skills and capacities. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017– 21

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.6.6.	Trade Negotiations				
	Policy Issue(s): Future trade negotiations at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels should: (i) continue to advance Jamaica's trade and development interests, (ii) be in accordance with the approach approved by the Cabinet on 9 th November 2015.				
	Negotiate preferential trade agreements together with CARICOM or on its own initiative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain diplomatic presence at the headquarters of the principal trade-related international organizations. 	MFA&FT	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in relevant fora and in multilateral trade negotiations. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations with a view to a successful, development-oriented conclusion. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017
	Be more strategic and data driven in approaches to the negotiation of FTAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review approaches to future FTAs, including the in-depth analysis of trade data, taking into account the economic and development needs of the country over the next 5 – 10 years. 	MFA&FT, PIOJ, MICAFT and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct sustainability impact assessments to guide decisions on entering into trade negotiations. 	MFA&FT and PIOJ	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in CARICOM bilateral trade negotiations with third parties. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, with the guidance of the private sector, potential markets for trade, including niche markets. 	MFA&FT, MICAFT and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen skills to negotiate a mix of tariff and non – tariff preferences, in line with industry strategies, and to negotiate improved access for service providers. 	MFA&FT and MICAFT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build the capacity of existing and potential exporters to understand trade policies, principles and strategies as it relates to the penetration of new and/or competitive markets. 	MICAFT, MEGJC (JAMPRO), TBL, MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.6.7.		Export Trade Promotion			
	Policy Issue(s): The need for persistent and robust engagement in the market place particularly in countries covered by trade agreements, including CARICOM, and in other targeted global markets.				

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on the country's assets to promote a range of goods and services in line with the National Export Strategy; Strategically utilize "Brand Jamaica" to promote trade in goods and services; and Optimize the national export trade promotion machinery to make the most effective use of limited resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the linkages between MDAs involved in trade promotion. 	MEGJC (JAMPRO), MFA&FT, MOT, MICAF and JTB	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize diplomatic and consular missions more effectively, recognizing the need for adequate training, funding and staffing of missions and for the placement of personnel therein by other trade-related MDAs. 	MFA&FT.	MEGJC (JAMPRO)	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake necessary market research and trade missions, focusing on countries with which Jamaica has trade agreements or where the Jamaican "brand" has some recognition. 	MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MICAF.	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen public-private partnerships/ collaboration in trade promotion. 	MICAF and MEGJC (JAMPRO).	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to effectively utilize advertising and modern technology, including all forms of social media and other opportunities to build and optimise use of "Brand Jamaica" in export trade promotion. 	MEGJC (JAMPRO), MFA&FT, MOT and MICAF.	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
2.6.8.	E-Commerce				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to maximize the benefits of E-Commerce as a dynamic area of growth in the trade in goods and services.				
	Promote and facilitate the use of E-Commerce nationally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously review and update the operating and regulatory E-Commerce framework in Jamaica as well as implement the National ICT Policy and other relevant plans, in line with business needs, especially those of MSMEs. Continue to build the capacity of MSMEs to use E-Commerce, including e-payments and e-marketing to maximise opportunities to enhance competitiveness. Complete the policy on the National Identification System as well as 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), MSET/ e-Gov Jamaica Ltd, OPM and JIPO.	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		<p>the Personal Data Bill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the establishment of local e-payment systems through ongoing dialogue with the banking sector and review of legislation. 			
	Remain engaged in international e-commerce-related fora.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor developments related to E-Commerce during the implementation of the CSME and in the WTO and other international bodies. 	MFA&FT and MSET.		
2.6.9.	<p>International and Regional Dispute Settlement</p> <p>Policy Issue(s): The need to increase Jamaica's effective use of dispute settlement provisions when Jamaica's rights in bilateral, regional and international markets, are infringed. The use of dispute settlement mechanisms is an important factor in protecting these rights.</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the capacity of Foreign Trade Officials to understand and respond to trade rules related to dispute settlement. Utilise available dispute settlement mechanisms, as provided under the RTC, the WTO Dispute Settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to secure Jamaica's rights under trade agreements. Ensure that adequate provisions for dispute settlement are contained in all trade agreements. In the event of a dispute and at the request of aggrieved stakeholders, with the appropriate supporting documentation, the Government will partner with the private sector to resolve the issues. 	MFA&FT, AGC and MICAF.	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	<p>Understanding or any other trade arrangements, as applicable, to obtain resolution of trade disputes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitize the private sector on the functioning of dispute settlement provisions in trade agreements to which Jamaica is a party. Engage the private sector, as appropriate, in its utilisation of dispute settlement provisions in trade agreements to which Jamaica is a party. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise training activities and conferences as needed, to build national capacity to utilize all dispute settlement provisions of trade agreements. 			
2.6.10	<p>Aid-for-Trade</p> <p>Policy Issue(s):The need to identify and access Aid-for-Trade (AFT)¹ resources since Aft serves as a potential source of aid and investment to address supply-side constraints, strengthen the trade regime, implement trade agreements, and increase trade</p>				
	<p>Identify, follow-up and utilize available Aid-for-Trade resources to develop Jamaica's foreign trade capacity, that is, to address policy, infrastructure, technological and other supply-side constraints, implement trade agreements, and increase trade.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make use of Aft resources to increase trade capacity. Advocate and negotiate for additional Aid-for-Trade resources to implement the National Aid-for-Trade Strategy. Explore means of addressing the needs of women and other vulnerable groups, through Aft, to empower them to participate effectively in trade Support the implementation of the Regional Aid-for-Trade Strategy 	MFA&FT, MOFPS, MICAF and PIOJ.	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22

¹ Aid-for-Trade is a WTO initiative aimed at helping developing countries build their supply-side capacity and trade-related infrastructure to assist them to benefit from WTO agreements and expand trade.

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.6.11	Capacity Building in Foreign Trade Policy				
	Policy Issue(s): There is an ongoing need to develop expertise in foreign trade policy in Jamaica's public and private sectors.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize all available resources to build national capacity in formulating and managing foreign trade policy, including performance analysis and monitoring and evaluation of trade policy. Develop expertise in trade policy issues in order to participate effectively in trade negotiations. Collaborate with tertiary academic institutions in the development of trade policy expertise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify gaps in capacity and continue to utilize foreign trade policy courses provided by the WTO, UNCTAD, UNITAR and other institutions. Continue to utilize training opportunities provided at the bilateral level by trading partners. Seek to further collaborate with the UWI and other tertiary institutions to provide courses, seminars and workshops in national, regional and international trade policy issues. Seek to access scholarships offered by international institutions and trading partners. Encourage the development of training programmes specific to regional trade policy i.e. CSME. Organise with the private sector and tertiary institutions training programmes and other activities to build capacity in the private sector. 	MFA&FT, MICAFA and TBL.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.6.12.	National and Regional Consultations and Coordination				
	Policy Issue(s): There is need to strengthen the consultation and coordination mechanisms for the formulation/implementation of foreign trade policy and the negotiation of trade agreements among regional partners. Consensus needs to be forged at the national and regional levels among the wide range of stakeholders involved in trade-related activities.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and strengthen trade-related consultations and coordination mechanisms to build strategic alliances in and outside of Jamaica, and Fully engage in the consultation mechanism at the regional level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensify consultations with the public and private sectors and civil society in the formulation/ implementation of trade policy and the negotiation of trade agreements. Actively seek to engage civil society, including trade unions on trade-related matters. Extend consultations to the entire country. Keep stakeholders, including civil society organisations and the private sector informed of developments in foreign trade to ensure greater transparency and awareness of issues. 	MFA&FT.	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate trade-related activities within the public sector taking a “whole-of-government” approach. 			
2.6.13.	Strengthening the Partnerships between the Public-Private Sectors Policy Issue(s): Key business sectors are not fully engaged in the trade policy dialogue. The private sector, as the trade operators, needs to strengthen its capacity to effectively engage in foreign trade activities and to communicate and collaborate with the Government. Effective partnerships between the public and private sectors will enhance Jamaica’s capacity to take advantage of trade agreements in order to benefit from bilateral, regional and international trade.				
	Explore innovative means of enhancing knowledge and promoting and strengthening communication and partnerships between the public and private sectors to enhance Jamaica’s engagement in bilateral, regional and international trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the private sector’s active participation in trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation. Seek and utilise avenues for dialogue with private sector associations on an ongoing basis and support initiatives to build their capacity to fully exploit existing and emerging market opportunities. 	MFA&FT and MICAFT	Other relevant MDAs and private sector organizations	2017-22
			MFA&FT, MICAFT and MSET		
2.6.14.	Public Education Policy Issue(s): The need to promote widespread awareness of foreign trade issues. This requires investment in public education and utilization of available media to support the mainstreaming of trade as a national priority.				
	Utilize public education tools as a means of (i) deepening public awareness of and feedback on trade issues and the provisions of new trade agreements; and (ii) increasing participation in foreign trade policy formulation, trade negotiations, and the implementation of resulting policies and agreements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the communication strategy to deliver the trade message to and receive feedback on the implementation of the Action Plan from the general public. 	MFA&FT, OPM (Information) and JIS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize the JTAT and other consultative mechanisms in promoting public awareness of foreign trade issues. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with various stakeholder groups and institutions to take advantage of existing public awareness programmes and/or to develop new programmes that can inform the public on, and help them to understand, trade issues. 	MFA&FT OPM (Information) JIS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target and encourage the secondary and tertiary educational institutions to provide information and training on foreign trade. 	MFA&FT, MOEYI and Cabinet	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
			Office/MIND		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize the internet and other modern information and communications technologies, including social media, in transmitting the trade messages, ensuring the widest geographical coverage possible. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
2.7. TRADE IN GOODS (Manufacturing, Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Quarrying)					
2.7.1	Trade in Goods (General) Policy Issue(s): Given Jamaica's current trade deficit and level of indebtedness, it is imperative that the country increase its exports of higher-value goods as one means of growing its way out of national debt.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote growth in the value and volume of trade in goods through increased (a) national productivity, production of value-added goods, levels of exports, and diversification; and (b) competitiveness in the national, regional and global markets, as anticipated in the National Export Strategy and other trade-related policies; and Create an enabling environment for trade in Jamaica's cultural goods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the strategic use of imports to increase production of value-added goods and to diversify exports. 	MICAF, MTM and MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of Special Economic Zones within the Logistics Hub to accommodate producers of goods. 	MEGJC and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (MSME) and Entrepreneurship Policy aimed at providing macro-economic and business support. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the National Energy Policy and the strategy for diversification of sources of energy. 	MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the National Minerals Policy, which recognizes and encourages the production and trade in non-traditional minerals, and, particularly, value-added mineral products which can make a significant contribution to Jamaica's export earnings and the diversification of its economy. 	MTM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an effective strategy aimed at increasing the levels of productivity and competitiveness, including using ICTs and addressing the cost of production (including the cost of energy). 	MICAF, JBDC, MLSS/JPC and MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote, using all available mechanisms, the smooth transition of sectors adversely affected by liberalization by encouraging the competitive production of both agricultural and manufactured goods for export, focusing primarily on priority areas of the NES and on other emerging sectors, through domestic and international investments. 	MICAF, JBDC, MTM and MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct market analysis and market intelligence in collaboration with the private sector. 	MICAF, MTM and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Jamaica's exports in the regional and international markets through initiatives such as trade missions, trade fairs and Brand Jamaica promotions. 	MEGJC, MTM (JAMPRO), MICAF and MFA&FT.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.7.2	<p>Rules of Origin (RoO)</p> <p>Policy Issue(s): Determining the origin of a product is no longer easy in an era when a product can be manufactured in various locations and at a time when Rules of Origin are becoming increasingly complex. The need to be able to negotiate and utilize the Rules of Origin in trade agreements to increase production, improve competitiveness and increase market access for goods. There is also the need to further develop expertise in interpreting and applying the Rules of Origin.</p>				
	Encourage and promote the effective use of Rules of Origin to strengthen and expand foreign trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to research and promote flexible Rules of Origin for negotiations. 	TBL, MFA&FT, JCA, MOFPS and MICAF.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing processes and where necessary strengthen them for more effective Rules of Origin administration. 	TBL, MOFPS, MICAF and JCA.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to use the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (revised Kyoto Convention) as a guide to best practices in Rules of Origin. 	TBL, MOFPS, MICAF and JCA.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve certification and verification of the origin of goods both exported and imported. 	TBL, MOFPS, MICAF and JCA.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to build capacity in Rules of Origin through targeted seminars, workshops and other training opportunities for producers and relevant Government officials thus enabling: (i) producers to utilize the Rules of Origin effectively so that their goods can gain market access; and (ii) Government officials to develop expertise to negotiate Rules of Origin issues and to make the necessary determinations at the ports. 	TBL, MFA&FT, MOFPS, MICAF and JCA.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.7.3	Trade Facilitation				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to facilitate the movement, release and clearance related to the import and export of goods.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to prioritize the simplification of customs procedures and reduce the level of bureaucracy and the costs related to the import and export of goods; and Implement the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously review customs procedures and monitor customs bureaucracy in receiving countries, taking into account reports of damaging delays of export cargo. 	MOFPS, MFA&FT and MICAF.	Trade Board and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeal and replace Customs Act 	MOFPS, JCA, TBL, MICAF, AGC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue with the modernization of MDAs involved in trade facilitation including the simplification of customs procedures, reducing the level of bureaucracy in all relevant procedures and upgrading ICT systems as appropriate. 	MOFPS, JCA, TBL, MLGCD and MICAF.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the Jamaica Import/Export Inspection Centre, which houses, in a single area, the Regulatory Officers from relevant government departments and agencies concerned with imports and exports. 	JCA, MICAF, MSET/e-Gov Ltd. and Cabinet Office.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a National Single Electronic Window to facilitate trade, including the establishment “One Stop Shop” nodes for businesses and the harmonization of the operation of these nodes. 	TBL, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and JCA.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote border agency coordination and cooperation. 	JCA.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the Customs interface with the SEZ operations to ensure that there is a seamless operation when passing from port to SEZ or other value-added processing zones and back. 	MEGJC, JCA and MICAF.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the SAFE Framework for Standards, thereby ensuring a secure supply chain which would reduce the levels of physical inspections carried out by Customs. 	JCA and MEGJC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the E-Transactions Act (2007) through the Government of Jamaica’s Public Key Infrastructure (GOJ/PKI) Project to facilitate cross-border movement of goods. 		MICAF, TBL and MOFPS.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the meetings and other activities on trade facilitation organized by UNCTAD, other UN bodies, the WCO and WTO, 	MOFPS, JCA, MICAF, TBL,	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22		

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		including WTO Doha Round negotiations.	MFA&FT		
2.7.4	Customs Duties (Tariffs and Other Duties and Charges)				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to apply customs duties taking into account the relevant provisions in the WTO Agreements, the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, the CARIFORUM/EU-EPA and other agreements.				
	Endeavour to ensure that the Customs Duties and Other Duties and Charges (ODCs) encourage the growth and development of key economic sectors and the economy as a whole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the interests of Jamaica are taken into account during any revision of the regional CET regime. 	MFA&FT, MOFPS, JCA and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.7.5	Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs)				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to address the use by trading partners of NTMs to restrict market access, thus making them NTBs. NTMs have become more prevalent with the progressive liberalization of tariffs. At the domestic level, there is also the need to reduce procedural obstacles (POs) to trade which are considered NTBs.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical assistance to Jamaican companies thus encouraging greater usage of standards and quality principles as tools to facilitate trade and overcome Non-Tariff Barriers. Actively pursue Mutual Recognition Agreements with trading partners. Seek to reduce, including through bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives, the use of NTBs by trading partners and procedural obstacles (POs) at the domestic level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address all documented cases of NTMs/ NTBs which either impede Jamaican goods from entering foreign markets or constrain their ability to maintain and build market share once established in those markets 	MFA&FT, BSJ and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define and put in place measures to reduce POs at the domestic level 	MICAF and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the issue of NTMs continue to be addressed in bilateral, regional and international trade negotiations 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the private sector to be more vigilant in monitoring, identifying, documenting and reporting suspected use of NTMs as NTBs 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to implement, where appropriate, the recommendations of the study on NTMs, "Jamaica Country Perspectives: An ITC Series on NTMs" funded by the International Trade Centre (ITC), which captures the private sector perspectives and assesses the existing environment 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue the negotiation of mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) with a view to reducing NTBs encountered by Jamaican exporters 	MFA&FT, BSJ and MICAF		

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.7.5.1	Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures				
	Policy Issue(s): It is of critical importance that all agricultural products (of plant and animal origin) imported into or exported from Jamaica meet international SPS standards. There is, therefore, a need to strengthen and modernize the existing SPS regime to facilitate trade, including the establishment of an effective regional SPS Regime, which facilitates the harmonization of policies and procedures and the conduct of regional and international risk assessments.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the development and effective functioning of the national and regional SPS regimes for both imports and exports. Endeavour to secure access to regional and international markets for Jamaica's food products which meet international SPS standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and facilitate the effective implementation of the National Food Safety Policy to upgrade legislation, procedures and laboratories and to seek technical assistance from trading partners in keeping with the WTO SPS Agreement. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the SPS National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) is effectively established and implemented. 	MOH, MICAF (Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation) and JANAAC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the WTO SPS National Notification Authority and National Enquiry Point are working in accordance with the requirements of the WTO SPS Agreement. 	MICAF (Veterinary Services and Plant Quarantine Divisions)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the National Codex structures to ensure participation in the development of international food standards. 	MICAF, BSJ and JANAAC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and seek to eliminate unnecessary SPS measures and standards which restrict market access for Jamaican food products. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure that Jamaica's interests are adequately represented in the preparation of international standards and conformity assessment procedures developed by international standards setting bodies. 	MOH, BSJ and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with other countries and agencies to define and develop the regional SPS regime. 		MICAF (Veterinary Services Division), MOH	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
			and MFA&FT		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that WTO SPS Agreement provisions are included in future trade agreements. 	MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide national stakeholders with further information on private international standards and conformity assessment procedures which are becoming increasingly prevalent and which can potentially inhibit market access. 	MFA&FT, MICAF and JANAAC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen and increase the number of accredited laboratories. 	MICAF, JANAAC and MOH	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish centralized abattoirs and incorporate them into the vertical food safety chain in order to increase capacity in traceability. 	MOH and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.7.5.2	Technical Barriers to Trade (Technical Regulations, Standards and Conformity Assessment Procedures) Policy Issue(s): The need to ensure that standards and technical regulations are developed in accordance with the WTO TBT Agreement. There is also a need for the effective implementation of the WTO TBT Agreement and the establishment of a quality infrastructure regime at the national level.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the practice of conducting Regulatory Impact Assessments in order to determine the need for technical regulations. Ensure that TBT issues are addressed in trade negotiations, and that technical regulations do not create unnecessary barriers to trade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in collaboration with business associations, JAMPRO and the Ministry of Industry/BSJ, devise mechanisms that will assist SMEs to afford full conformity. 	MICAF, BSJ and MEGJC (JAMPRO).	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) is effectively established and maintained. 	MICAF, BSJ and JANAAC.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the effective functioning of CROSQ in formulation and development of regional standards and continue to support the development and harmonization of the Regional Quality Infrastructure (RQI). 	MICA and BSJ.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote the implementation of regional and international standards by the producers of goods and services. 	MICAF, BSJ and JANAAC.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower the cost of compliance and market entry of exporters by harmonizing conformity assessment procedures in order to increase the competitiveness. 	MICAF, BSJ and JANAAC.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage initiatives, as recommended by the WTO Committee on TBT, under "Regulatory Cooperation" which include Mutual 	MICAF and BSJ.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		Recognition Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding and Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements.			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the effective implementation of the WTO TBT Agreement, including ensuring that the WTO TBT National Notification Authority and National Enquiry Point are working in accordance with the requirements of the WTO TBT Agreement. 	MICAF, BSJ and MFA&FT.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Ensure that TBT issues are addressed in trade negotiations and that technical standards in the markets of trading partners are not barriers to trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the international and regional harmonization of technical regulations and standards to reduce trade transaction costs and the likelihood of their constituting technical barriers to trade 	MICAF and BSJ	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure that Jamaica's interests are adequately represented in the preparation of international standards and conformity assessment procedures developed by international standards setting bodies 	MICAF, BSJ and MFA&FT.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.7.5.3	<p>Private Standards</p> <p>Policy Issue(s): The proliferation of private standards has major implications for Jamaican exporters, which include the inability of Jamaican products to enter some major markets internationally.</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively pursue Mutual Recognition Agreements in order to minimize the effect of private standards on the Jamaican exporters; and To the extent possible, provide technical assistance to the private sector in order to meet the requirements of private standards in the international markets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in local and international events related to the development and management of private standards. Complete research and position papers on the impact of private standards on export performance, with a view to advance recommendations, in regional and international initiatives, that are in the interest of Jamaica's export sector. Pursue the negotiation of mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) in support of the principles of equivalence. Facilitate the harmonization of private standards with National Standards. 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), EXIM Bank, MOFPS, DBJ and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.7.6.	Trade Remedies				

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	Policy Issue(s): The need to defend and preserve strategic and emerging industries/firms from unfair competition such as dumping and subsidization of imports, and increases in imports that cause injury to these industries.				
	Build capacity in the application of trade remedies with the private sector and support businesses in the pursuit of trade remedies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise learning sessions with the private sector as well as provide virtual and physical learning material on trade remedies. 	ADSC and MICAF	MFA&FT	2017-22
	Utilize trade remedies, as necessary, to advance Jamaica's national interests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use trade remedies as an effective defensive tool to provide the necessary safety net for domestic industries; and support the development of infant industries and strategic sectors. 	ADSC, AGC, MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide efficient, compliant and useful trade remedy legislation. 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide services in trade-related investigations, as requested. 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor the relevant WTO Committees and Councils. 			
2.7.7.	Trade in Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to strengthen Jamaica's capacity to regulate the trade in genetically modified organisms (GMOs) to protect consumers from any potential harmful effects of genetically modified products.				
	Develop national capacity to regulate trade in GMOs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the establishment of the required legal and institutional framework to address the import and export of genetically modified products. 	MICAF, MEGJC, MSET and MOH	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Customs Officials and other relevant technical officers are adequately trained to identify products containing GMOs. 	MICAF, MSET, MEGJC, MOFPS, MOH and JCA	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.7.8.	Food Security				
	Policy Issue(s): The need for Jamaica to ensure that its population has consistent access to food supplies from local production and that local production can also contribute to exports.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote higher levels of local production. Link production for food security to exports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the availability of adequate supplies of staple foods (including imported items) at reasonable prices. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to encourage the production of food in Jamaica through the government plans and strategies such as the "Grow what you 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote national and regional food security. 	Eat, Eat What You Grow” Campaign.			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement policies, strategies and plans at the national level aimed at securing adequate supplies of imported food at reasonable prices. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to encourage the effective implementation of the regional Common Agricultural Policy and also the Regional Food and Nutrition Security Policy and its accompanying Action Plan. 	MICAF	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage production integration through investments in agriculture in CARICOM Member States. 	MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor, at both the national and regional levels, the international situation with the supply of food and the impact of energy and transport costs on food prices. 	MICAF	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in the discussions on food security in international organizations such as the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and in the World Trade Organization (WTO). 	MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that food security is addressed in trade negotiations and implemented in accordance with the provisions of existing trade agreements. 	MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.8. TRADE IN SERVICES					
2.8.1.	Trade in Services	Policy Issue(s): There is need to: (i) support the growth of services which are globally competitive; (ii) promote diversification of services exports in line with the NES; (iii) enhance collection and disaggregation of trade in services statistics; and (iv) improve conditions of access in international markets for Jamaican services suppliers.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and improve the system of data collection as an important basis of analysing the performance of Services trade, in collaboration with the CARICOM Committee of Statisticians and industry associations, comparable baseline data on services trade by type, value and markets and adopt international methodologies for collating services data so that trade performance can be analysed and effective policies developed. In collaboration with the services industry associations, and as a matter of priority, review and enhance strategies for supporting and promoting services trade and for improving access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the collection of services statistics and the disaggregation of the data in a manner useful for analysis of trends and past performance of trade in services by markets. 	STATIN and BOJ	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with regional and international institutions to undertake an analysis of Jamaica's services sector in respect of its global competitiveness and its potential contribution to regional and international trade. 	MICAF and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the Jamaica Coalition of Service Industries so it can provide enhanced support to a range of Service Providers, especially in areas such as market entry strategies, export development and access to financing. 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), JCSI, EX-IM Bank and DBJ	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Services Sector Expansion Plan leading to the development of the services sector, the expansion and diversification of trade in services and making services products more competitive in the regional and international markets. 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), MOT, MTM, MSET and MOEYI	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence work on the formulation of a general services policy and continue work on a national policy on professional services. 	MICAF and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the services regulatory framework. 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), MSET, MOFPS and MoJ/AGC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	<p>to target markets, taking into account the NES, linkages among services, and between services and other sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give priority to developing needed accreditation systems and mutual recognition agreements related to the export of services to existing and potential markets over the next 5 years. Continue to join forces with regional agencies for collaborative planning, analysis and standards development with a view to rapidly growing the sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the development and promotion of cultural and creative industries as a priority sector for trade in services. 	MCGES, MOT, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MICAF	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSJ and other relevant agencies to promote and actively support the development of international standards in the delivery of services. 		MICAF (BSJ), MEGJC (JAMPRO) and JANAAC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Special Economic Zone Policy and create the Special Economic Zones within the Logistics Hub to accommodate services industry investors. 		MEGJC, MTM and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development and strengthening of the Regional Services Regime, including the finalisation of a regional policy on professional services. 		MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review and ensure the effective implementation of all services related policies, strategies and plans such as those on tourism and ICT/ITES. 		All relevant MDAs.	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the bilateral, regional and international levels, ensure that the rights of Jamaica's service providers are respected. 		MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in the negotiations in the WTO Council for Trade in Services on Domestic Regulations (addressing qualification requirements and procedures, technical standards and licensing requirements and procedures); GATS Rules (addressing emergency safeguards measures, government procurement and subsidies); and where strategic, Market Access (through the ongoing request and offer approach). 		MFA&FT, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in the WTO Doha Round negotiations on Trade in Services. 		MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in place a robust accreditation system for trade in marketable services and seek to negotiate mutual recognition agreements for professional service providers as deemed appropriate for market entry. 		MFA&FT and Professional Bodies	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.8.2.	Cultural and Creative Industries				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to increase trade by capitalizing on Jamaica's global competitive advantage in cultural and creative services. Trade in cultural and creative services makes a valuable contribution to the national economy and enhances the image and profile of 'Brand Jamaica'. Jamaica stands to benefit through taking advantage of existing trade agreements in creative and cultural services through the export of our creative talent and expertise as well as differentiating our local tourism experience. The national SME policy has targeted the expansion of music exports by US\$50M over five years and exports across cultural industries by 20 per cent annually.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote innovation from the level of the education system in the creative industries. Enhance the capacity to market abroad Jamaica's cultural and creative industries. Create an enabling environment for trade in Jamaica's cultural and creative goods and services. Devise ways to better collect data and to estimate the value of Jamaica's cultural and creative exports by markets and use this information in planning and market access negotiations for the sector. Proactively use existing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure drafting and completion of a Creative Industries Encouragement Act. 	MCGES, MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO), MOT, MSET and MOJ	Other relevant MDAs	2017-17
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the collection of services statistics, including that of the cultural and creative industries in a manner that will facilitate the in-depth analysis of performance trends and areas of weakness in the growth of the industries. 	STATIN, MCGES, MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MOT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-17
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the completion of the revision of the National Cultural Policy and its subsequent effective implementation. 	MCGES, OPM, MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MOT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-18
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the strengthening of the IP regime, particularly with respect to the legal and institutional framework for cultural and creative industries. 	JIPO	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate collective enforcement and increased collaboration with trading partners on enforcement and border measures with a view to addressing the high levels of piracy negatively impacting the cultural and creative industries by, among other things. 	JIPO	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a national policy on traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, with particular focus on documentation and 	MCGES, JIPO, OPM and	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	flexibilities and exceptions applicable to the cultural and creative industries.	sharing of information, copyright, patents and regional initiatives.	MICAF		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the development and strengthening of the Regional Development Strategy and Action Plan for the Region's cultural industries². 	MFA&FT, MEGJC (JAMPRO), JCA MCGES and OPM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support work in UNESCO aimed at developing the cultural and creative industries in developing countries, and formulate project proposals for funding from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity. 	MFA&FT, MEGJC (JAMPRO), JCA MCGES and OPM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that cultural and creative industries are accorded priority in trade negotiations. 	MFA&FT, MEGJC, MCGES, AGC and OPM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Jamaica is party to relevant international treaties, taking account of their trade provisions. 			2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the movement of entertainers, artists and related service providers, particularly those certified and entered into the National Entertainment Registry, to promote trade in cultural services. 	MLSS and MCGES	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endeavour, at the bilateral, regional and international levels, to ensure that the rights of Jamaica's service providers are respected. Negotiate Mutual Recognition Agreements as needed and develop accreditation systems to foster the trade in services. 	MFA&FT and MCGES	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

²The Draft Regional Strategy was prepared and presented to the XXII Meeting of the CARICOM Council on Human and Social Development (COHSOD), February 2012. The strategic directions were accepted in principle by COHSOD. There are two elements of the Strategy: a regional funding mechanism for the cultural industries, to be managed by the CARICOM Regional Development Fund or the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB); and agreement on a regional exemptions regime for the cultural industries, where Member States agree to waive most of the tariffs, duties and other charges on inputs to the cultural industries.

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.9. TRADE-RELATED ISSUES					
2.9.1.	Intellectual Property (IP) Rights Policy Issue(s): As Jamaica continues to develop goods and services under “Brand Jamaica”, a solid IP regime takes on a new urgency. This is in recognition of the importance of intellectual property rights (IPRs) through copyright, patents and designs, trademarks, plant varieties and geographical indications, <i>inter alia</i> , to the competitiveness of Jamaican goods and services and to the development of new products and processes. There is also need to implement policies which safeguard and strengthen IPRs as well as bilateral and pluri-lateral enforcement strategies within and outside CARICOM.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue efforts to modernise its IP regime in collaboration with the private sector; research institutions and other stakeholders; Continue to be an active participant in the development of intellectual property and the respect for those rights in the Region; and Strengthen IPR protection, including the legislative framework, of Jamaican products and services, at the domestic, regional and international levels, in order to benefit from their comparative advantages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Jamaica is party to the relevant agreements of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 	MICAF, JIPO, AGC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Jamaica’s IP regime is WTO compliant through the WTO Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement. 	MICAF and JIPO	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all necessary legislation is adopted and implemented at the national level, including the patents and plant varieties legislation which is required to achieve full WTO compliance. High priority will be accorded to the adoption of patent legislation. 	MICAF, JIPO, AGC and CPC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen geographical indications (GIs) legislation to bring protection in line with the TRIPS-Plus standards under the EPA and engage in bilateral negotiations with other trading partners to achieve reciprocal levels of protection for GIs abroad. 	MICAF, JIPO, AGC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and enforce Jamaican protected GIs abroad through acquisition of equivalent rights (e.g. protected designation of origin) focusing on negotiations of bilateral agreements and implementation of the EPA standard of protection for GIs in other CARIFORUM States. 	JIPO and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate collective enforcement of IPRs through the creation of an Enforcement Unit to address foreign IP enforcement and the dilution and erosion of Brand Jamaica occurring overseas. 	JIPO and JCF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on amendments to Customs Laws, including those related to trademarks and merchandise marks, and harmonization of CARICOM Customs Laws and Procedures and Labelling 	MICAF, MOFPS, JCA, JIPO and AGC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		requirements, as contemplated by the RTC and the CSME.			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop adequate legal protection for and facilitate local custodians of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions and sensitize businesses to the importance of leveraging their IP. 	JIPO, OPM, MICAF and MCGES	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue efforts to achieve strengthened IP protection for the country name, "Jamaica". 	JIPO and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.2.	Competition Policy Policy Issue(s): There is a need to address unfair trade practices through the implementation of competition policy at the national and regional levels, as well as to ensure that Jamaica's interests, with respect to competition policy, are protected.				
	Seek to strengthen national and regional capacity over the next 5 years to defend against unfair trading practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to review the national position on the inclusion of competition policy in multilateral trade negotiations. 	MICAF, FTC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate a competitive national environment for businesses and traders through the effective implementation of Jamaica's Fair Competition Act (1993) and operation of the Fair Trading Commission. 	MICAF and FTC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with CARICOM to strengthen the regional competition regime and ensure that the CARICOM Competition Commission functions effectively. 	MICAF and FTC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure, where competition policy is included in future bilateral and regional trade agreements, that Jamaica's position is properly articulated. 	MFA&FT, MICAF and FTC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize the review of the Fair Trading Act 	FTC and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.3.	Government Procurement Policy Issue(s): The need to increase transparency in government procurement as a fundamental tenet.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the continued development of modern, robust, and transparent national and regional government procurement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to strengthen and implement the national regime on government procurement, in collaboration with the private sector, including MSMEs. 	MOFPS	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in the formulation of the regional government procurement regime with a view to its early adoption and 			2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	<p>regimes in line with commitments made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate information sharing with these markets, for the benefit of the Jamaican private sector. 	implementation.			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement procurement-related provisions already negotiated in trade agreements. 			2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endeavour to ensure gender equity in procurement. 			2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Jamaica's positions are reflected in trade negotiations. 	MOFPS and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor developments in government procurement at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. 	MOFPS and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify information and skills gaps in the utilisation of government procurement provisions in trade agreements and develop programme activities for capacity-building and information sharing with the private sector, including MSMEs. 	MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.4.	<p>Investment</p> <p>Policy Issue(s):The need to create an environment conducive to increased investment flows to enhance production and trade</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an enabling environment for investment by improving Jamaica's macro-economic and social conditions, and effectively promoting and managing the inflow of new investments; Review the effectiveness of bilateral investment treaties with a view to making them more effective and relevant to Jamaica's growth and development objectives; and Facilitate transparency in investment arrangements, in line with commitments made in international fora and in the CARIFORUM-EU EPA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a national investment policy which includes the treatment of foreign investors. 	MEGJC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strongly encourage trade-related domestic capital investment and investment from the Diaspora. 		MEGJC, MICAFT, JAMPRO and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to encourage Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). 		MEGJC, JAMPRO and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider further whether investments should be negotiated in trade agreements. 		MFA&FT, MEGJC and MICAFT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to conclude the draft CARICOM Investment Code. 		MFA&FT and MEGJC	AGC	2017-18	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Omnibus Incentive Legislation, while reviewing it from time to time to see if it meets the needs of stakeholders and the objectives of Jamaica's FDI promotion policies. 		MOFPS, MICAFT and MEGJC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to negotiate new forms of Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) 		MFA&FT,	Other relevant	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		especially those which support the implementation of the CARIFORUM/EU-EPA or other trade agreements.	MOFPS and MEGJC	MDAs	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the effectiveness of BITs in promoting FDI inflows. 	MFA&FT, MICAF, MEGJC and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.5.	Fiscal Issues				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to use fiscal measures to stimulate growth in the trade of goods and services.				
	Utilize available fiscal measures to stimulate trade and accord trade high priority, as a source of national income for development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a tax regime, which facilitates the import and export of goods, while facilitating the development of new industries and allowing for competition. 	MOFPS, MEGJC and MICAF	-	2017-18
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide available incentives to promote production, as permitted within existing trade and other financial agreements as well as in the context of WTO removal of export-related incentives by 2017. 	MOFPS, MEGJC and MICAF	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement measures such as those outlined in the recent IMF's Extended Fund Facility with Jamaica to reduce the debt burden. 	MOFPS	-	2017-18
2.9.6.	Competitiveness of SMEs				
	Policy Issue(s): The difficulty experienced by Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in accessing technical support and trade financing to expand their businesses and make use of advances in technology to be more competitive.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to strengthen business development institutions and facilitate and explore innovative mechanisms to provide technical and business development support as well as access to adequate and affordable trade financing by exporters, particularly MSMEs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (MSME) and Entrepreneurship Policy. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a policy environment to facilitate the growth and strengthening of the MSME sector, including the emerging local economic development policies, as well as implement relevant citizen empowerment strategies and initiatives. 	MICAF and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement programmes to transform the current economy by facilitating entrepreneurship and innovation in order to make local MSMEs more productive and competitive domestically, regionally and internationally. 	MICAF, MSET and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support public and public-private initiatives to increase growth and 	MICAF	Other relevant	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the coordination of institutions involved in business development and support. 	strengthen the ability of MSMEs to increase productivity and competitiveness.		MDAs	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage research and publication of best practices or successful domestic, regional and international models for MSMEs. 	MICAF and MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop business development initiatives, such as business incubators, to encourage growth and development of MSMEs. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of the regional policy on MSMEs, including regional production integration and other initiatives to increase the export of the goods and services of MSMEs. 	MFA&FT and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the financial sector to provide funding through financial instruments which are relevant and tailored to meet the needs of MSMEs. 	MICAF, DBJ, EXIM Bank and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage domestic and international investors, particularly in the Diaspora, to invest in and promote local MSMEs. 	MICAF, MEGJC (JAMPRO) and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to increase efforts to keep MSMEs apprised of trade-related issues. 	MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.7.	<p>Environmental Standards and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Policy Issue(s): There is the need to ensure that the growth of foreign trade supports sustainable economic development since foreign trade and the production of goods and services can have a deleterious impact on natural resources and the natural environment.</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that appropriate environmental standards are developed and adhered to in respect of the production and trade in goods and services. Monitor relevant international developments related to sustainable development. Implement related 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that trade policy is consistent with multilateral environmental agreements to which Jamaica is a party. 	MEGJC-LECC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Jamaica's position that Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), with trade restrictions, must continue to be accorded exemptions from WTO rules. 	MEGJC-LECC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the development of an energy strategy encourage trade in energy products and services that is in harmony with environmental sustainability. 	MEGJC-LECC, MSET, MTM and MFA&FT	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the completion of draft environmental policies which 	MEGJC-LECC,	-	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	international commitments and adhere to local environmental laws.	have implications for trade, including: the National Policy and Strategy on Environmental Management Systems (EMS), the Environmental Stewardship Guidelines for Government Operations/Green Procurement Policy, the National Climate Change Policy Framework, the Wildlife Trade Policy, the Jamaica Forest Policy (Green Paper) and the Bio-safety Policy.	Forestry Department and NEPA		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute environmental standards and guidelines in the process of achieving sustainable economic development, and for the competitiveness of goods and services which are traded. 	MEGJC-LECC, NEPA, MOH and MLGCD	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the position that the voluntary application of environmental standards should be encouraged and supported through technical assistance programmes. 	MEGJC-LECC	MSET and MTM	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor developments in the evolving and dynamic discussions on sustainable development to determine their trade implications. 	MEGJC-LECC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.8.	Climate Change Policy Issue(s): The need to ensure that climate change and its effects are taken into account in foreign trade.				
	Endeavour to mainstream climate change in the development and implementation of trade-related national and regional policies, strategies and plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulate relevant national policies, legislation, regulations, programmes and sector plans related to adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change taking into account trade related issues. 	MEGJC-LECC and MFA&FT	MSET and other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track issues and participate in activities in bilateral, regional and multilateral fora concerning trade and climate change. 	MEGJC-LECC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
	Monitor and participate in the ongoing UNFCCC negotiations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in the UNFCCC negotiations with attention given to the treatment of trade-related issues and their implications. 	MEGJC-LECC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.9.9.	Labour Standards				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to continue to adhere to the Core Labour Standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO) ³ and to adopt standards which contribute to productivity, fair trade and the competitiveness of products in the domestic, regional and international markets. In addition, the need to address unfair trade practices due to the non-application of international labour standards by competing countries.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that appropriate labour standards are developed and adhered to in all business activities. Monitor the application of core labour standards in competing countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the draft National Policy and Plan of Action on International Migration and Development. 	MFA&FT, PIOJ and MLSS	Other relevant MDAs	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the International Labour Organization (ILO), and its core labour standards and the ILO Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up (1998). Jamaica is a signatory to all the Core Labour Standards. 	MLSS and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the position that the ILO remains best placed to deal with matters concerning labour, including the adherence to Core Labour Standards by ILO Members. 	MLSS and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the ILO in the formulation and effective implementation of Core Labour Standards, particularly standards that protect the interest of Small and Vulnerable States. 	MLSS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to encourage all members of the ILO to sign and fully implement all ILO core labour standards recognizing that failure to adhere to these standards places non-compliant countries at a competitive advantage. 	MLSS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to recognize and support the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda of the ILO, which has as its four pillars; productive employment, adherence to labour standards, social dialogue, and social protection. 	MLSS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to conduct sensitization programmes on Jamaica's adherence to ILO Core Labour Standards for both local interests and trade partners. 		MLSS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

³Jamaica has ratified the ILO's eight fundamental labour related conventions, namely: Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29); Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105); Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87); Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98); Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100); Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111); Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138); and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.9.10.	Gender				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to identify and address the particular needs of both men and women involved in bilateral, regional and international trade, as well as the impact of trade liberalization on both genders.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that gender issues are taken into account in foreign trade, recognizing that there is an increasing number of women involved in foreign trade and that attention must be paid to ensuring gender equity and equality; Facilitate the disaggregation of data to allow for the measurement of gender participation in trade; and Demonstrate sensitivity to the gender division of labour in the goods and services sectors in the development of programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the effective implementation of the National Policy on Gender Equality (2011), which addresses gender and trade. 	MCGES and Bureau of Gender Affairs	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that opportunities are provided for Jamaican women through the programmes of UN Women, the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the International Trade Centre among other regional and international organizations, to enable them to enhance their involvement in foreign trade. 	MCGES, Bureau of Gender Affairs and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that in future trade agreement negotiations the need to build the capacity of both males and females to participate in foreign trade is taken into account. 	MCGES, Bureau of Gender Affairs, MEGJC and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to encourage investments in local agricultural production and agro-industries with specific reference to the CARICOM Agri-business Strategy, taking into account the need for capacity building for both males and females, who may have specific needs. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the participation in foreign trade of rural women, who account for more than 60 percent of food production in Jamaica. 	MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the full and equitable participation of males and females in regional and international trade and collect gender-based data that can assess levels of participation. 		MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
2.9.11.	Youth				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to increase trade by promoting youth participation, entrepreneurship and innovation.				
	Create an enabling environment to empower Jamaica's youth to make a valuable contribution to foreign trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement policies, strategies, and programmes to promote the development of youth as entrepreneurs and innovators and encourage their participation in bilateral, regional and international trade. 	MOEYI, MLGCD, MFA&FT and MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.9.12.	Science, Technology and Innovation				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to use Science, Technology and Innovation to encourage increased trade through the creation of new products and processes.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the creation of new and improved products and processes through research and development. Promote improvement in productivity and competitiveness. Encourage the effective use of technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure coherence between developments in science, technology and innovation and national policies and plans for education, including adopting an equitable approach to addressing the imbalance of women involved in science, innovation, and technology. 	MSET and MOEYI	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the intellectual property regime as a means of supporting the development of science, technology and innovation. 	MICAF, JIPO and MSET	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to ensure that provision is made for technical support for innovation in any new trade agreement. 	MFA&FT, MSET and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage investment in research and development. 	MSET, MEGJC, SRC and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate resources to science, technology and innovation. 	MSET and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage public-private partnership for scientific research/innovation and commercialisation. 		MSET, MICAF, MOFPS and DBJ	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
2.9.13.	Health				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to promote coherence between trade and health policies and to safeguard Jamaica's interests with respect to the potential harmful health effects of any goods being traded.				
	Ensure that close attention is paid to the trade-related issues arising in the global health fora and that there is collaboration among MDAs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor and seek to participate in discussions on Public Health, the TRIPS and the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement. 	MFA&FT and MOH	-	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor and seek to participate in discussions in the WHO on the harmful effects of various products and to determine their impact on trade especially where products, such as sugar and rum, are produced and exported by Jamaica; continue to implement the WHO Framework Agreement on Tobacco Control to which 		MOH and MICAF	MFA&FT and other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		Jamaica is a party.			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor and seek to participate in discussions on the link between health and trade including SPS measures. 	MOH, MICAF and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.14.	National Security Policy Issue(s): The need to create a stable and secure environment for trade and investment.				
	Seek to create an environment characterized by reduced levels of crime in order to facilitate increased investments, production and export of goods and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement strategies and programmes aimed at reducing the level of crime in areas including illicit trafficking in firearms and ammunition, the illicit trafficking in narcotic and psychotropic substances, praedial larceny, illegal fishing, trade in contraband goods, intellectual property violations, cyber-crime and corruption. 	MNS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To manage the tension between security and trade facilitation, especially in relation to establishing and maintaining the safety and security of our ports (airports and seaports) and ensuring the integrity of cargo (import, export, and trans-shipment). 	MNS, MOFPS, JCA, MEGJC and MTM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to collaborate and cooperate with partners at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels to enhance and implement programmes aimed at reducing the illicit trafficking of narcotics, firearms and ammunition, particularly in shipments of goods being exported from or imported into Jamaica; enhance human and technical capacity at our ports; and promote the safety and security of our ports and the integrity of cargo going through those facilities. 	MNS and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty which was adopted in April 2013 aimed at reducing the illicit trade in firearms and ammunition. 	MNS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement measures aimed at protecting import and export cargo from being contaminated by illicit goods, including the use of electronic surveillance mechanisms technology to track and trace cargo thus minimizing risk from the perspective of JCA risk assessment measures. 	MNS/JCF/JDF/ Coast Guard, MICAF, MOFPS and JCA	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in negotiations aimed at reducing the illicit trade in narcotic and contraband goods, and overall combat transnational organized crime. 	MNS and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the policy on the National Identification System as well as the Data Protection Bill. 	MNS, MSET, and OPM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-2021
2.9.15.	Diaspora				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to strengthen relations with the Jamaican Diaspora and engage the Diaspora in actively supporting the transformation of the economy through increased trade and investment.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance and leverage the role of the Diaspora in building Brand Jamaica. Promote an enabling environment that stimulates the increased investment of the Diaspora in economic growth and development, through investment, entrepreneurship, innovation, tourism, and overall business activity in Jamaica. Ensure that the Diaspora in the principal countries are engaged and kept abreast of trade issues of concern to Jamaica, arising in their markets and in Jamaica, to secure their support and involvement in advancing Jamaica's interests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to actively engage the Diaspora in discussions and other initiatives aimed at promoting and expanding their role with respect to trade and investment opportunities and in building Brand Jamaica. 	MFA&FT and MEGJC	Other relevant MDAs.	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize the elaboration of a National Diaspora and Development Policy. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a complementary measure, also, move expeditiously to implement the National Policy on International Migration and Development which is expected to include a trade component. 	MNS, MOFPS and MEGJC (PIOJ)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue consultations and coordination between the relevant public and private sector entities and Diaspora bodies to ensure that actions are taken to facilitate the greater involvement of the Diaspora in trade and investment. 		MFA&FT, MICAFA, MLGCD and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a formalized approach to Diasporic trade, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target Diaspora as a market for fresh goods, the development of nascent services and to enhance tourism flows. 	MICAFA, MOT, MICAFA and	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
	with focus on fresh and processed foods.		MFA&FT		
2.9.16.	Informal Trade				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to encourage the integration of informal traders into the formal trading system.				
	Facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for the integration of informal traders into the formal economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of small and micro-enterprises through the implementation of the Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (MSME) and Entrepreneurship Policy. 	MICAF, MLGCD and MOFPS	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the integration of informal traders into the formal trading regime and into the formal economy by facilitating the registration of these persons. 			2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage cultural service providers to utilize the Creative Industries Registry. 	MYC, MOT and MEGJC (JAMPRO)	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build awareness and assist in building the capacity of informal traders to access markets under Jamaica's trade agreements, in the context of the formal economy. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.17.	Energy Supplies				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to address the consistency of supply and the cost of energy as it relates to the production of Jamaican goods and services.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement programmes and projects aimed at reducing the cost of energy in order to enhance competitiveness and productivity. Continue to promote more efficient use of energy Continue efforts to diversify sources of energy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the National Energy Policy to diversify sources of energy, promote conservation and reduce the cost of energy. 	MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage private-public sector collaboration in reducing the cost of energy. 	MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the private sector in the development of eco-industries and the embrace of the standard - ISO 50001: 2011 Energy Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use for their businesses. 	MSET and MICAF	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deliver a public education and communication programmes to support energy efficiency and conservation, as well as innovation in the energy sector. Also encourage investment in research and development in the energy sector. 	MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Regional Energy Policy and the Caribbean 	MSET	Other relevant	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		Sustainable Energy Roadmap and Strategy (C-SERMS).		MDAs	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work towards achieving energy pricing at the regional level which promotes competitiveness in regional production. 	MSET and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to pursue dialogue with the private sector and support initiatives to build their capacity to further exploit existing and emerging markets. 	MSET	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
2.9.18.	Transportation				
	Policy Issue(s): There is the need to facilitate foreign trade by improving the national, regional, and international transport systems.				
	Continue to develop and negotiate the expansion of domestic, regional, and international transportation facilities and services, in collaboration with the private sector, in support of initiatives, such as the Logistics Hub, in order to improve the quality and to increase the efficiency of Jamaica's transport system to facilitate increased foreign trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support programmes such as the sustainable, world-class Logistics Hub (which is multi-modal i.e., air, land and sea). 	MEGJC, MTM and PIOJ	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the island-wide highway network. Improve domestic air transport services and infrastructure and diversify domestic maritime transport alternatives, e.g. ferry service, use of barges, etc... 	MTM and MEGJC	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve, maintain and rationalize the internal transport network (road and rail), particularly access and agriculture feeder roads which are affected by natural disasters. 	MTM and MEGJC	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable transportation through the promotion of public transport use, improving non-motorized transport options (walking, cycling) and travel choices aimed at reducing energy costs of transport and supporting local economic development and competitiveness. Encourage an energy efficient transportation sector, especially in and around urban centres by exploring the use of clean energy technologies, options for park and ride, flexible work hours for transport operators, and tele-commuting. 	MTM, MEGJC and MSET	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with CARICOM Member States to support the improvement and development of an effective regional transportation system. 	MTM and MEGJC	MFA&FT	2017-22

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
2.9.19.	Natural and Man-Made Hazards				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to mitigate the impact of natural and man-made hazards on foreign trade, given their economic impact on trade and on the country's economy. In particular, consideration needs to be given to the special needs of those involved in the export of goods (specifically agricultural products) and services (tourism).				
	Encourage the implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies so as to increase resilience in those productive and trade sectors which are prone to disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure more effective coordination and information sharing among MDAs related to hazards and their associated risk. 	ODPEM, MLGCD and MICA	MFA&FT	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the national disaster risk management mechanism. 	ODPEM, MLGCD and MICA	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage more pro-active involvement of the private sector, as trade operators, in disaster risk reduction. 	ODPEM, MICA and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to effectively implement the Agricultural Disaster Risk Management Plan and Strategy which is reflected in the Agriculture Sector Plan. 	MICA	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to advocate for, in the UN and WTO, special consideration for the vulnerability of small states prone to natural disasters and extreme climatic events. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the likely trade-related spin-off effects of natural disasters occurring in other countries. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the risk of the transportation of hazardous waste through our territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ), as well as the risk associated with the disposal of hazardous waste as a result of industrial operations and promote the prevention and mitigation of these risks where they exist. 		MEGJC-LECC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that contingency plans are in place at the national and regional levels to address shortages in critical imports such as food supplies and raw materials and increasing prices resulting from natural disasters in trade partner countries (e.g. damage to the rice crop in Guyana; destruction of wheat crops in North America and Europe). 		MICA	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22	

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement recovery programmes which are gender sensitive and recognize that climate change and disasters will have a differential impact on women and men, taking into account the differential vulnerabilities and risks of both sexes. 	ODPEM, MCGES and Bureau of Women's Affairs	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to strengthen the regional disaster risk management mechanism through the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency. 	ODPEM	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend that at the regional level, there is consideration of the impact of natural and man-made disasters on foreign trade. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
4. IMPLEMENTATION					
	Implementation of the Foreign Trade Policy				
	Policy Issue(s): The need to implement the Foreign Trade Policy.				
	Efficient and effective use of existing national systems, infrastructure and human resources allocated for trade-related matters, supplemented by national resources and Aid-for-Trade support, where feasible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a [National Foreign Trade Council] comprised of the highest level of representation from the trade-related MDAs, private sector organizations, firms in their own right and civil society. 	MFA&FT	-	2017
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a dedicated Foreign Trade Policy Implementation Coordination Unit. 	MFA&FT	-	2017
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate senior officer(s) to act as trade focal points in all relevant trade-related MDAs. 	All trade-related MDAs	-	2017-18
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation framework for the 2017 Foreign Trade Policy. 	MFA&FT and Cabinet Office	Other relevant MDAs	2017
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate biennial Stakeholder review meetings. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a comprehensive review of commitments made under existing trade agreements to determine compliance, identify any gaps and to ensure coherence and relevance to Jamaica's ongoing trade interests. 	MFA&FT and AGC	Other relevant MDAs	2017-17
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a Communications Strategy. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the adequacy and compliance of national legislation, rules, and licensing and qualification requirements. The need for 	AGC, MOJ, MICA and	Other relevant MDAs	2017-17

No.	Strategy	Activity	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead	Other	
		rationalisation of existing laws and regulations or the development of new ones will also be taken into consideration.	MFA&FT		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a socio-economic and gender-sensitive impact assessment to better identify specific needs and opportunities in trade. 	PIOJ, MCGES, Bureau of Women's Affairs and MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-17
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing the baseline and targets for the various trade areas. 	Relevant MDAs	-	2017-22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare implementation progress reports. 	MFA&FT	Other relevant MDAs	2017-22

