

Your Excellency,

It is with distinct pleasure that I receive today your Letters of Credence and appoint you as the new High Commissioner of Jamaica to the Republic of Cyprus. Please accept my sincere congratulations and wishes for every success in your high duties.

I wish to assure you that I and my government will provide you with every possible assistance in the performance of your high duties, for the betterment of our people's lives and the friendship between our countries. I personally look forward to working with you on expanding the relations between Cyprus and Jamaica.

Excellency,

As two island-states that share many common characteristics and similarities, Cyprus and Jamaica have enjoyed close and friendly relations for almost fifty-two years. Cyprus is ready to expand its relations with Jamaica, especially in areas that can benefit both our two peoples, such as in the economy, promotion of investments, the maritime sector, educational and cultural ties, people-to-people relations, and development cooperation.

Cyprus is also ready to discuss ways for closer collaboration with Jamaica in international organizations and fora, like the United Nations and the Commonwealth, based on our shared commitment to multilateralism and respect for international law. In the context of multilateral collaboration, Cyprus would like to express its appreciation for Jamaica's support for Cyprus' first-ever election to the Human Rights Council and looks forward to cooperating closely with Jamaica for the promotion of Human Rights.

Cyprus stands also ready to continue supporting the further enhancement of EU-Jamaica relations, as well as the EU-CARICOM and EU-CELAC collaboration, in the years ahead, for the mutual benefit of our two regions.

Excellency,

Fifty years since the illegal invasion of Turkey and the de facto partition of Cyprus, we believe that now is the time to act decisively to solve our national issue based on the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions. Despite the Turkish intransigence and the unacceptable "two states" position, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus is working closely with the UN Secretary General to resume the UN-led talks to reach a lasting settlement that will benefit all Cypriots promoting peace and stability in the region.

I take this opportunity to express the deep appreciation of the people of Cyprus for Jamaica's principled position and for its long-standing support to our efforts to reach a

just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus issue based on the UN Security Council resolutions.

Excellency,

In concluding, I would kindly request that you convey to the Governor-General of Jamaica, The Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen; Jamaica's Prime Minister, The Most Honourable Dr. Andrew Holness, as well as to the friendly people of Jamaica, our warmest and sincere greetings, along with a message of friendship and solidarity.

Ambassador Alexander Williams, I warmly welcome you to Cyprus and wish you a constructive and fruitful tenure.