



Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Press Release

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AMBASSADOR COURTENAY RATTRAY APPOINTED PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNITED NATIONS

(MFA&FT Kingston: April 19, 2013)

The Honourable Arnold J. Nicholson, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade, announces the appointment of H.E. Courtenay Rattray as Jamaica's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) in New York. Ambassador Rattray is expected to assume duties in early June.

Ambassador Rattray is currently Jamaica's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, a post he has held since 2008. He is also assigned as Non-Resident Ambassador to Vietnam, The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Thailand, Laos, and Non-resident High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Singapore and Pakistan.

Having served in Europe, North America and Asia, Ambassador Rattray possesses strong multi-cultural experience and a keen sensitivity to international political affairs.

"I'm confident that Ambassador Rattray is the most appropriate selection to lead Jamaica's UN Permanent Mission in New York and to promote the vital role of the UN in the advancement of multilateralism" says Minister Nicholson. "Ambassador

Rattray's broad-based experience and diverse range of skills, especially in the critical areas of international negotiation and economic diplomacy, will advance Jamaica's efforts to promote the equitable treatment of the concerns of developing countries, in particular Small Island Developing States. This will be critical as the international community engages more directly in discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development following on the 2012 Rio +20 Conference," he continues.

Ambassador Rattray is a graduate of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (Global Master of Arts Programme) at Tufts University in Boston and has an M.Sc in International Business from South Bank University, London. He holds a B.A. in International Studies from West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Beginning his career in the foreign service in 2000 as Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade, Ambassador Rattray was appointed Deputy Chief of Mission, Washington DC the following year, a post he held until 2005. From 2005 to 2008, he served as Director, Bilateral Relations Department.

Prior to his foreign service experience, the expert negotiator was Advisor to the Minister of Industry, Investment & Commerce; Executive Director, Jamaica Marketing Company Ltd. (London); Trade Commissioner, Jamaica Trade Commission (London); Consultant for the Caribbean Banana Exporters' Association; and held various managerial positions at JAMPRO. On the philanthropic side, Ambassador Rattray, having been Chairman, is now a Director of the Jamaica Basic Schools Foundation (UK).

Ambassador Rattray is married to Tanya and has four children, Renee, Joelle, Gabriela and Tristan.

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